

## OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Presbyterian Church in America or “The PCA” is a distinctly evangelical denomination in the Reformed tradition. The Bible as the Word of God is the primary standard for our faith. The Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms, although subordinate to the Bible in their authority, set forth our understanding of biblical truth in a consistent, concise, and reliable form. In the Reformed tradition, there are five key tenets, among others, that we hold to: By Scripture Alone; By Christ Alone; By Grace Alone; By Faith Alone; and To God Alone be the Glory.

- We believe the Bible is the written word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit and without error in the original manuscripts. The Bible is the revelation of God’s truth and is infallible and authoritative in all matters of faith and practice.
- We believe in the Holy Trinity. There is one God, who exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- We believe that all are sinners and totally unable to save themselves from God’s displeasure, except by His mercy.
- We believe that salvation is by God alone as He sovereignly chooses those He will save. We believe His choice is based on His grace, not on any human individual merit, or foreseen faith.
- We believe that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, who through His perfect life and sacrificial death atoned for the sins of all who will trust in Him, alone, for salvation.
- We believe that God is gracious and faithful to His people not simply as individuals but as families in successive generations according to His Covenant promises.
- We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells God’s people and gives them the strength and wisdom to trust Christ and follow Him.
- We believe that Jesus will return, bodily and visibly, to judge all mankind and to receive His people to Himself.
- We believe that all aspects of our lives are to be lived to the glory of God under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.



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*Spreading A Love for God and His Glory*



**March 31, 2013**

*Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” John 20:17*

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### *His Calling and Our Praise*

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Christ is risen!

**All: He is risen indeed!**

Leader: The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

**All: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!**

Leader: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

**All: The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.**

**\*CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY – Hymn #277**

**\*UP FROM THE GRAVE HE AROSE – Hymn #276**

*(\*Indicates when to stand)*

*We ask that you please turn off cell phones during the worship service. Thank you.*

**\*PRAYER OF PRAISE**

**\*AMAZING GRACE (MY CHAINS ARE GONE)**

Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

*(Chorus)*

*My chains are gone. I've been set free, my God, my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood his mercy rains unending love, amazing grace.*

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.

*(Chorus 2x)*

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow; the sun forbear to shine.  
But God, who called me here below, will be forever mine, will be forever mine.  
You are forever mine.

**\*All: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again!**

**His Renewal and Our Hope**

**COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN**

**SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *Romans 6***

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?...If we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires ... Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness.

**All: Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. Yet we confess that we remain captive to doubt and to fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to your call to peace. Father, forgive us for hearts that are unmoved by your mercy, for hearts that avoid dying with Christ. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

**CALENDAR**

**TODAY**

- 8:00 a.m. – WORSHIP SERVICE
- 9:15 a.m. – Breakfast
- 10:30 a.m. – WORSHIP SERVICE

**THIS WEEK**

- Monday – Women's Retreat videos, 4:45 p.m. at the church
- Tuesday – Trustees' meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church
- Wednesday – Men's Prayer Breakfast, 6:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall  
– Sr. High Youth Group, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Pierson's home, 30 Chip Ct. in Kalispell
- Thursday – Women's Retreat videos, 4:45 p.m. at the church

**LOOKING AHEAD**

- Tuesdays – Music practice, 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesdays – Men's Prayer Breakfast, 6:45 a.m.  
– Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups (Sept.-May)
- Sundays – Adult Small Groups (Sept.-May)
- 1st Sundays – Diaconal Offering
- 1st Tuesdays – Elder home visits
- 3rd Tuesdays – Elders/Deacons' meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 2nd & 4th Tuesdays – Elizabeth Women, noon, at Jo Anne Ross' home, (Sept.-May)
- Last Sunday of month – Prayer & Worship Service, 6:00 p.m.

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- Tuesday, April 9 – Elizabeth Women, noon at Jo Anne Ross' home  
– Women's Ministries meeting, 4:00 p.m.
  - Thursday, April 11 – Community Kitchen: Feeding the Flathead
  - Tuesday, April 16 – Elder/Deacon meeting, 7:00 p.m.
  - Tuesday, April 23 – Elizabeth Women, noon, at Jo Anne Ross' home
  - Sunday, April 28 – Prayer & Worship Service, 6:00 p.m.
  - Tuesday, May 7 – Trustees' meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church
  - Thursday, May 9 – Community Kitchen: Feeding the Flathead
  - Fri-Sat, May 10-11 – Men's Retreat
  - Saturday, May 11 – Appreciation Dinner for Sunday school teachers, 6:00 p.m.
  - Sunday, May 12 – Last Sunday school until September
  - Tuesday, May 14 – Elizabeth Women, noon, at Jo Anne Ross' home  
– Fellowship Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m.
  - Saturday, May 18 – Baby Shower for Nicole Waldron, details to follow
  - Tuesday, May 21 – Elder/Deacon meeting, 7:00 p.m.
  - Tuesday, May 28 – Elizabeth Women, noon at Jo Anne Ross' home

### LORD'S SUPPER OBSERVANCE

At Faith Covenant, the Lord's Supper is observed each Lord's Day as the climax of our worship service. We invite to the Lord's Table all those who are baptized disciples of Jesus Christ, under the authority of Christ and His body, the Church. By eating the bread and drinking the cup with us as a visitor, you are acknowledging to our church that you are in covenant with God. You also acknowledge that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for your salvation. If you have any doubts about your participation, please speak to the pastor or one of the elders after the service. Wine and bread are the elements of the supper as instituted by Jesus Christ. We recommend the use of wine; however we offer both juice and wine in the tray to allow true liberty of conscience. The wine is located in the two outer rings and the juice is located in the center ring.

