

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic\*\* church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*\*Traditional use of this creed includes these words: "He descended into hell."*

*\*\*this means "universal", that is, the true Church wherever and whenever it occurs.*

## Background

This creed is called the Apostles' Creed not because it was produced by the apostles themselves, but because it contains a brief summary of their teachings. It sets forth their doctrine in simplicity, in brevity, in beauty, and with liturgical solemnity. More than any other Christian creed, it may justly be called an ecumenical symbol of faith.

