



# The New Apostolic Creed

## The Ten Articles of Faith

### The creed of the New Apostolic Church has been revised

...or of heaven and earth.

Zurich. As of today the ten Articles of Faith of the New Apostolic Church will appear in revised format. By commission of Chief Apostle Wilhelm Leber, a Work Group has revised the New Apostolic creed. Concerning this, the international Church leader states: "On account of changes to some doctrinal statements, such as, for example, our understanding of Holy Baptism, a revision had become necessary." The Chief Apostle goes on to mention that a more specific formulation had become necessary in many of these statements. The basic structure of the Articles of Faith remains unchanged however.

Already for some time, the District Apostle Meeting, under the chairmanship of the Chief Apostle, has been discussing the New Apostolic creed, and has now ratified the current format. The most important changes include:

- The first three Articles of Faith now correspond more closely to the "Apostolicum" which is highly respected among the Christian churches. This adaptation makes it clear that we share fundamental convictions with other Christians.
- In the Fourth Article of Faith, greater emphasis has been placed on the fact that it is Jesus Christ who rules His church. He is to be regarded as the source of all things, including the sending of the Apostles.
- The Fifth Article of Faith summarises our doctrinal understanding with regard to the other ministries.

- The Sixth Article of Faith presents our new understanding of Holy Baptism with water. It is “the first step to the renewal of the inner man in the Holy Spirit,” and establishes our fellowship with God as well as the fellowship of Christians among one another.
- The Seventh and – to an even greater degree – the Eighth Articles of Faith precisely describe our doctrinal understanding of the remaining sacraments, namely Holy Communion and Holy Sealing. Holy Sealing – in connection with Holy Baptism with water – imparts the childhood in God and opens the way for a human being to be counted among the firstlings who will be accepted by Christ at His return.
- The Ninth Article of Faith explains the future hope of New Apostolic Christians in greater detail. It makes clear that God’s plans do not come to an end at the Last Judgement, and goes on to include the prospect of the new creation. There have also been some further linguistic clarifications.
- The Tenth Article of Faith remains unchanged.

After today’s divine service, a letter from the Chief Apostle concerning the revised creed will be read out in all New Apostolic congregations around the world.

» The ten [Articles of Faith](#) of the New Apostolic Church

» [More detailed explanations](#) concerning the Articles of Faith

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The Ten Articles of Faith

- **First Article of Faith**  
I believe in God, the Father, the Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth.
- **Second Article of Faith**  
I believe in Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried, entered the realm of the dead, rose again from the dead on the third day, and ascended into heaven. He is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from where He will return.
- **Third Article of Faith**  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the one, holy, universal, and apostolic church, the community of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the dead, and the everlasting life.
- **Fourth Article of Faith**  
I believe that the Lord Jesus rules His Church and through His Apostles, and until His return, will send them with the commission to teach, to forgive sins in His name, and to baptize with water and Holy Spirit.
- **Fifth Article of Faith**  
I believe that those designated by God for a ministry are ordained only by Apostles, and that authority, blessing, and sanctification for their ministry come both out of the apostolic ministry.
- **Sixth Article of Faith**  
I believe that the Holy Baptism with water is the first step to a renewal of a human being in the Holy Spirit, and that the person baptized is adopted into the

of the New Apostolic Creed

**Preliminary note**

The first three Articles of Faith of the New Apostolic Creed correspond largely to the “Apostles’ Creed”, i.e. to the profession highly esteemed by the Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches.

From its Christianly based message throughout the Roman Empire, many Christians turned, at least in part, toward their previous religious or philosophical views. The basis of these views with Christian doctrine is sought about heaven, which contradicted the believers. To counter this development, endeavours were made to formulate professions of faith which were intended to bring the congregations and thus also to the individual believer, its conformity to the doctrine of Christ and the Apostles served as a criterion used to decide whether a statement about God being and activity should find its way into the professions of faith.

A Roman Imperial profession from the 2nd century provided the basis of the Apostles’ Creed; further additions of the Apostles’ Creed are based on the version preached by the Apostle Peter in the house of Cornelia at Acts 10: 37-43. This is content points to early Christianity and to the proclamations of the first Apostles.

A further basis of the New Apostolic Creed is the Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed, which is regarded with equal authority among all Christian churches.

In 325, the emperor Constantine summoned the Council of Nicea. Christianity’s unity was guaranteed due to questions over the person and nature of Christ. The emperor sought the formulation of a binding statement that would be accepted by all concerning the relationship between God, the Father, and God, the Son. At the Council of Nicea, it was truly expressed that Jesus Christ is “God of God, Light of Light, very God of