



SUNGAI WAY-SUBANG METHODIST CHURCH



## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;\*  
the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father  
Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and  
the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic\*\* church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

\* Traditional use of this creed includes these words: "He descended into hell."  
\*\* universal

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

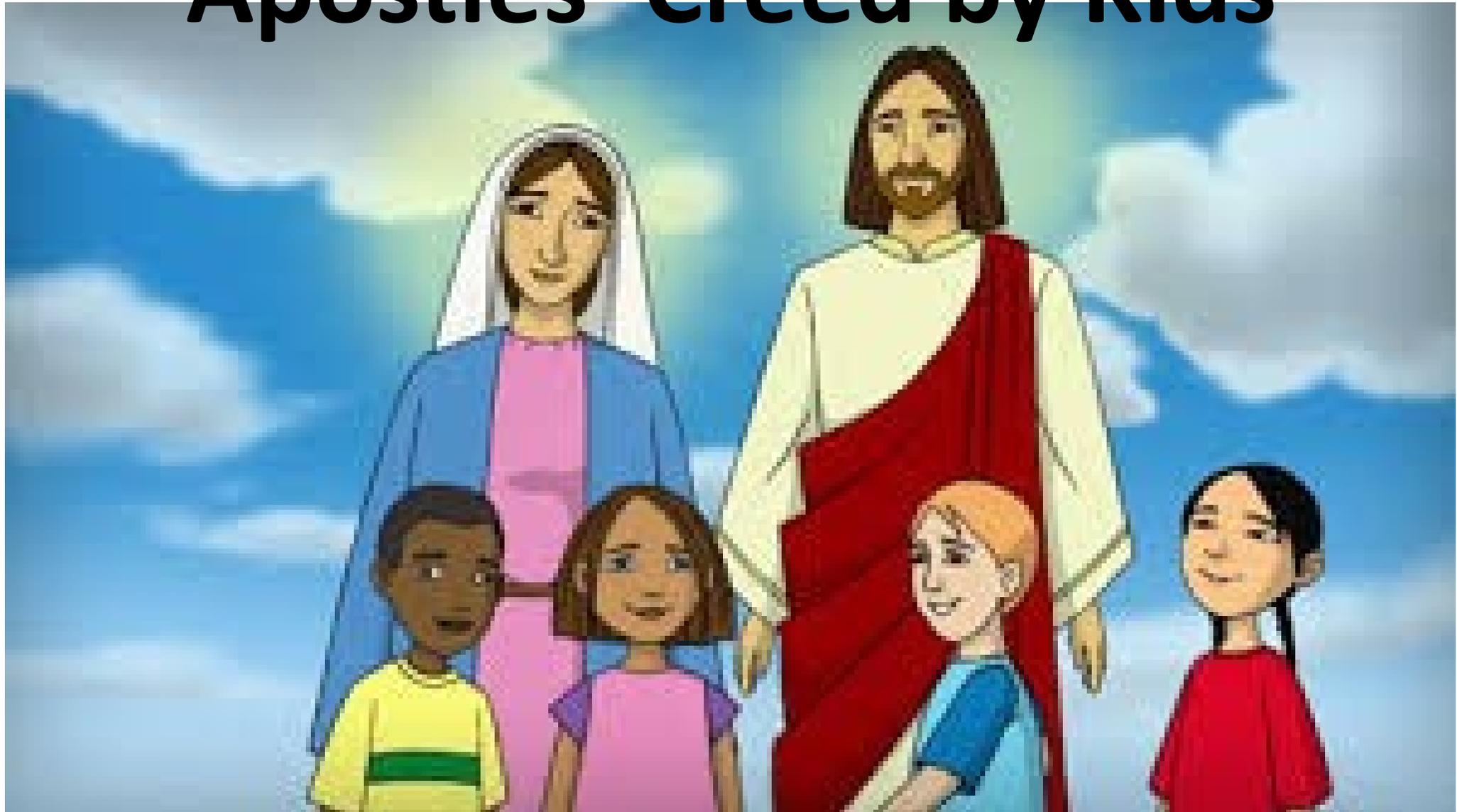
26 JULY 2020

# AFFIRMATION OF FAITH



**I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth;  
I believe in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord,  
Who died for our sins and rose again.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
Who empowers us in our daily living,  
I believe in the Church,  
the body of believers,  
whereby God is here in our midst. AMEN.**

# Apostles' Creed by Kids



# CREED

**“A brief,  
authoritative,  
formal statement  
of religious  
beliefs.”**

**(Nelson’s Illustrated Bible Dictionary)**

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CREED



CREDO

“I believe”

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# "I Believe"

- To accept that something is true
- To have confidence in the truth & reliability
- To make a personal commitment

Rom 1:16 – Gospel is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who **believes**.

