

*Basis of Union 1925

Article VII: Of the Lord Jesus Christ

We believe in and confess the Lord Jesus Christ, the only Mediator between God and man, who, being the Eternal Son of God, for us men and for our salvation became truly man, being conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, yet without sin.

Unto us He has revealed the Father, by His word and Spirit, making known the perfect will of God.

For our redemption, He fulfilled all righteousness, offered Himself a perfect sacrifice on the Cross, satisfied Divine justice, and made propitiation for the sins fo the whole world.

He rose from the dead and ascended into Heaven, where He ever intercedes for us in the hearts of believers he abides forever as the indwelling Christ, above us and over us all He rules: wherefore, unto Him we render love, obedience and adoration as our Prophet, Priest, and King.

Personal Reflections

Are there words here, in which your heart delights?

Are there words here that make you ask questions?

Are there words here that form a barrier to understanding?

Are there words here that make you say "Aha – that helps me!"

Are there words here you think are helpful to other people?

You may ask for complete copies of all the Statements of Faith from the minister, or look at <http://www.united-church.ca/files/beliefs/statements/our-words-of-faith.pdf>



What do we say of Jesus?



Seeking to be faithful in every age and place, we try to speak of that for which words are not enough.

The United Church of Canada has asked every congregation to review **The Statement of Faith 1940**, the "**Song of Faith**" and "**A New Creed**" and vote on whether these statements should be **added with** the old **1925 Basis of Union**, as ways the United Church will formally and officially describe our faith.

These brochures compare what the statements say:

Of God
Of Revelation (how we find God in the world)
Of Jesus
Of the Sacraments
Of the Holy Spirit
Of Life in Christ
Of the Church

Song of Faith 2009



We find God made known in Jesus of Nazareth,

And so we sing of
God the Christ, the Holy One embodied.

We sing of Jesus,
a Jew,
born to a woman in poverty
in a time of social upheaval
and political oppression.
He knew human joy and sorrow.
So filled with the Holy Spirit was he
that in him people experienced the presence of
God among them.
We sing praise to God incarnate.

Jesus announced the coming of God's reign—
a commonwealth not of domination
but of peace, justice, and reconciliation.
He healed the sick and fed the hungry.
He forgave sins and freed those held captive
by all manner of demonic powers.

He crossed barriers of race, class, culture, and
gender.
He preached and practised unconditional
love—
love of God, love of neighbour,
love of friend, love of enemy—

and he commanded his followers to
love one another
as he had loved them.

Because his witness to love was threatening,
those exercising power sought to silence Jesus.
He suffered abandonment and betrayal,
state-sanctioned torture and execution.
He was crucified.

But death was not the last word.
God raised Jesus from death,
turning sorrow into joy,
despair into hope.
We sing of Jesus raised from the dead.
We sing hallelujah.

By becoming flesh in Jesus,
God makes all things new.
In Jesus' life, teaching, and self-offering,
God empowers us to live in love.
In Jesus' crucifixion,
God bears the sin, grief, and suffering of the
world.

In Jesus' resurrection,
God overcomes death.
Nothing separates us from the love of God.

The Risen Christ lives today,
present to us and the source of our hope.
In response to who Jesus was
and to all he did and taught,
to his life, death, and resurrection,
and to his continuing presence with us through
the Spirit,
we celebrate him as
the Word made flesh,
the one in whom God and humanity are
perfectly joined,
the transformation of our lives,
the Christ.

Statement of Faith 1940

II. Jesus Christ

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of the
Father, Who, for us men and our salvation
became man and dwelt among us.

We believe that He lived a perfect
human life, wholly devoted to the will of
God and the service of man.

We believe that in Him God comes face
to face with men; so that they learn that
God loves them seeks their good, bears
their sorrows and their sin, and claims
their exclusive faith and perfect
obedience.

We believe that in Jesus Christ God
acted to save man, taking, at
measureless cost, man's sin upon Himself;
that the Cross reveals at once God's
abhorrence of sin and His saving love in
its height and depth and power; and
that the Cross is for all time the effectual
means of reconciling the world unto
God.

We believe that Jesus was raised victori-
ous over death and declared to be the
Son of God with power; and that He is
alive for evermore, our Saviour and our
Lord.

So we acknowledge Jesus Christ as the
Son of God Incarnate, the Saviour of the
world.