

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

August 25, 2013

*“Answer me quickly, O LORD! My spirit fails!
Hide not your face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the pit.”
Psalm 143:7*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

His Calling and Our Praise

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** *Psalm 149:1-2,4-5*

Leader: Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the godly!

All: Let Israel be glad in his Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!

Leader: For the LORD takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with salvation.

All: Let the godly exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their beds. Praise the LORD!

***HALLELUJAH! THINE THE GLORY** – Hymn #179

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

*(*Indicates when to stand)*

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

***CREATION SINGS THE FATHER'S SONG**

Creation sings the Father's song; he calls the sun to wake the dawn
and run the course of day, till evening comes in crimson rays.
His fingerprints in flakes of snow, his breath upon this spinning globe;
he charts the eagle's flight, commands the newborn baby's cry.

(Chorus)

*Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing:
Hallelujah! Fill the earth with songs of worship,
tell the wonders of creation's King.*

Creation gazed upon his face; the ageless one in time's embrace,
unveiled the Father's plan of reconciling God and man.
A second Adam walked the earth, whose blameless life would break the curse,
whose death would set us free to live with him eternally.

(Chorus)

Creation longs for his return, when Christ shall reign upon the earth;
the bitter wars that rage are birth pains of a coming age.
When he renews the land and sky, all heaven will sing and earth reply
with one resplendent theme: the glory of our God and King!

(Chorus)

***LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS UNTO THE LORD** *(men lead; women echo)*

Lift up your hearts unto the Lord, *(Echo): Lift up your hearts unto the Lord.*
lift up your hearts unto the Lord. *(Echo): Sing alleluia.*
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia; *(Women descant): Al-le-lu-ia.*
lift up your hearts unto the Lord! *(Echo): Lift up your hearts unto the Lord!*

In Christ the world has been redeemed, *(Echo): In Christ the world has been redeemed.*
in Christ the world has been redeemed, *(Echo): Sing alleluia.*
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia; *(Women descant): Al-le-lu-ia.*
in Christ the world has been redeemed. *(Echo): In Christ the world has been redeemed.*

His resurrection sets us free, *(Echo): His resurrection sets us free.*
his resurrection sets us free. *(Echo): Sing alleluia.*
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia; *(Women descant): Al-le-lu-ia.*
his resurrection sets us free. *(Echo): his resurrection sets us free.*

Therefore we celebrate the feast, *(Echo): Therefore we celebrate feast.*
therefore we celebrate the feast. *(Echo): Sing alleluia.*
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia; *(Women descant): Al-le-lu-ia.*
therefore we celebrate the feast. *(Echo): therefore we celebrate the feast.*

(song continued on next page)

CALENDAR

TODAY

- 9:30 a.m. – WORSHIP SERVICE
- 10:45 a.m. – Coffee Hour & Fellowship
- 11:00 a.m. – Small Group Leaders' Meeting
- 6:00 p.m. – Prayer & Worship Service

THIS WEEK

- Wednesday – Men's Prayer Breakfast, 6:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

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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- Sunday, Sept. 1 – Senior High Youth Back-to-School Party, 11:30 a.m.
 - Tuesday, Sept. 3 – Trustee's meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church
 - Sunday, Sept. 8 – Two Worship Services start, 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.
 - Sunday, Sept. 8 – Sunday School begins for all ages, 10 to 10:45 a.m.
 - Sunday, Sept. 8 – Small Groups begin
 - Tuesday, Sept. 10 – Fellowship Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the church
 - Wednesday, Sept. 11 – Junior High Youth Group Starts, 7-8:30 p.m. at the church
 - Thursday, Sept. 12 – Feed the Flathead
 - Tuesday, Sept. 17 – Elder/Deacon meeting, 7:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont.)

BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP STARTING: BSF (Bible Study Fellowship) is studying the Gospel of Matthew this year. Children's (Infant - Kindergarten) program offered during the day class and student programs (Grades 1-12) offered in evenings. *Women's Day Class:* Begins Tuesday, Sept. 10, at 9:10 a.m. at Easthaven Baptist Church. Call Ellen at 249-9770.

Women's Evening Class: Begins Monday, Sept. 9, at 6:55 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church. Call Benni at 755-4550.

Men's Evening Class: Begins Monday, Sept. 9 at 6:55 p.m. at Central Bible Church. Call Bruce at 270-7320.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN—FEEDING THE FLATHEAD: Those of you who are volunteering with Feed the Flathead will serve next on **Thursday, Sept. 12** at **Central Christian Church**. If you have questions, contact Sharon Thompson or Joyce Schmautz.

