

The Nicene Creed (381)¹

I believe in one God the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only begotten Son of God,
begotten of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial² with the Father;
Through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead

¹ This translation of the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed is an adapted and revised version of the translation provided in Philip Schaff, *The Creeds of Christendom, with a History and Critical Notes: The Greek and Latin Creeds, with Translations*, vol. 2 (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1890), 58-9.

² The term “consubstantial” is a translation of the Greek ὁμοούσιον, which refers to the mutual sharing of the divine nature among the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit such that the persons are identical in essence or being.

And his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church.³
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins,
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

³ The phrase “holy, catholic, and apostolic Church” neither refers to the Roman Catholic Church nor the religion of the Pope. Rather, the term “catholic” is here used in its historic sense to refer to the universal church consisting of God’s people from every tribe, tongue, and nation, whether on earth or already in the presence of God (cf. Heb. 12:18-29; Rev. 5:9-10). The term “apostolic” refers to the church that upholds and confesses the doctrine of the apostles as reflected in the New Testament.