

## **This Church**

**This church** confesses the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; our Creator, Redeemer, and Advocate.

**This church** confesses Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and the Gospel as the power of God for the salvation of all who believe.

**This church** believes in the Word of God, and receives God's Word in Jesus Christ, the Word incarnate; in proclamation of God's message to us as both Law and Gospel; and in the canonical Scriptures, the inspired and written Word of God, which provides the authoritative source and norm for proclamation, faith and life.

**This church** accepts the historic creeds (Apostles, Nicene, Athanasian) as true declarations of the faith, and the Lutheran Confessions as faithful witnesses and interpretations of the faith.

**This church** is gathered around God's Word and Sacraments, and its worship flows into witness and service that proclaims God's love to this broken world.

**This church**, awash in God's baptismal grace, creates a safe place for all of God's children.

**This church**, knowing its unity in Christ and uniquely gifted for ecumenism by its confessions, works in God's kingdom as a bridge-church for diverse traditions that share this faith.

**This church** maintains a deep and abiding commitment to ministry with children and youth.

**This church** engages in global mission with deep respect for the rich gifts of our brothers and sisters in other lands and so understands this mission engagement as primarily focused in accompaniment.

**This church** believes that the risen Christ is encountered daily in God's world, and so we commit ourselves to be a public church, working for justice and peace for all.

**This church** continues a rich heritage of theological reflection and discernment and is dedicated to strong theological education in preparing leaders.

**This church** believes in the vocation of the baptized to ministry in daily life, translating Sunday's faith into Monday's world.

**This church** is committed to interdependence in its three expressions and as the vision for networks of mission agencies in the United States and throughout the world, including Lutheran Services in America, Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, Lutheran Disaster Response, and the Lutheran World Federation.

**This church is the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.**



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God's work. Our hands.