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We Believe....

An explanation of the Nicene Creed By Pastor Mundinger

Starting this month, we are going to take a look at what the Nicene Creed actually says. It's important to know the words which we confess every Sunday. One problem (if you can call it that) that some people have with the Nicene Creed compared to the Apostles Creed is the use of language and phrases that are a bit foreign to us. How often have you used the word "begotten" in your everyday life? I can say for certain that I have never used that phrase outside of confessing the creed in church on Sundays. So let's take a look at what these bishops of old have written as a confession for the church of all ages.

"I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible."

Just like the Apostles Creed, the Nicene Creed starts in a very personal way. In the Greek, Latin, and the English the creed begins with "I believe". When we recite the creed every Sunday, we are all making an individual confession of faith. The creed is both spoken to God and to one another, that we confess to our own brothers and sisters in Christ that we all share and believe in the one true faith. Our confession is the same as the person next to us. While we have all sorts of differences with our fellow Christians in the pews, we all have one thing in common; the one true faith which we confess.

At the heart of this confession is our faith in the One true God. Everything else in the creed flows from this one phrase. To confess the one God is to confess the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, three in one. What this exactly means will be hashed out later in the creeds as the authors dissect the Holy Trinity from what has been revealed to us in Scripture. Of course Scripture tells us that there is but one God. Moses confesses this in Deuteronomy 6:4 when he says to the people of Israel, **"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one."** Jesus reaffirms this statement in the Gospel of Mark, **"Jesus replied, 'This is the most important: 'Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is One.'"**

Continued on page 2

There are not three Gods but One. Arius and his followers (whom the Nicene Creed was written to combat) would certainly agree with this opening statement but that would be the extent of their agreement. They would believe that God the Father is the One true God, but Jesus Christ to them is subordinate to the Father in every way meaning that He is lesser and therefore not the One true God. But again, to confess the One true God means that we confess Father, Son and Holy Spirit to be God, equal to one another. No person of the Trinity is greater or lesser than the others. This will be covered later in the creed.



First up in the Creed is God the Father. We confess Him who is our Heavenly Father who is Almighty and made all things. We know from our study in the Gospel of John for the past few weeks that Jesus speaks of God as His Father. He also speaks of God being our own Father when He invites us to pray the prayer that he taught his disciples. This is what Martin Luther has to say about confessing God the Father to be our own Father. “With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.”

The Father is our own Father through Jesus Christ, and He has made all things. He has created that which is visible to our naked eyes (all that is around us in the world that has material form) along with all that we cannot see with our own eyes (Everything in the spiritual realm such as angels, demons). This confession seems like a no brainer. Who in their right mind would confess something different? There were different heretical sects in the beginning of the church which believed that God created the spiritual realm, but a lesser God (often called the Demiurge) formed all the world and everything in it with evil and corrupted matter. The Demiurge did not create the evil matter, he just used it to form the world. The two big sects who believed this were the Gnostics and Marcionites. The Mormons also believe that God did not create the matter for the Earth but rather formed pre-existing matter like a potter. Both these views are contrary to what Scripture says concerning creation and they are contrary to what we confess in the Nicene Creed. Listen to the words of the Apostle Paul as he speaks the truth of creation to the church at Colossae, ***“For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.”***

Birthdays and Anniversaries

| | | | |
|---------|------|---------|------|
| Aroon | 6/7 | Shinta | 6/16 |
| Tom | 6/10 | JoEllen | 6/17 |
| Nancy | 6/11 | Jessica | 6/20 |
| Abigail | 6/13 | Noah | 6/22 |
| Kartini | 6/13 | Denise | 6/23 |
| Jack | 6/15 | Gayle | 6/25 |

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Randy & Aimee | 6/5 |
| John & Sandy | 6/17 |
| Walt & Nancy | 6/24 |
| Don & Marlene | |
| Pastor Bill & Carol | 6/29 |

June Bible Studies



The Zoom links for each are the same each week & are in the Friday Announcements. Email.

Adult Sunday School, (with Eric) 1pm, Zoom (except 6/20)

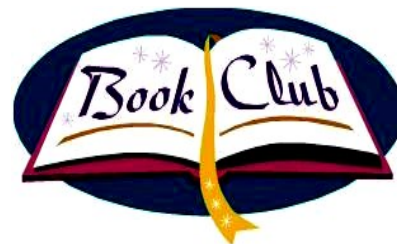
Monday Women's Bible Study (with Annaliesa), 10am, Zoom

Pastor's Wednesday Evening Bible Study, 7pm, Zoom

Holy Cross Book Club

Last Meeting on June 7, 7pm, Zoom

Pastor Mundinger will wrap up our current book & then we will break for the summer.