DIRECTORY UPDATES:

Ethan & Reegan Gaines: 232 3rd Ave. W. Apt. 2W, Kalispell, MT 59901

Pete & Jenny Heyboer: 814 Ashley Dr., Kalispell, MT 59901

Joe & Kelly Swenson: 135 Heaven's Peak Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901

Micah & Dawn Tinkham: 89 Valley View Place, Kalispell, MT 59901

Aimee Uzzi: 111 Palmer Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901

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.

AUGUST MINISTRIES

DEACON OF THE MONTHBruce Tulloch

NURSERY M.O.M. (Mom of the Month).....Carol Martin

NURSERY COORDINATOR.....Darcy Hearn

Direct Nursery questions, concerns, praises, etc., to Darcy at 270-8933.

TODAY

USHERS/GREETERS.....Bud & Zane Salyer

CHILDREN'S CHURCHLeah & Breanna Wiersma

WORSHIP NURSERY (infants).....Joyce Schmautz

WORSHIP NURSERY (toddlers thru 3yrs).....Zack & Chelcie Miller

FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS.....Sharon Riley & Sharon Thompson

COMMUNION PREPChristy Heath

COMMUNION CLEAN-UPJeanie Brenneman

NEXT SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 1

USHERS/GREETERS.....Nick & Hanni Hanson

CHILDREN'S CHURCHDar Wassink & Annalise Pierson

WORSHIP NURSERY (infants).....Yvonne Hernandez & Kelly Brown

WORSHIP NURSERY (toddlers thru 3yrs).....Lancasters

FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS.....Kate Anderson & Becky Neumann

COMMUNION PREPCarol Martin

COMMUNION CLEAN-UPTheresa Paolini

****LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS UNTO THE LORD, cont.***

Sing alleluia to the Lord, (*Echo*): Sing alleluia to the Lord.

sing alleluia to the Lord. (*Echo*): Sing alleluia.

Sing alleluia, sing alleluia; (*Women descant*): Al-le-lu-ia.

sing alleluia to the Lord. (*Echo*): Sing alleluia to the Lord.

***SCRIPTURE OF PRAISE: Psalm 13:5-6**

All: I trust in your steadfast love; my heart rejoices in your salvation.

I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

His Renewal and Our Hope

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: 1 Peter 1:14-16

As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

All: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you are rich in mercy to all who call upon you; Hear us as we come humbly to you, confessing our sins and seeking your mercy. We have broken your holy laws, by our deeds and by our words, and by the sinful affections of our hearts. We confess before you our disobedience and ingratitude, our sins committed against our families and our friends. Have mercy upon us, O most merciful Father, and of your great goodness, grant that we may hereafter walk in the newness of life provided to us through our Lord Jesus. Amen

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: 1 Peter 2:24-25

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

****COME THOU FOUNT, COME THOU KING***

Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace.

Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.

Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above.

Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

(song continued on next page)

***COME THOU FOUNT, COME THOU KING, cont.**

I was lost in utter darkness 'til you came and rescued me.
I was bound by all my sin when your love came and set me free.
Now my soul can sing a new song; now my heart has found a home.
Now your grace is always with me and I'll never be alone.

(Chorus)

*Come, thou Fount, come thou King, come thou precious Prince of Peace.
Hear your bride, to you we sing. Come, thou Fount of our blessing.
Come, thou Fount, come thou King, come thou precious Prince of Peace.
Hear your bride, to you we sing. Come, thou Fount of our blessing.*

O to grace, how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be.
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

(Chorus)

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)*

***TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE** – Hymn #585, vs. 1, 2, 6

***PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

His Word and Our Response

Sermon: Pastor Lloyd Pierson

Sermon Series: Summer Psalms and Proverbs

Sermon Title: Divine Desertion – Part II

Sermon Text: Psalm 143:1-12

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

***THOU LOVELY SOURCE OF TRUE DELIGHT**

Thou lovely source of true delight whom I unseen adore;
unveil thy beauties to my sight that I might love thee more,
Oh that I might love thee more.

Thy glory o'er creation shines but in thy sacred word
I read, in fairer, brighter lines, my bleeding dying Lord,
see my bleeding, dying Lord.

(song continued on next page)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

MISSION PROJECT OR MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Joel and Emily as they minister in the Arab world with Mission to the World, the PCA missions organization.

SMALL GROUP LEADERS' MEETING TODAY: There will be a meeting for small group leaders **TODAY**, after the worship service in overflow room to discuss starting up small groups again in September.

PRAYER & WORSHIP SERVICE: Please join us **TONIGHT**, from 6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. for our monthly evening service. Childcare will be provided.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP BACK-TO-SCHOOL PARTY! All 9th-12th grade students are invited to come have fun swimming, boating, and water skiing/tubing at Lake Blaine on Sunday, Sept. 1. We will be leaving in carpools from the church around 11:30 a.m. and returning to the church at 4:30 p.m. There will be a bonfire to roast hotdogs and s'mores. Please see Trent or Becky Neumann to get a parental permission release form, and to get directions to the Tam's if you're not going to carpool. You will need to bring your signed form, swim gear, beach towel, water bottle, and sunblock.

