

Essential Tenets of the EPC

The Triune God Makes Himself Known

We believe in one God, the sovereign Creator and Sustainer of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. To Him be all honor, glory and praise forever!

The Bible

All Scripture is self-attesting and being Truth, requires our unreserved submission in all areas of life. The infallible Word of God, the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, is a complete and unified witness to God's redemptive acts culminating in the incarnation of the Living Word, the Lord Jesus Christ. The bible, uniquely and fully inspired by the Holy Spirit, is the supreme and final authority on all matters on which it speaks. On this sure foundation we affirm these additional Essential of our faith:

The Person and Work of Jesus

Jesus Christ, the living Word, become flesh through His miraculous conception by the Holy Spirit and His virgin birth. He who is true God became true man united in one Person forever. He died on the cross a sacrifice for our sins according to the Scriptures. On the third day He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, where, at the right hand of the Majesty on High, He now is our High Priest and Mediator.

The Work of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit has come to glorify Christ and to apply the saving work of Christ to our hearts. He convicts us of sin and draws us to the Savior. Indwelling our hearts, He gives new life to us, empowers and imparts gifts to us for service. He instructs and guides us into all truth, and seals us for the day of redemption.

Our Need

Being estranged from God and condemned by our sinfulness, our salvation is wholly dependent upon the work of God's free grace. God credits His righteousness to those who put their faith in Christ alone for their salvation, thereby justifies them in His sight. Only such as are born of the Holy Spirit and received Jesus Christ become children of God and heirs of eternal life.

The Church

The true Church is composed of all persons who through saving faith in Jesus Christ and the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit are united together in the body of Christ. The Church finds her visible, yet imperfect, expression in local congregations where the Word of God is preached in its purity and the sacraments are administered in their integrity; where scriptural discipline is practiced, and where loving fellowship is maintained. For her perfecting, she awaits the return of her Lord.

Come Lord Jesus

Jesus Christ will come again to the earth-personally, visibly, and bodily – to judge the living and the dead, and to consummate history and the eternal plan of God. 'Even so, come, Lord Jesus.' (Rev. 22:20)

Our Mission

The Lord Jesus Christ commands all believers to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world and to make disciples of all nations. Obedience to the Great Commission requires total commitment to 'Him who loved us and gave Himself for us,' He calls us to a life of self-denying love and service. 'For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.' (Eph. 2:10)

CUP EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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"Join us for a drink of Living Water"



January 28, 2024

We welcome you to the worship of God Almighty this Lord's Day. It is our intention to bring glory and honor to Him. God enters our time of worship and we remember this time belongs to Him. **Your Worship Commission**

**Please stand, if you are able.*

Nursery for children infant to 4 yrs. old is available upstairs in the Christian Education Wing (please see Usher for directions)

Meditation

"The seed was lost not through the fault of the sower but through the unreadiness of the soil to receive it"
~ John Chrysostom

Westminster Chimes and Announcements

(During announcements, we ask members and visitors to please sign the Friendship Register and pass it on. Send them back down your row so you can note who is worshipping with you today. We invite visitors to give us your complete address.)

Opening Prayer

Prelude

'I Am Thine, O Lord'

~ Doane

***Call to Worship**

(Psalm 47:1-2, 5-6, NRSV)

Karen Woodshick, Lay Assistant

Leader: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

People: For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.

Leader: God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

People: Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

***Hymn No. 96**

'All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name'

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

O Lord our God, you have searched us and known us. You know not only what we say, but also what we think. You know not only what we say, but also what we almost said. You know how quickly our thoughts rise to praise ourselves, boasting of your gifts as if they were our accomplishments. You know how slowly our thoughts sink to accuse ourselves even when we have turned our backs on you, fascinating ourselves with alien gods whose calling we heed while ignoring your own. Quickly boasting, slowly accusing, truly we need to repent. O God, forgive, correct, and heal us through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen... (silent prayers of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

**Gloria Patri*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen.

**Affirmation of Faith* *Westminster Shorter Catechism Questions 10-12*

How did God create man?

God created man, male and female, in his own image and in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, to rule over the other creatures.

What is God's providence?

God's providence is his completely holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing every creature and every action.

What did God's providence specifically do for man whom he created?

After the creation God made a covenant with man to give him life, if he perfectly obeyed; God told him not to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil or he would die.

Scripture Readings

Mark 4:1-9

Leader: The Word of the Lord ~

People: Thanks be to God ~

Lg. print #1554/ pew #709

Lg. print/New ed. #1525

Sermon

'The Good Soil'
Series: Following Jesus

Rev. Dr. Marc Shefelton

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

"Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen."

**Doxology* Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Dedication of Offering*

**Dismissing Hymn No. 404*

'The Solid Rock'

**Benediction*

Postlude

'Grace Greater Than Our Sin'

~ Towner

We're glad you joined us for worship today! We invite you to place your financial tithes and offerings in the basket in the back of the sanctuary before or following service. Thank you.

CUP Officers...

Elders: Jud Herter, Cindy Vannoy, Pat Shawgo,
John Myers, Brian O' Roark, Andy Sutton

Deacons: Carol Osterman, Sylvia Myers, Tammy Popham, Karen Woodeshick,
Paula Keefer Herter, Linda Trimmer, Laura Osman, Shirley Bardes Hasson

Trustees: Dan Cox, Gary Arbogast, Bryce Copeland, Martin Cunniff,
Gary Crawford, Sandy Casto, Jeff Estermyer, Wade Rider