The Zoom link is the same each week & is in the Friday Announcements. Email.

WOMEN'S COFFEE & CONVERSATION

*Join us on Zoom,
Monday's at 9am*



The Women of Holy Cross continue to meet every Monday (on Zoom) for **Coffee & Conversation.**

JOIN US ANY MONDAY AT 9AM!

All women are welcome—we even have some women call in from their new out of state homes and/or their out of town vacation locations!

It's an informal gathering to check in, get updates, offer support to each other & those in our congregation, & plan Holy Cross activities (along with many laughs).

The Zoom link is the same each week & in the Friday Announcements email.



Items needed for the next Distribution Event:



Diapers (Sizes 1 - 6)



Baby Wipes

DROP-OFF DETAILS:

Location: Church Office or the Narthex • Dates/Times: Collection runs Mother's Day to Father's Day

Unable to drop off items? Purchase items from the Amazon Wishlist!

Find the Amazon Wishlist, make a donation, or learn more at: optionshealth.org/diapers

Women—You Are Invited!

What: Women of Holy Cross Event
Date: Sunday, June 6, 2021
Time: 10:30am/Right After Church

Women, join us in the courtyard for our first in-person gathering since March 2020! Our society is filled with unsatisfying busyness, breeding anxiety & ever-growing to-do lists.

Let's discuss how we can serve the Lord & make a difference, nurture & appreciate one another, engage in the Word, all while we have fun. Let's do something that creates a spark here at Holy Cross. Rum cake (delayed from our Christmas celebration) & fruit will be served.



From Linda:

I would like to thank everyone at Holy Cross for their prayers and cards during my time in the hospital and during my recovery, it meant so much to me. I would also like to thank those who supplied meals for me and the kids, they

From Ruth :

Pease send my thanks to the WHC for the cards (birthday, condolence) and the pretty Angel ornament.

A message from the Romans

Dear Holy Cross Family,

The Lord is pulling us in a different direction. After spending the majority of our lives in the East Bay, we are moving to Roseville. We have purchased a home that is under construction and should be done in August. Abbi, who is currently living in a group home, is going to remain in Antioch for now so we will be back often. Eric will continue to serve as an Elder until we move.

Although we hope to find a new church home in the Roseville area, we will always feel connected to Holy Cross and its members. We may be going a little too far away to attend church with you, but you are going to be in our hearts wherever we are.

Love, The Romans

Congratulations CLASS OF 2021

Alex is graduating from Vista Oaks Charter School in Byron where she spent her last two years of high school. Prior, Alex attended Deer Valley High School in her home town of Antioch. After graduation Alex will work with the Department of Rehabilitation on finding a job. Her dream job is working at Trader Joe's where she can interact with the friendly customers and wear a cool shirt with jeans to work .



Peter & Annalisa's granddaughter Britney Liedtke earned her Bachelors degree in Merchandising & Marketing from California State University, Long Beach. She will start her new adventure as a Merchandise Coordinator at Element in Huntington Beach.

The Aduan Family is proud to announce the graduation of Philip Aduan . He has earned the Masters of Music Degree from the School of Arts and Humanities at San Jose State University with Honors. Since attending SJSU since 2014 he has been a 4.0+ student. In his time at SJSU he has earned a Bachelor of Music degree and gone through the credential program in the Department of Music Education. He has secured a teaching position at Wilcox High School in Santa Clara. He will be teaching 2 Orchestras, Jazz Band, Band and Choral. We are so very proud of all his accomplishments and wish him all the best for the bright future ahead. NOTE: No real graduation photos as it was an all-virtual graduation. They have an option to attend the next live graduation later this year and be officially hooded.



Congratulations CLASS OF 2021

Kamryn Coyne will graduate from Clayton Valley Charter High School with the class of 2021 on June 3. She has earned recognition from Clayton Valley for academic achievements in addition to National Honor Society and California Scholarship Federation. In the fall Kamryn will attend Cal Poly San Luis Obispo where she plans to major in Psychology.



Kaytlyn Coyne will graduate with a Masters in Teaching degree from Saint Mary's College of California on May 23, 2021. She is celebrating a double graduation, as last year's undergraduate commencement exercises were cancelled due to Covid-19. This year, Saint Mary's plans to host a "Carmencement" drive through celebration. Kaytlyn is also in the process of applying for her California Teaching Credential, and is hoping to secure an elementary school teaching position for the fall.