*For Prayer Chain requests or to be added to the prayer chain, please contact the church office at 752-2400 or email to office@faithcov.com.*

### MARCH MINISTRIES

DEACON OF THE MONTH ..... Ike Eisentraut  
NURSERY M.O.M. (Mom of the Month)..... Sharon Riley  
NURSERY COORDINATOR..... Darcy Hearn  
*Direct Nursery questions, concerns, praises, etc., to Darcy at 270-8933.*

### TODAY

8:00 a.m. USHERS/GREETERS ..... Nick & Hanni Hanson  
10:30 a.m. USHERS/GREETERS ..... Kyle & Michael Hanson  
CHILDREN'S CHURCH (10:30 service only)..... Tamie & Kathryn Jentz  
8:00 a.m. WORSHIP NURSERY ..... Hills  
10:30 a.m. WORSHIP NURSERY (infants) ..... Kings  
10:30 a.m. WORSHIP NURSERY (toddlers thru 3yrs)..... Leah Wiersma  
9:15 EASTER BREAKFAST ..... Deacons & Elders  
8:00 a.m. COMMUNION PREP ..... Carol Martin  
8:00 a.m. COMMUNION CLEAN-UP ..... Diane Nugent  
10:30 a.m. COMMUNION PREP ..... Christy Heath  
10:30 a.m. COMMUNION CLEAN-UP ..... Theresa Paolini

### NEXT SUNDAY – APRIL 7

USHERS/GREETERS ..... Chad Heath & Christy Heath  
CHILDREN'S CHURCH ..... Tamie & Kathryn Jentz  
WORSHIP NURSERY (infants) ..... Makowskis  
WORSHIP NURSERY (toddlers thru 3yrs)..... Will Schmaltz?  
FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS..... Carolyn Duncan & JoAnn Duncan  
COMMUNION PREP ..... Donelle Holderbaum  
COMMUNION CLEAN-UP ..... Mark Rice

### SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

#### **DECLARATION OF GRACE:** *Romans 5:8-10*

God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

#### **\*COMMON CONFESSION OF FAITH:**

*The Apostles' Creed – Hymnal page 845*

#### **\*HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US**

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure.  
That he should give his only Son and make a wretch his treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns his face away;  
as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon the cross, my sin upon his shoulders.  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished.  
His dying breath has brought me life; I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom.  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection.  
*Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer.  
But this I know with all my heart, his wounds have paid my ransom.*

#### **PRAYER, OFFERTORY & RESPONSE**

*Reminder: please sign and pass the Attendance Register down the pew.*

*Children ages 4-6 are excused for Children's Church  
(held downstairs in the Fellowship Hall)*

#### **\*I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES – GLORY, HALLELUJAH!**

*– Hymn #281*

#### **\*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

### **His Word and Our Response**

**Sermon: Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.**

**Sermon Series: Easter Sunday**

**Sermon Title: And So It Starts**

**Sermon Text: John 20: 1-18**

*(See pages 6-8 for sermon outline and text)*

**\*IN CHRIST ALONE**

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
he is my light, my strength, my song;  
This cornerstone, this solid ground,  
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my all in all,  
here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! who took on flesh,  
fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
scorned by the ones he came to save;  
Till on that cross as Jesus dies,  
the wrath of God was satisfied  
For ev'ry sin on him was laid;  
here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay,  
light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious day,  
up from the grave he rose again!  
And as he stands in victory,  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
for I am his and he is mine,  
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
this is the pow'r of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
*No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,  
can ever pluck me from his hand.  
Till he returns or calls me home,  
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand,  
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.*

**CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

*Wine is located in the two outer rings; juice is located in the center ring.  
(See FCC Observance information on page 10)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LOCAL OR REGIONAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR:** Calvary Lutheran Church, Evergreen, Pastor Kurt Rau

**MISSION PROJECT OR MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR:** Seth, Rachel & Wyatt Park with Pioneers serving in Turkey. Pray for opportunities for the gospel, and for boldness in those opportunities to share the faith, for conversions and opportunities to disciple new converts. Pray their spiritual lives will be healthy and growing.

**THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES TODAY.** All classes will resume meeting next Sunday, April 7 at 11:15 a.m.

**WE WILL NOT MEET TONIGHT FOR OUR LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH EVENING PRAYER & WORSHIP SERVICE.** We will meet again on Sunday, April 28 at 6:00 p.m.

