

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

FAITH STATEMENTS

Every day, God gives us the opportunity to live, to learn and to love. He challenges those of us who follow Christ to do that by developing a Biblical worldview and to put our faith into action. These statements act as a template through which we strive to become all that God calls us to be. (For a more detailed explanation of these statements, go to The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod website; www.lcms.org.)

What We Believe:

ABOUT THE BIBLE: The bible is the true Word of God without error or contradiction and therefore, is the final authority in all matters of faith and life. Through the eyes of God’s Word, we seek to develop a Biblical worldview that compels us to love and action. (Psalm 139:13-16; Mark 10:5-9; Romans 1:21-27; 2 Corinthians 5:16; 2 Timothy 3:15-17)

ABOUT GOD: There is only one true God, who has revealed Himself in three persons (Triune) – God the Father who created us, God the Son (Jesus Christ) who saved us, and God the Holy Spirit who brings us to Jesus and is our help throughout our journey here on earth. (Matthew 28:19; Romans 5:5-6)

ABOUT HUMAN BEINGS: Human beings are the crown of God’s creation. Adam and Eve, the first man and woman created in God’s image, chose to sin in the Garden of Eden. As a result, all people are conceived and born sinful and are completely incapable of saving themselves by good living. (Genesis 1:27; Genesis 3; Psalm 51:5; Romans 3:10-12, 23)

ABOUT JESUS CHRIST: Jesus Christ is entirely God and at the same time entirely man. He was born of the Virgin Mary, lived a perfect life, died on the cross, rose from the dead, and now rules at the right hand of God. All of this, He did for us. One day He will come again to bring us home to heaven. (John 1:1-3, 14; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; Luke 1:26-38; Hebrews 4:15; Romans 5:6-8; 1 Corinthians 15:12-24; Ephesians 1:20-23; 1 Thessalonians 4:14, 17)

ABOUT GRACE: God, motivated by His unconditional love for us, provided for our salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ. This action of love is a gift called Grace, and by it we are saved through faith in Jesus Christ. (John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8,9)

ABOUT FAITH: Faith in Jesus Christ comes by the power of the Holy Spirit. He works through the means of Grace – His Word and the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord’s Supper – through which we receive the blessings and benefits of Jesus’ saving death and resurrection. These blessings are the restoring of our relationship with God, forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and salvation. Because we see faith as a journey, change is assumed, innovation is expected, and rebirth is welcomed. (John 6:63; Romans 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Matthew 28:19-20)

ABOUT BAPTISM: Baptism is water applied in the name of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit according to Jesus' command and promise. This sacrament gives salvation to all people who receive it through faith, delivers and applies the forgiveness of sins, and makes us members of God's family. (Matthew 28:19-20; John 3:5; Titus 3:5; Ephesians 5:25-26; Romans 6:4; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Colossians 2:11-12; 1 Peter 3:21)

ABOUT THE LORD'S SUPPER: The Lord's Supper is the real body and blood of Jesus Christ present with the bread and the wine. Based on Jesus' command, we eat and drink this supper for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. (Matthew 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

ABOUT THE CHRISTIAN LIFE: Good works, prayer, and holiness of life are the fruit of faith in Jesus Christ, not the cause of faith or salvation. It is a privilege to live for Jesus, seeking to serve and honor Him in all facets of life. We believe that all life is spiritual and through a relationship with Jesus Christ, all of our fears, failures, and brokenness can be restored and made whole. (John 15:5; Colossians 2:6-7; Ephesians 5:1-8; Galatians 5:16-25; Hebrews 11:16)

ABOUT MISSION: We take great joy in partnering with God to change the world. We do this by sharing His message of salvation, embracing the truth that all of life is sacred, knowing that hope is real and that tomorrow can be better than today. (Psalm 139; Jonah 3:4-9; Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Colossians 4:6)