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.

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH

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FAITH COVENANT CHURCH

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

May 3, 2015

"Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?"
Luke 7:20

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** *Deuteronomy 32:1-4; Psalm 7:17*

Leader: Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak, and let the earth hear the words of my mouth.

All: I will give to the LORD the thanks due to his righteousness, and I will sing praise to the name of the LORD, the Most High.

Leader: For I will proclaim the name of the LORD; ascribe greatness to our God!

All: The Rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is he.

****PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY*** *- Hymn #53 vs. 1-2, 4-5*

*(*Indicates when to stand)*

10,000 REASONS (BLESS THE LORD)

(Chorus)
Bless the Lord, O my soul; O my soul, worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
it's time to sing your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me, –
let me be singing when the evening comes.
(Chorus)

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger.
Your name is great and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness I will keep on singing; –
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.
(Chorus)

And on that day when my strength is failing,
the end draws near and my time has come;
still my soul will sing your praise unending, –
ten thousand years and then forevermore!
(Chorus 2x)

I'll worship your holy name; I'll worship your holy name.

***PRAYER OF PRAISE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

****O THE DEEP, DEEP LOVE OF JESUS!*** *- Hymn #535*

SCRIPTURAL CONFESSION: ***Isaiah 12:2***
All: Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.

CALL TO CONFESSION
SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *Psalm 7:11-12*
God is a righteous judge, and a God who feels indignation every day. If a man does not repent, God will whet his sword; he has bent and readied his bow.

(continued on next page)

CALENDAR

TODAY

8:30 a.m. – WORSHIP SERVICE
9:45 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship
10:15 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages
11:15 a.m. – WORSHIP SERVICE
2:00 p.m. – Ladies' SimpliciTea in the fellowship hall

THIS WEEK

Tuesday – Leadership Class, 7:00 p.m. at the church
Tuesday – Trustee Meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the church
Wednesday – Jr. High Youth Group, 7:00 p.m. at the church
– Sr. High Youth Group, 7:00 p.m. at the Neumanns'

LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesdays – Music practice, 5:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Wednesdays – Men's Fraternity Study, 6:00-7:30 a.m., at the church
– Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups 7:00 p.m. (Sept.-May)
Weekly – Adult Small Groups (Sept.-May)
1st Sundays – Diaconal Offering
1st Tuesdays – Trustee Meeting
3rd Tuesdays – Elders/Deacons' meeting, 7:00 p.m.
2nd & 4th Tuesdays – Elizabeth Women, noon, at Jo Anne Ross' home, (Sept.-May)

Monday, May 11-14 – Communicants' Class, details TBA
Tuesday, May 12 – Elizabeth Women's Group, noon, Jo Anne Ross' home
Thursday, May 14 – Feed the Flathead, 5:30 p.m. at Central Christian Church
Sunday, May 17 – Baby Shower for Rachel Hunter & Alyssa Hobus, 2 p.m. in the fellowship hall
Tuesday, May 19 – Elders/Deacons' meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the church
Tuesday, May 26 – Elizabeth Women's Group, noon, Jo Anne Ross' home
Sunday, May 31 – Last day of Sunday School
Tuesday, June 2 – Trustees Meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the church
Sunday, June 7 – Summer Worship Service times begin, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.
Sunday, June 7 – Graduation Sunday

ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont.)

Please pick up a baby bottle in the foyer TODAY to help Hope Pregnancy Ministries during their Baby Bottle Fundraiser! Between Mother's Day and Father's Day, fill your baby bottle with loose change, bills or a check and bring your bottle back to church on or before Father's Day. Hope Pregnancy Ministries serves women experiencing unplanned pregnancy by providing free pregnancy testing and ultrasound with options counseling, as well as mentorship and material needs for young moms! Get involved today by filling and returning a baby bottle! Questions? Call 257-5700.

LOST AND FOUND: Remember to check the lost and found in the fellowship hall if you are missing dishes or any other items — unclaimed items will be donated to charity!

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.

MAY

DEACON OF THE MONTH ..... Bruce Tulloch
NURSERY COORDINATOR ..... Darcy Hearn
Direct Nursery questions, concerns, praises, etc., to Darcy at 270-8933.

