



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,

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 sits 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 universal Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

A mini history lesson

- The Holy Spirit has one line in the Apostles' Creed.
- In the second oldest creed we call the Nicene Creed, the Holy Spirit didn't even make the first cut in 325, but showed up later in 381.
- The Nicene Creed offers a slightly fuller picture of the Holy Spirit:
 - *We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.*

The Holy Spirit is not always best captured in the simplicity of _____.

- Most of us can point to certain experiences.
- We often hear of the Holy Spirit as the Sustainer.

*The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;*

Isaiah 61:1–2 (NRSV)

- Holy Spirit language draws our attention back toward the work of a just and loving God.

The Holy Spirit is one who _____ with us along the way.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.
Genesis 1:1–5 (NRSV)

- The Holy Spirit is _____—an authentic, intimate connection with the living God.
- Holy Spirit derives from the Hebrew word, *ruach*—breath or wind.

The Holy Spirit is for us, not against us.

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe. I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no power over me; but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us be on our way.
John 14:25–31 (NRSV)

- The Holy Spirit is our _____.
- The Holy Spirit draws us toward an _____, a lived moment in our faith.
- The Holy Spirit does the invitational work in our relationship with God.

How do we experience the Holy Spirit?

- The Holy Spirit _____.

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
2 Timothy 3:14–17 (NIV)

- The Holy Spirit _____.

When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

- Direction entails a revealing, of sorts.
- The Holy Spirit _____ community.
 - Life in the Spirit is a _____ of stories of God working.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.
Galatians 5:22–26 (NRSV)

- The fruits of the Spirit are _____ fruits.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.
Acts 2:1–4 (NRSV)

While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles.

Acts 10:44–46 (NIV)

- The Holy Spirit builds up the Church universal

Why believe in a God who is 3 in 1?

- The more we try to unpack the complexity, the more we _____ the mystery.
- Just as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are _____, God is inseparable from us.
- To be filled with the Holy Spirit doesn't mean we are privy to some elevated degree of knowledge.
- The Holy Spirit always points us back to God.

Major Sources: *CREED: What Christians Believe and Why*, Adam Hamilton; *Responsible Grace*, Randy Maddox