

FORM FOR THE CONFESSION OF FAITH



To the
congregation

Beloved of God,
God made the covenant of grace with us and our children through Jesus Christ our Lord.

As children and heirs we share in the riches of the benefits of this covenant. We are, however, also called to accept and obey this covenant. For this reason our children must, once they have gained the necessary insight, publicly profess their faith before the church and also undertake to uphold, by the power of the Holy Spirit, the covenant of grace.

Guided by the Spirit of God and His Word, these brothers and sisters requested of the church council to publicly declare their faith. Upon proper instruction and questioning, the church council is in no doubt that each of these believers have been equipped to make such a personal profession.

They are each given the opportunity to do so.

You come here to profess your faith before God and His church and so I ask that you answer, in all sincerity, the following questions:

Do you believe in the only true God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit in whose name you were baptized?

Do you believe and confess that although you were conceived and born into sin and inclined to all evil, you are nevertheless sanctified in Christ, adopted by the Father as His child and called to renewed obedience by the Holy Spirit?

Do you believe and confess the Old and New Testament as the Word of God and the complete doctrine of salvation, as it is also expressed in the confessions of the Reformed church and upheld in this church?

Do you promise, by the grace of God to steadfastly persevere in this faith every day of your life, to uphold God's covenant, to love Him with all your heart and serve in obedience to His Word? Do you forsake this world and all its temptations, to seek your life and salvation in Christ and thereby confirm this confession with a God-fearing life?

Do you promise, as you receive full fellowship with the church of Christ, to diligently seek the ministry of the Word and of the sacraments, to gladly and joyfully use your gifts to the benefit of the church and to the expanding of the kingdom of God. Do you promise to submit to Christian admonishment and discipline should you stray in doctrine or life?