TODAY

USHERS/GREETERS (8:30 AM) ..... Mike & Julie Thompson
USHERS/GREETERS (11:15 AM) ..... Nick & Hanni Hanson
CHILDREN'S CHURCH (11:15 AM service only) ..... Dar Wassink & Nilla Swenson
First WORSHIP NURSERY (8:30 AM infants) ..... Hearns
First WORSHIP NURSERY (8:30 AM toddlers thru 3yrs) ..... J.Thompson
Second WORSHIP NURSERY (11:15 AM infants) ..... Jentzs
Second WORSHIP NURSERY (11:15 AM toddlers thru 3yrs) ..... Andersons
FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS ..... Sue Richardson & Barbara Makowski
COMMUNION PREP ..... Dar Wassink
COMMUNION CLEAN-UP ..... Mark Rice

NEXT SUNDAY – MAY 10

USHERS/GREETERS (8:30 AM) ..... Mike & Julie Thompson
USHERS/GREETERS (11:15 AM) ..... Phil & Carol Van Duyne
CHILDREN'S CHURCH (11:15 AM service only) ..... Tamie Jentz & Annie Hill
First WORSHIP NURSERY (8:30 AM infants) ..... Neumanns
First WORSHIP NURSERY (8:30 AM toddlers thru 3yrs) ..... Hearns
Second WORSHIP NURSERY (11:15 AM infants) ..... Waldron/A. Pierson
Second WORSHIP NURSERY (11:15 AM toddlers thru 3yrs) ..... Brown/Hernandez
FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS ..... Judy Fosberry & Sharon Thompson
COMMUNION PREP ..... Barbara Makowski
COMMUNION CLEAN-UP ..... Benni Tulloch

All: We confess that we have often grieved your Spirit. We have not heeded your life-giving Word, nor have we spoken the good news of Christ's lordship to our neighbor. We have not lived gloriously as the new temple of the Spirit. Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit and fill us with a great desire to be your faithful people. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Psalm 7:9-10*
Oh, let the evil of the wicked come to an end, and may you establish the righteous- you who test the minds and hearts, O righteous God! My shield is with God, who saves the upright in heart.

****OUR GREAT GOD***

Eternal God, unchanging, mysterious and unknown
Your boundless love unfailing, in grace and mercy shown
Bright seraphim in endless flight around your glorious throne
They raise their voices day and night in praise to you alone.

(Chorus)
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!

Lord, we are weak and frail, helpless in the storm
Surround us with your angels, hold us in your arms
Our cold and ruthless enemy, his pleasure is our harm
Rise up, oh Lord, and he will flee before our Sovereign God.
(Chorus)

Let every creature in the sea and every flying bird
Let every mountain, every field and valley of the earth
Let all the moon and all the stars in all the universe
Sing praises to the living God, who rules them by his word
(Chorus x2)

OFFERTORY & RESPONSE

Diaconal Offering today: Please use the Special Offering envelopes located in the pew racks.
Reminder: please sign and pass the Attendance Register down the pew.
11:15 a.m. Service: Children ages 4-6 are excused for Children's Church (held downstairs in the Fellowship Hall)

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HE WHO BRINGS THE MORNING

High this mountain, broad this sea, still, my sin ran deeper
Grave offense my soul did wreak, against creation's keeper
But see what power so fell and fair, has stayed his holy justice
God Himself all hell did bear, how great his love for us is

(Chorus)
O serve Him, Only serve Him, He who brings the morning (2x)

Every hour is a precious boon, every breath is a mercy
Every glimpse of yonder moon, a balm upon this journey
How vast the heavens above this place, so small beneath His glory
Still He stooped and showed His face and poured His mercy o'er me
(Chorus)

Jesus, our Messiah King, for those who don't deserve Him
Conquered death all life to bring, so seek His face and serve Him
(Chorus 2x)

SERMON – *The Question of John* – Luke 7:18-35
(See pages 6-8 for sermon outline and text)

****GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS*** *- Hymn #32*

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
Wine is located in the two outer rings;juice is located in the center ring.
(See FCC Observance on page 5)

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

****ABIDE WITH ME***

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers, fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, abide with me.

You on my head, in early youth did smile;
And, though rebellious, and perverse meanwhile,
You did not leave me, as often I left Thee.
On to the end Lord, abide with me.

(song continued above)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL OR REGIONAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: Grace Church, Kalispell, Pastor Chris Miller

MISSION PROJECT OR MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Pray for Dan & Naomi Emerson and their five children as they serve the Uzbeks and Tajiks in the border area of Tajikistan with Uzbekistan. As the Emersons help the local people start and operate small businesses, intercede that the relationships developed and the lives shared would glorify God and lead many into salvation in Christ Jesus.

