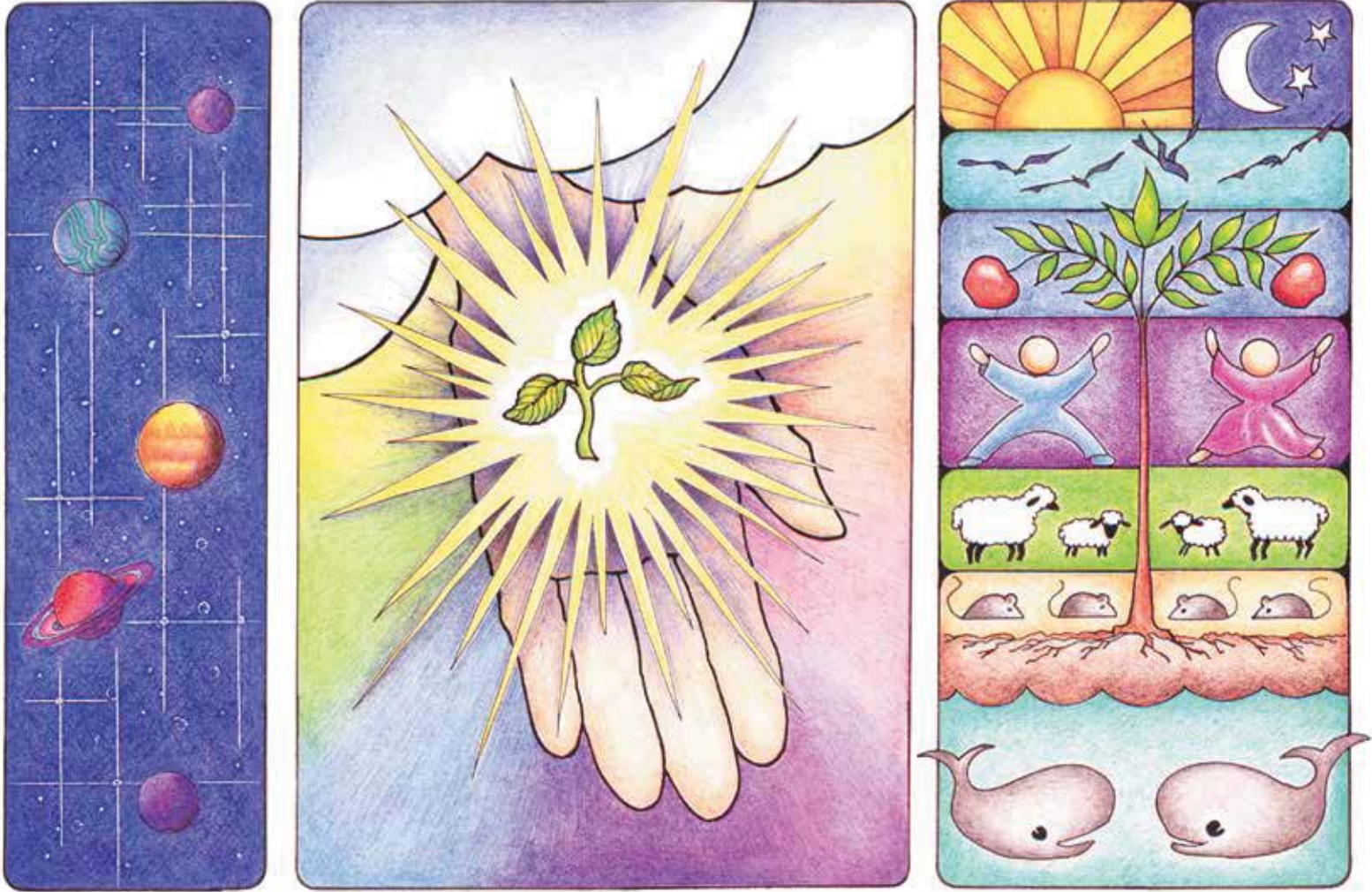


The Apostles' Creed

The First Article of Creation

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.



What does this mean?