**LADIES RETREAT VIDEOS:** Ladies are invited to finish the remaining sessions of the retreat study on Living the Gospel as a Sunday School class April 7 and April 14 in Pastor Shane's office. If you can't go to Sunday School, the videos will be shown at the church April 1 and 4 at 4:45 p.m. (2 videos each evening) with childcare provided (RSVP to Becky Neumann 212-7664).

**RECYCLE YOUR BULLETIN:** We will recycle your bulletin for you – you can help by returning it to the basket in the foyer at the entrance to the sanctuary.

**CLARISSE and ANDY Sunday school offering status:**  
Monthly goal = \$100; March-to-date amount: \$73.68

**FEED THE FLATHEAD VOLUNTEERS:** The Feed the Flathead committee is recruiting volunteers. They provide and serve a meal the second Thursday of each month. They serve a main dish along with fresh fruit, a salad or vegetable, bread, juice and milk. If you would like to sign up to bring something, come and serve the meal, help with clean up or make a monetary contribution any time through this next year, please sign up in the foyer. The committee will put together two teams of workers and alternate months. You can sign up to be a regular volunteer, or you can sign up to help once or twice and let us know which months are best for you. For questions or details, contact Sharon Thompson (253-3238) or Joyce Schmautz (249-6370).

**COMMUNITY KITCHEN–FEEDING THE FLATHEAD:** Those of you who are volunteering with Feed the Flathead will serve next month on **Thursday, April 11** at Central Christian Church. If you have questions, contact Sharon Thompson or Joyce Schmautz.

**THREE DETAILED BIBLE READING PLANS** are available to you on the table in the Fellowship Hall to help you read through the Bible in a year.

**MEN'S RETREAT:** Men mark your calendar for the annual Men's Retreat May 10 and 11 at the Bend Guard Station.

**Questions and thoughts for discussion:**

1. What is important about v-9 in explaining the disciples' continuing unbelief?
2. The gospels are not the Word of God in so far as they get the story right. They are the Word of God distinctively told from the perspective of each author. Why do we need to keep this in mind? (hint: "The Band of Brothers" example)
3. Fyodor Dostoevsky: *"Man on earth is only a creature in development, not finished but transitional. But if there is no afterlife, then there would be no one to enjoy the fulfillment of this process. It is completely senseless to attain such a great goal if upon attaining it everything is extinguished and disappears, that is, if man will no longer have life when he attains the goal. Consequently, there is a future paradisaal life."*
4. Frederick Buechner: *"Resurrection means the worst thing is never the last thing."*
5. Alexander Schmemmann: *"The full triumphant power of Easter consists precisely in the fact that there is nothing here to prove, that all of man's knowledge, all human proofs are totally powerless before this reality."*
6. What is significant about v-17? What is significant about the ascension of Jesus for the starting of the mission of the Church?

**PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION – Pastor Lloyd Pierson**

**\*LIFT HIGH THE CROSS – Hymn #263**

**\*BENEDICTION**



**CONTACT INFORMATION  
CHURCH OFFICE: 752-2400**

***"Serving One Another in Love" Galatians 5:13***

**SENIOR PASTOR:** Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR:** Shane Waldron

**OFFICE STAFF:** Kristin Bay

**BOOKKEEPER:** Carlynn Stahlberg

**CUSTODIAN:** Kelly Brown

**SR. HIGH YOUTH LEADER:** Trent Neumann

**ELDERS**

Grady Bennett.....	314-4207	Don Olmsted.....	250-7915
Dave Hanson.....	249-8893	Matt Riley.....	756-8913
Tom Jentz.....	755-2029	Steve Thompson.....	857-3326
Duane Martin.....	756-6026	Jan Wassink.....	249-6590

**DEACONS**

Buford Bennett.....	261-7124	Micah Hill.....	890-2058
Doug Brown.....	890-0760	Mike Stahlberg.....	on sabbatical
Ike Eisentraut.....	257-2222	Bruce Tulloch.....	755-4550
Bill Gamble.....	249-0152		

**BUILDING TRUSTEES**

Brian Bay.....	752-9087	Nick Hanson.....	253-4668
Donnie Burns.....	261-9830	Matt Vander Ark.....	871-0615
Russ Hadley (lead).....	752-3661		

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## SERMON OUTLINE

March 31, 2013

Sermon: Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.

Sermon Series: Easter Sunday

Sermon Title: *And So It Starts*

Sermon Text: John 20:1-18

### I. The Empty Tomb: Sight without the Word

### II. The Gardener: Sight and Word together

## SERMON TEXT

John 20:1-18 (ESV)

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. <sup>2</sup> So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” <sup>3</sup> So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. <sup>4</sup> Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup> And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. <sup>6</sup> Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, <sup>7</sup> and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup> Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; <sup>9</sup> for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup> Then the disciples went back to their homes.

<sup>11</sup> But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. <sup>12</sup> And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. <sup>13</sup> They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” <sup>14</sup> Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” <sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup> Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” <sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.