Rom 10:9 – If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and **believe in your heart** that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

# The Apostles' Creed

- **Symbolum Apostolorum (Latin: Symbol of the Apostles)**
- **“A brief, authoritative, formal statement of religious beliefs”**
- **Rule of Faith – Ultimate authority or standard**
- **Core Christian beliefs**
- **12 Articles of Faith**

# 12 Articles of Faith

- 1. I believe in God, the Father Almighty...**
- 2. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord**
- 3. Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary**
- 4. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried**
- 5. He descended into hell. The third day he arose again from the dead.**

# 12 Articles of Faith

6. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty
7. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
8. I believe in the Holy Spirit
9. the holy catholic Church, the Communion of Saints
10. the forgiveness of sins
11. the resurrection of the body
12. And in life everlasting

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- **12 Articles of Faith**
- **Slight different variations**
- **Methodist Church – Traditional Version**

# The Apostles' Creed

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Almighty;  
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I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic<sup>\*\*</sup> church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

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\*\* universal

## He descended into hell

- **1 Pet 3:19 – made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits...**
- **Hell? Hades / Sheol?**



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<https://youtu.be/PUKEQ2FsnLI>

SSMC Noon Devotion 23 July 2020 -- by Ps Swee Ming



YOUTUBE.COM

**07 22 Where was Jesus betwn His Death & Resurrection**

SSMC Noon Devotion 23 July 2020 -- by Ps Swee Ming

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He descended into hell

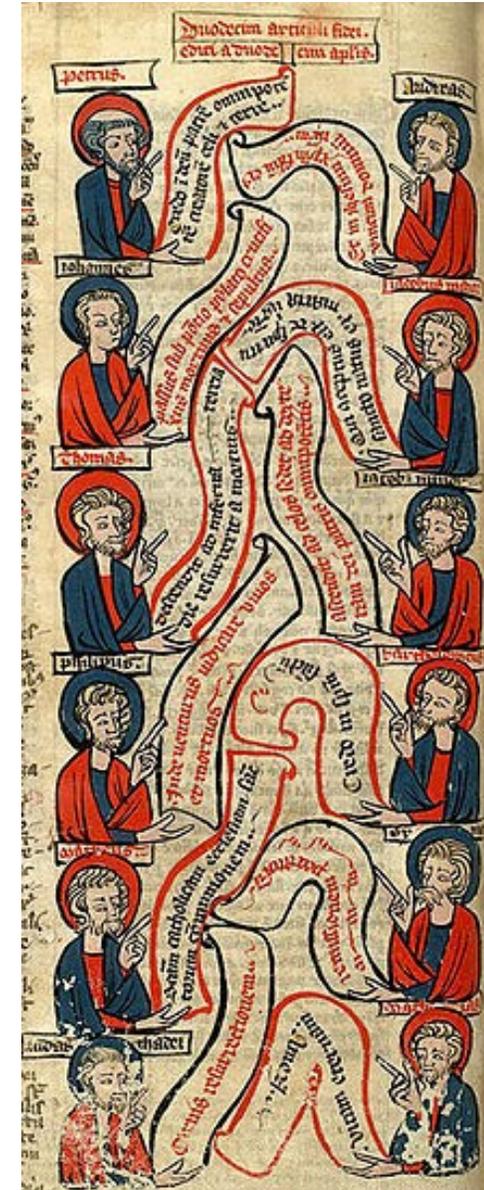
- Later addition, c 359AD
- John Wesley
- 1792 – dropped by American Methodists
- 1989 United Methodist Hymnal: "He descended to the dead"

"holy catholic" church

- NOT Roman Catholic Church
- Universal church

# The Apostles' Creed

- Legend – 12 apostles wrote this creed on the 10<sup>th</sup> day after Christ's ascension into heaven...
- **Rufinus of Aquileia (345–411), a monk, historian & theologian:** So the apostles met together in one spot and, being filled with the Holy Spirit, compiled this brief token . . . each making the contribution he thought fit; and they decreed that it should be handed out as standard teaching to believers.
- **Not written by the 12 apostles**



# Origin of the Apostles' Creed

- **Spread of Christian church throughout Roman Empire**
- **Death of apostles (around 100AD)**
- **False teachers (Acts 20:29-31a)**

**“I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away the disciples after them. So be on your guard!**

# Origin of the Apostles' Creed

- Spread of Christian church throughout Roman Empire
- Death of apostles (around 100AD)
- False teachers (Acts 20:29-31a) **(GNOSTICISM)**
- Need of basic statement of beliefs
- Canon of Bible not completed yet (about 5<sup>th</sup> Century)
- Churches in different cities made own lists
- Church leaders unified them



# Gnostic Beliefs

- **Dualism – spirit & matter; Matter is evil, spirit is good**
- **Supreme God, “emanate” but not create**
- **Denies incarnation / humanity of Jesus**
- **Jesus – revealer & liberator, not Saviour & Judge**
- **Salvation by acquiring secret knowledge**

# "The Old Roman Creed" (215 AD)

**I** BELIEVE in God the Father almighty  
And in Christ Jesus, his only Son, our Lord  
Who was born of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
Who was crucified under Pontius Pilate and was buried  
And the third day rose from the dead  
Who ascended into heaven  
And sitteth on the right hand of the Father  
Whence he cometh to judge the living and the dead  
And in the Holy Spirit  
The holy church  
The remission of sins  
The resurrection of the flesh  
The life everlasting.