I believe that God has created me and all that exists; that He has given and still preserves to me my body and soul, my eyes and ears, and all my members, my reason and all the powers of my soul, together with food and clothing, home and family, and all my property; that He daily provides abundantly for all the needs of my life, protects me from all danger, and guards and keeps me from all evil; and that He does this purely out of fatherly and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me; for all of which I am in duty bound to thank, praise, serve, and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

This I Believe

It took a while for the family to gather around the lunch table. Having Grandma and Grandpa there for the day was very special. When everyone was quiet with heads bowed, Dad prayed: “God our Father and our Creator, we bow before You in thanks and praise for all Your many blessings to us. In faithfulness and love, You daily supply all of our needs. Bless this food, and guide our conversation around this table. Amen.”

“Dad,” Colton said as soon as the ‘Amen’ was pronounced, “in Sunday school this

morning, Mr. Campbell said that we will be learning about the Apostles’ Creed. He asked us if we know what a **creed** is, and then he explained that every Sunday in the worship service we say the Apostles’ Creed together. Why is a creed so important?”

“I’d like to answer that,” Grandpa said. “A creed is a statement telling what you believe. The Apostles’ Creed dates back to the eighth **century**, so you know that it wasn’t actually written by the apostles, but it is a clear summary of what Jesus taught them about God.”

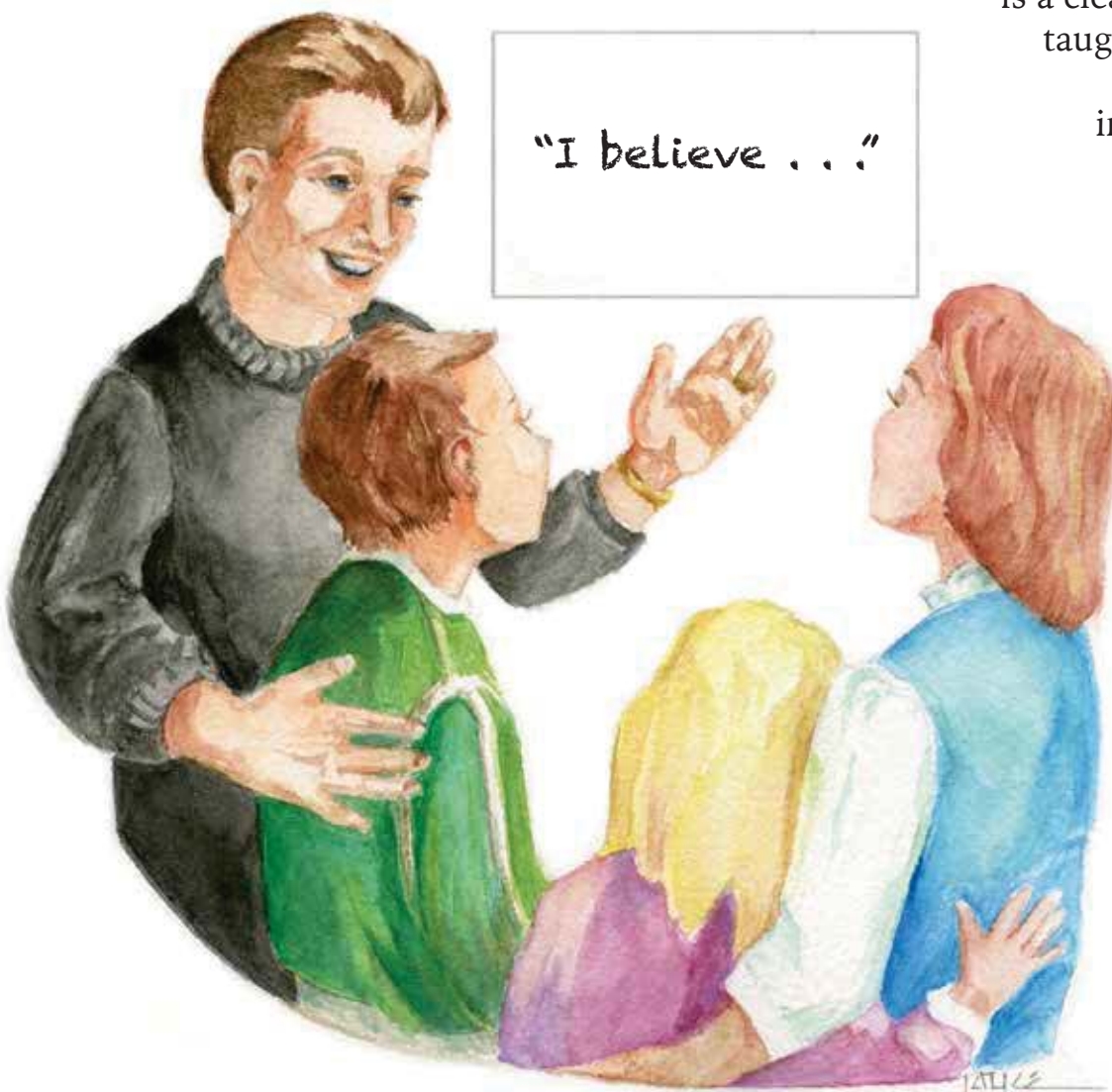
“The Apostles’ Creed is important,” Grandma added, “because there are so many false teachings today, just as there were back when the Creed was written.”

