**American Lutheran Church
De Smet SD**

**Faith Statement Guide
2022**

Your Faith Statement is an essay on what you believe as a follower of Jesus Christ as you affirm your faith in the Rite of Confirmation. It is important that you understand that participation in the Rite of Confirmation is voluntary, because you are making affirmations and commitments as a young adult in Christ’s church. As your church family, we rejoice with you when you are ready to accept the responsibilities of adult membership in the life of the church.

On your confirmation day, you will declare your agreement with the claims and promises made to you and for you when you were baptized. This is a declaration that you intend to continue to practice your faith as an active member of Christ’s church and in your day to day life as a Christian. Specifically, as Confirmands you will:

* *Renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises*.
* Declare your belief in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit by the words of the Apostles’ Creed.
* Declare your intention to continue in the covenant which God made with you in Holy Baptism.
	+ To live among God’s faithful people,
	+ To hear God’s Word and share in his supper (i.e., regularly receive Holy Communion)
	+ To proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
	+ To serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
	+ And to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

**The following are some questions to consider when writing your faith statement.**Your faith statement will typically be 2-3 pages in length. I prefer that it be typed, double spaced, size 12. You are expected to include reflections on the following:

1. **Who you understand God the creator to be?**(Genesis chapters 1 and 2, 1 John 3:1, 1 John4:7, I Corinthians 2:9, John 3:16)
2. **Who you understand Jesus of Nazareth to be and what does it mean to give him the title of LORD and Christ?** (John 1, John 3:16, John 11:5, Acts 2:18-36, Romans 10:9, Romans 8:31-39, I Corinthians 15:3-4)
3. **Who do you understand the Holy Spirit to be?** (Mark 1:10, John 14:15-17, John 14:26, John 15:26, John 16:13, John 2-:22)
4. **In what ways can you serve God as a young adult and through all of life?** (Matthew 5:5-10, Galatians 6:9, Matthew 25:34-40, The Letter of James)
5. **How do you experience faith as both
your own personal faith in God**? (Romans 10:9, Matthew 9:29, Matthew 9:18, Matthew 15:28, I Corinthians 16:13)

**and public sharing of faith with other believers and non-believers?** (I Peter 3:15, Matthew 5:15-16)

1. **What does your faith ask of you as a member of Church of Jesus Christ?** (Colossians 2:6-7, John 15:12)

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