Heavenly Father, we bring our youth before You. Lord, give them wisdom, enabling them to always look to You in everything they do. You know their challenges. Help them Lord; give them Your peace and joy. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Greetings From the Commander and New Marv (Luker)



NIFTY FIFTIES

The Nifty Fifties gathered for their first luncheon on 12 May 2021. We went to Mountain Mike's on Clayton Rd around the corner from church. Unfortunately, the New Marv forgot to get photographic evidence of the event and can't remember the names of everyone that attended. Brain cells that survived the event remember that the pizza was as good as always but they didn't offer the "all you can eat pizza buffet and salad bar" even though the windows still advertised that. Everyone had to buy their own pizza and one to share which was awkward and embarrassing. AND they didn't have linen tablecloths either. Venting accomplished, we all enjoyed being together again!

God willing, there will be another event in June. We'll pass word after the planning commission gets together to figure something out. Mike Liebe came up with an interesting idea...A to Z dining..... Hmmmm?

HCMKKP MANDATORY FORMATION

The men conducted Mandatory Formation at Country Waffles on May 20th. Photographic evidence supplied herewith. Once again it was nice to gather face to face! We all liked this place! Service staff was nice, the food was good, and delivery after ordering was super fast.

Those people understand that it's not good to keep hungry troops waiting.

Without hesitation we all agreed to meet here again in June. That will be the 17th at 9:00 AM. BE THERE or have a good excuse.

Making conflicting appointments on MANDATORY FORMATION mornings are no longer acceptable. Doctors are happy to reschedule you so they can take your money later. Avoiding "honey do's" carries with it some risk but you're men. Face your fears.





Ascension Day

May 13, 2021



Enjoying a congregational pizza meal before our evening Ascension Worship Service.

NOTE: Pastor baked the (Papa Murphy's) pizzas & gave us a tip to cut them into squares. Joyce commented they didn't teach that in her culinary classes, however she's sold on the idea!



food & Fellowship



May 16 Birthday Fellowship





More Birthday Fellowship







More Birthday Fellowship (including purple wiggly guy)

Check out the look on Allen & Luker's faces!



June 2021

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | 1 11a Prayer Group, Sanctuary | 2 7pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom | 3 | 4 | 5 9am Vision Mtg, Zoom |
| 6  9:30am Worship Service,. WoHC meet after in Courtyard 1pm Adult Sunday School Zoom | 7 OFC CLOSED 9-9:45am Women's Coffee Zoom 10-11:30am Ladies Bible Study Zoom 7pm Pastor's Book Club Zoom | 8 11a Prayer Group, Sanctuary | 9 7pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom | 10 | 11 YVCS last day school | 12 |
| 13 9:30am Worship Service. Voters Meeting after. 1pm Adult Sunday School Zoom 2-6pm EB Myanmar PH | 14 OFC CLOSED 9-9:45am Women's Coffee Zoom 10-11:30am Ladies Bible Study Zoom 1pm YVCS/HC Secret Pal reveal. | 15 11a Prayer Group, Sanctuary | 16 7pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom | 17 9am HC Men's Kaffeeklatsch, Country Waffles | 18 | 19 |
| 20  9:30am Worship Service 2-6pm EB Myanmar PH | 21 OFC CLOSED 9-9:45am Women's Coffee Zoom 10-11:30am Ladies Bible Study Zoom | 22 11a Prayer Group, Sanctuary | 23 7pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 9:30am Worship Service 1pm Adult Sunday School Zoom 2-6pm EB Myanmar PH | 28 OFC CLOSED 9-9:45am Women's Coffee Zoom 10-11:30am Ladies Bible Study Zoom | 29 11a Prayer Group, Sanctuary | 30 7pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom | | | |

cl=choir loft, C=Conference Room, E=Ed Bldg., PH=Parish Hall, L=Library, ws=wing room

YVCS: Friday, 6/11, last day of school. Monday, 6/21, first day summer school (thru 8/6).



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Sunday Worship Schedule:

Sunday Service 9:30AM

Adult Sunday School 1PM Zoom

Youth Bible Study 11AM

Sunday School 11AM (on hold)

Week Day Bible Study Schedule:

Monday (Ladies) 10AM Zoom

Wednesday (Adult) 7PM Zoom

Book Club Schedule:

Monday 7PM

*****Above subject to change due to COVID*****

Bulletin & Cross Currents Publication Deadline:

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday

July/August 2021 Cross Currents: June 22, 2021