LADIES' SIMPLICITEA TODAY: Ladies of all ages are invited to tea **TODAY**, at 2:00 p.m. in the church Fellowship Hall. **Please bring your own tea cup and saucer**!

DIACONAL OFFERING: This morning we share in worshipping through our diaconal offering for those needing assistance in our church and community. Please use the Special Offering envelopes located in the pew racks.

VBS SAVE THE DATE - THE KING IS COMING! JUNE 22-26: Mark your calendars now for a great week of VBS June 22-26 from 6-8 p.m. As we begin to plan and prepare for sharing our joy in the King, please pray how you can be involved—many opportunities are available from teaching, music, prayer, snacks. crafts, recreation, food, drama and more ... and pray also for many children to come! Contact Joni Jenks at cascade.jenks@gmail.com or call/text 257-3560 to volunteer today!

SOUND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: There is an ongoing need for more help with running the sound board during the worship services. Volunteers serve for just one worship service on an as-needed basis. Please contact the office (752-2400), if interested.

LEADERSHIP CLASS: Leadership Training Class meets again Tuesday, May 5, at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall. This class, *The Bible: The Text and Transmission of Scripture*, will meet until June 9. If you missed the first class, you can pick up the reading in the office today.

MISSION COMMITTEE SEEKING NEW VOLUNTEERS: Excited about global and local missions? Several openings are available on the Faith Covenant mission team in the Media Team, Short-Term Coordinator, and Treasurer. ontact Joe Swenson 406-871-5273 for more info.

COMMUNICANT'S CLASS MAY 11-14: If you are interested in your child attending a Communicant's Class this spring, please sign up on the sheet in the foyer. The class consists of four sessions May 11-14 at the church at 3:30-4:15 p.m.

BABY SHOWER: Faith Covenant ladies are invited to a baby shower for Rachel Hunter and Alyssa Hobus Sunday, May 17, at 2:00 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. Come join us as we celebrate the upcoming arrival of these little ones into our church family. If you would like to contribute to a group gift, contact Kristin Bay in the church office (752-2400).

COMMUNITY KITCHEN–FEEDING THE FLATHEAD: Those of you who are volunteering with Feed the Flathead will serve next on **Thursday, May 14** at ***Central Christian Church***. If you have questions, contact Joyce Schmautz (249-6370).

(Announcements continued on next page)

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

1. Why does John's question trouble us? Why is John's question a comfort for us?

2. How is John's question different from the unbelieving Jews or even the unrepentant thief on the cross?

3. How is John a bridge between the testaments?

4. Questions of faith come to us at different times in our lives usually due to hard circumstances. How have you seen Jesus come besides you in those moments to bring you comfort? Did he answer your question?

5. It seems that Jesus was continually not meeting expectations in the way people wanted. How is this a challenge for you as you consider your own expectations of him?

ABIDE WITH ME, continued

I need Your presence, every passing hour.
What but Your grace, can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like Yourself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with You at hand to bless
Ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness
Where is your sting death? Where grave your victory?
I triumph still, abide with me.

Hold up your cross Lord, before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's chains are freed;
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

***BENEDICTION**

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.

SERMON OUTLINE
May 3, 2015
Sermon: Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.
Sermon Title: *The Question of John*

I. Are you the One?

II. Who is greater than John?

III. Why won't you believe?

SERMON TEXT
Luke 7:18-35 (ESV)

**18 The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John,
19 calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying,
"Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" 20 And
when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent
us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look
for another?'" 21 In that hour he healed many people of diseases and
plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed
sight. 22 And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen
and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are
cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good
news preached to them. 23 And blessed is the one who is not offended by
me."**

**24 When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the
crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness
to see? A reed shaken by the wind? 25 What then did you go out to
see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed
in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. 26 What
then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a
prophet. 27 This is he of whom it is written,**

**"'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will
prepare your way before you.'**

**28 I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John.
Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."
29 (When all the people heard this, and the tax collectors too, they
declared God just, having been baptized with the baptism of John,
30 but the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected the purpose of God for
themselves, not having been baptized by him.)**

**31 "To what then shall I compare the people of this generation, and
what are they like? 32 They are like children sitting in the marketplace
and calling to one another,**

**"'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not weep.'**

**33 For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine,
and you say, 'He has a demon.' 34 The Son of Man has come eating
and drinking, and you say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a
friend of tax collectors and sinners!' 35 Yet wisdom is justified by all her
children."**