

And then, even though Jesus always existed, he shows up in the flesh in the New Testament and shows us what God and God's love look like in person. The New Testament tells us about Jesus' life on earth...and beyond! Matthew, Mark, Luke and John all tell us about Jesus from their perspective – like when we're all watching the same event but sitting in different seats. The book of Acts shows how the story continued as others spread the word. And then there are a bunch of letters that help people understand how to live as followers of Jesus and how to be a church.

Sometimes the Bible is like a journal or a diary where people tell their own stories. The Bible has history and poetry and prophecy and parables and images and metaphors. The Bible is like a mirror. It shows us exactly who we are – what is good and what might need some work.

The Bible is a lamp and a light – it shows us the way and keeps us from stumbling. The Bible is like a hammer, and a hammer has two sides: one side is used for building good things and the other side is used for tearing down or taking apart things that are not helpful or useful or that need to be replaced and rebuilt.

*We are thankful for the church.*

The church happens when people who believe in Jesus come together and worship God and learn about God and teach others about God. The church is a place to listen to God and get to know God. The church welcomes people in, and the church prepares them to go out and do God's

work in the world. The church is a community where we can be with other people and do good things together. The church can be a blessing in the community – like our Blessing Box.

*We believe that baptism is a way of being welcomed into the church and into God's family.*

We use water – sometimes a little bit and sometimes a lot – to symbolize what God is doing in our hearts and in our lives. Baptism is like a shower where the dirt is sin and the soap is God's love.

*We believe that Confirmation is a way of telling everyone what we believe and also telling them that we confirm or support and agree with the decision that our parents made for us when we were baptized as babies.*

*We are glad that we can take part in Holy Communion.* In Holy Communion, we use bread and wine (or juice) to symbolize and help us remember how Jesus gave his very flesh and blood to show God's love for people and how God wants people to love him and love each other.

*These are the main things that we believe. Amen.*

*Samuel Gomez, Charlotte Henshaw, Grayson Nifong, Campbell Pitts, William Smith, Luke Williams*



*Created by the 2020 – 2021 Catechism Class of  
New Philadelphia Moravian*

## Confirmation Creed

*(created by the 2020 – 2021 Catechism Class of  
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***Here are the things that we would like to confirm that we believe.***

***We believe in God.***

God is our Heavenly Father. God is our Creator, the one whose creative genius we can see all around us. God is the architect - the master designer and builder of everything that is. God is like a gentle giant because God has the power to do anything and everything but that power is held back by God's love and mercy.

***Here is what we would like to say to God:***

God, we see when you enact your plan here on earth. You heal us and enlighten us and teach us. You fix and mend things and lives that are broken. We see you everywhere. We see you in your word – the Bible. We see you in church. We see you in the beauty of nature. And we see you in hard times; sometimes that's really when we see you the most because that's when we need you the most.

***We believe in Jesus.***

Jesus is our Savior, the Messiah, the Christ, the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, the Light of the World, the Living Word. Jesus is our Refuge, our hiding place. Jesus is the bridge between people and God and Jesus invites people to cross that

bridge and get closer to God. Jesus accumulated 12 close followers called disciples and many more people believed in him and followed him. He spread hope and joy with his word. He performed many miracles and taught people about God and about themselves. He was persecuted and he suffered and was sacrificed on the cross for our sins and for all of humanity. It wasn't easy. He even talked with his Father about how difficult it was, but then he said, "It's not just about what I want, but what you want." What an amazing example of faithfulness!

He died and was buried but then he rose from the dead and went back up to heaven to be with his father.

***Here is what we would like to say to Jesus:***

Jesus, you call us to follow you just like you called people a long time ago. You heal us and save us from sin. We love you.

***We believe in the Holy Spirit.***

The Holy Spirit is the way that God and Jesus are with us right now. The Spirit is like fire. It warms our hearts and gives us energy. The Spirit is like the wind. We can't see it, but we can see what it does. The Spirit is power but the Spirit is also our Comforter who is near us when we are hurting or in trouble. The Spirit is like an Ambassador who represents us before God and keeps us connected with God. The Spirit works through people to spread God's word and to help people fulfill their part in God's plan.

***Here is what we would like to say to the Holy Spirit:***

We feel your presence even when we don't see you. But sometimes we do see you. We see you in ourselves and in other people. We see you in the kindness and grace that you put in us and in others. We see you when good things happen and when someone does something good. And when bad things happen we know that you are right beside us.

You guide us and help us and give us energy to live our lives for God.

***We are thankful for God's Word, the Bible – the Holy Scriptures that help us know all of these things about God.***

The Old Testament tells the stories of people who lived before Jesus was born – people like Adam and Eve and Noah and Abraham and Sarah and Moses and Ruth and David and Esther. There are stories about how God worked in their lives and how they sometimes did what was good and right but sometimes they disappointed God. The Old Testament shows how God kept reaching out to people and loving them even when they weren't always faithful to God.