TWO WORSHIP SERVICES START IN SEPTEMBER: We will change our schedule to two worship services starting Sunday, Sept. 8. First service will be at 8:30 and second will be at 11 a.m. Sunday School also start Sept. 8 from 10 to 10:45 a.m.

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP STARTS SEPTEMBER 11: Students in grades sixth to eighth are invited to youth group Wednesdays 7-8:30 p.m. starting Sept. 11 at the church. Contact Sean or Lisa Iddings for more information (871-5157).

SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS SEPTEMBER 8: Sunday School begins Sept. 8 for all ages from 10–10:45 a.m. Adults classes include *Biblical Interpretation* with Pastor Shane Waldron; *Shepherding A Child's Heart*, a video-based study facilitated by Tom Jentz; or *Just Looking*, a class for those interested in learning more about the PCA and membership at Faith Covenant. Sign up for adult classes today in the foyer!

SMALL GROUPS START IN SEPTEMBER: Small groups begin again next month. If you are not in a small group, we strongly encourage you to sign up at one of our tables in the Fellowship Hall. If you are already in a small group, there is no need to sign up. Don't miss out on this opportunity to experience the fellowship and community of the body of Christ!

ELIZABETH WOMEN'S GROUP: Elizabeth Women's Group will begin meeting again for the fall on Tuesday, Sept. 10. Ladies, come join us for lunch, fellowship, prayer for needs of the congregation, and a devotion! Bring a sack lunch and meet at noon at JoAnne Ross' (15 Primrose Court). For further information call JoAnne at 755 3516.

GENERAL OFFERING SUMMARY THRU JULY 31:

Targeted Budget = \$165,623.00; Offerings received = \$178,402.75

Questions and thoughts for discussion:

1. **What might be some reason that the Lord withdraws his presence from us? How might this instruct our understanding of ourselves? Of God?**
2. **How can His withdrawal be used as a means of our correction for us?**
3. **In what ways can our grieving the Spirit lead to his withdrawal?**
4. **What are some cures for this sense of spiritual desertion?**
5. **Looking at Mother Theresa's experience of desertion, how has this been an encouragement for some?**
6. **How would you encourage others who are experiencing this "dark night of the soul"?**
7. **How does Jesus come to us in these moments?**

***THOU LOVELY SOURCE OF TRUE DELIGHT, cont.**

'Tis here, whene'er my comforts droop and sin and sorrow rise,
thy love with cheering beams of hope my fainting heart supplies,
Oh, my fainting heart's supplied.

But ah! too soon the pleasing scene is clouded o'er with pain.
My gloomy fears rise dark between and I again complain,
Oh, and I again complain.

Jesus, my Lord, my life, my light, Oh come with blissful ray;
break radiant through the shades of night and chase my fears away,
won't you chase my fears away.

Then shall my soul with rapture trace the wonders of thy love;
but the full glories of thy face are only known above,
they are only known above.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Leader: It is indeed good, right, and our delight that we should at all times
and in all places give thanks unto You, O Lord, Holy Father,
Almighty, Everlasting God.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Wine is located in the two outer rings; juice is located in the center ring.

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION – Elder Steve Thompson

***CHRIST IS MADE THE SURE FOUNDATION – Hymn #342**

***BENEDICTION**

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SERMON OUTLINE
August 25, 2013

Sermon: Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.
Sermon Title: *Divine Desertion – Part II*
Sermon Text: Psalm 143:1-12

I. Causes

II. Cures

SERMON TEXT
Psalm 143:1-12 (ESV)

- ¹ A Psalm of David.
**Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!
In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!**
- ² **Enter not into judgment with your servant, for no one living is
righteous before you.**
- ³ **For the enemy has pursued my soul; he has crushed my life to
the ground; he has made me sit in darkness like those long
dead.**
- ⁴ **Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is
appalled.**
- ⁵ **I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done;
I ponder the work of your hands.**
- ⁶ **I stretch out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a
parched land. *Selah***
- ⁷ **Answer me quickly, O LORD! My spirit fails! Hide not your face
from me, lest I be like those who go down to the pit.**
- ⁸ **Let me hear in the morning of your steadfast love, for in you I
trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to you I lift up
my soul.**
- ⁹ **Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD! I have fled to you for
refuge!**
- ¹⁰ **Teach me to do your will, for you are my God! Let your good
Spirit lead me on level ground!**
- ¹¹ **For your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life! In your
righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!**
- ¹² **And in your steadfast love you will cut off my enemies, and
you will destroy all the adversaries of my soul, for I am your
servant.**