“The first Christians believed and confessed the same things as Christians do today,” Dad explained.

“Confessing the Creed together helps to protect the **Christian Church** from error.”

“Oh children,” Grandma said, “don’t ever forget what you are learning, and boldly **confess** the Apostles’ Creed.”

“I believe . . .”



When a Christian says in the Apostles' Creed, "I believe . . .," he is confessing his **faith** in God. Some of the things we confess in the Apostles' Creed aren't things we can see or touch, but God gives us faith to believe that these teachings are true and real. This gift of faith is given to us in our baptism. As we grow older, God continues to increase our faith through His Word. He daily shows us our sin and helps us confess it, telling us He loves us and that He forgives us. By faith in Jesus, you are His child!

When we talk about what we believe, we are confessing our faith so that others will know what we believe too. Timothy was a young man in the Bible who talked to other people about what he believed. I Timothy 6:12 says that he "made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses."

For hundreds of years, the Christian Church around the world has confessed her faith together during worship services. When we believe that God is the Creator of all things, that Jesus is our Savior, and that the Holy Spirit gives us the faith to believe this, then we can truly confess the Creed in worship with other believers. How wonderful it is for us to worship Him together!



As we study the Apostles' Creed, an important thing to remember is that it tells us of the great works of God. This Creed teaches us that God is **triune**. He is three persons in one: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It tells us that God the Father is our **Creator**, God the Son is our **Redeemer**, and God the Holy Spirit is our **Sanctifier**.

The Apostles' Creed is divided into three parts called **articles**. Each of these articles focuses on one person of the Triune God. Throughout this study, we will learn about the Apostles' Creed using Luther's Small Catechism. In this lesson book, we will study the First Article, which teaches about God the Creator.



ACTIVITY 1

I Believe

Complete this puzzle using the clues given.

1. Timothy told other people what he believed about God.
We learn about God in the _____.
2. The person of the Triune God who is the Creator.
3. The name of the creed we are learning about in this book.
4. The person of the Triune God who is our Sanctifier.
5. Three in one.
6. Knowing something is real even if we can't see it or touch it.
7. A statement that tells what a person believes.

A crossword puzzle grid with 7 numbered starting points. The grid is composed of white squares for letters and purple shaded squares for empty space. The numbers are: 1. (down), 2. (down), 3. (down), 4. (across), 5. (down), 6. (down), 7. (across). The letter 'Z' is already placed in the 6th row, 5th column.

Read the highlighted word in the boxes going down and fill in the blank at the end of the following sentence.

The faith taught in the Apostles' Creed is the faith God gives us when we are .

ACTIVITY 2

Match each word with the correct sentence.

- _____ 1. Confessing the Apostles' Creed together helps to protect the _____ Church from error.
- _____ 2. To say you believe something.
- _____ 3. By _____ in Jesus, you are His child!
- _____ 4. God the Father did this when He made everybody and everything.
- _____ 5. God the Son did this by dying so that our sins can be forgiven.
- _____ 6. God the Holy Spirit is our _____.

- A. faith
- B. Sanctifier
- C. Christian
- D. confess
- E. created
- F. redeemed



Catechism

The First Article of Creation

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.



Memory Verse

You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them.

—II Timothy 3:14

Enrichment Memory Verse: I John 5:13