**Baptismal Confession**

# Lambeth Conference, 1920



**Recognized the Apostles' Creed as  
one of the 4 pillars of Christian unity**

# 1<sup>st</sup> World Conference of Faith and Order Lausanne, 1927



**Declared that the Apostles' Creed could be used for all Christians**

# CREED

“A brief, authoritative, formal statement of religious beliefs.”

**Emphasizes the beliefs opposing the most dangerous prevailing false teachings**

- ❖ Apostles' Creed (2<sup>nd</sup> C) – Humanity of Christ
- ❖ Nicene Creed (4<sup>th</sup> C) – Deity of Christ

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SSMC Noon Devotion 21 July 2020 -- by Ps Swee Ming



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07 21 The Nicene Creed

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\* Traditional use of this creed includes these words: "He descended into hell."

\*\* universal

- God is Father
- God is Almighty
- God is Maker of everything

***Gnostics held that  
physical universe is evil &  
God did not make it***

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- **Divinity of Jesus**
- **Humanity of Jesus**
- **Fully God, fully man**

***Gnostics denied the  
incarnation of Jesus***

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- Jesus died at a specific time & place
- Really dead

*Gnostics held that there was never a man Jesus, but only the appearance of a man*

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- Jesus is at position of supreme power
- Jesus will return as Judge

*Gnostics denied the future judgment*

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- “Catholic” – “universal”
- Unity of the Body of Christ
- Salvation is for all, not select few

*Gnostics: secret knowledge  
for select few*

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\*\* universal

- Sins need to be forgiven
- Bodily resurrection

*Gnostics: enlightenment,  
not forgiveness;  
Break-free / Escape;  
not resurrection*

# Importance of the Apostles' Creed



- 1. Define the Faith**
- 2. Defend our Faith**
- 3. Declare our Faith**

# The Apostles' Creed

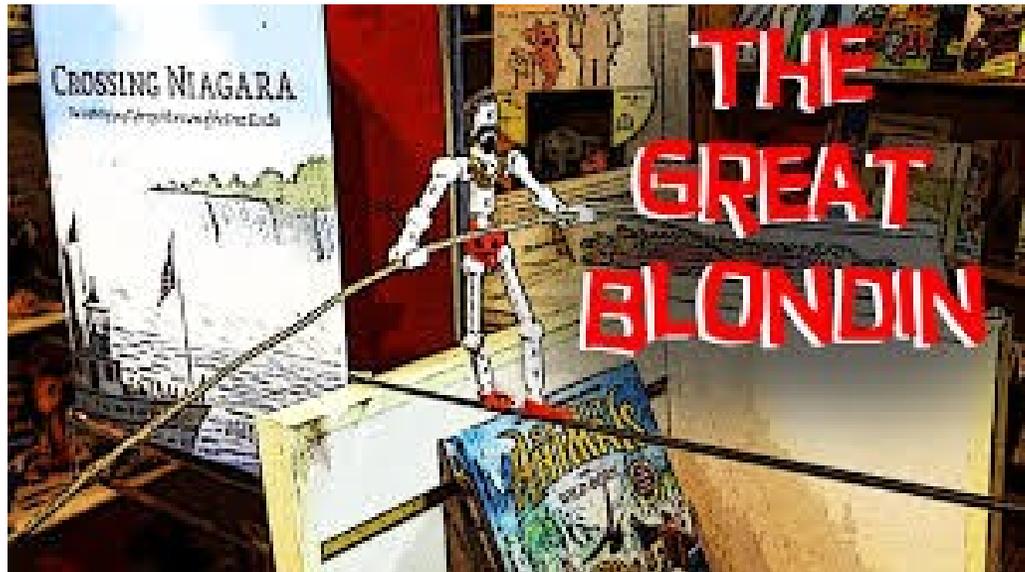
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# The Apostles' Creed

**and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty  
from thence he shall come again to judge the quick and  
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the Communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
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and the life everlasting. AMEN!**

- **Believe**
- **Declare**
- **Act upon it**



# The Apostles' Creed

- **Define the Faith**
- **Defend our Faith**
- **Declare our Faith**

- **Believe**
- **Declare**
- **Act upon it**