

## What We Believe

- The entire Bible points to Jesus as the Savior. Our faith and beliefs are based on the clear teachings of the Bible.
- There is only one true God. He has revealed Himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- God is the creator of everything that exists.
- People were originally created by God pure and holy; without fault and sinless. They lived in harmony with God and did what was pleasing to Him.
- Sin is living in a broken relationship with God. This broken relationship is shown in sinful thoughts, works, and deeds.
- People cannot save themselves by their good works or restore themselves to a right relationship with God.
- God sent his Son, Jesus, into the world. He is both true God and true man. He lived to fulfill God's law for us, died on the cross to pay the penalty our sins deserved, and rose from the dead so that we might have eternal life.
- Because of Jesus' death on the cross, God declares a human being just —or righteous— and forgiven. This happens not because of human effort, but because the forgiveness won by Jesus is given to anyone who believes in Jesus as Savior.
- Faith in Jesus is a gift of God, given by the power of the Holy Spirit.
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- God comes into our lives through the Word, Holy Baptism, and Holy Communion. By these means of grace, God applies the blessings of Jesus' death and resurrection to all who believe in Jesus as their Savior.
- Jesus will come again to take all believers to himself. On the final day, all the dead will be raised. Those who are still alive will be bodily transformed. After this, the final judgment will take place. Unbelievers will go into eternal hell and believers into eternal life.
- The true Christian church is made up of all believers of all times who believe in the Triune God and in Jesus Christ as their only Savior.
- On earth, the true church is the congregation which correctly preaches and teaches God's Word and administers Holy Baptism and Holy Communion according to the teachings of Scripture.
- Christians are called to tell others that the only way of salvation is by faith in Jesus Christ, and to show their faith by their deeds of love towards others.