



I Believe
Joining the Chorus, Part 2

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Melbourne Community Church
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Church traditions:

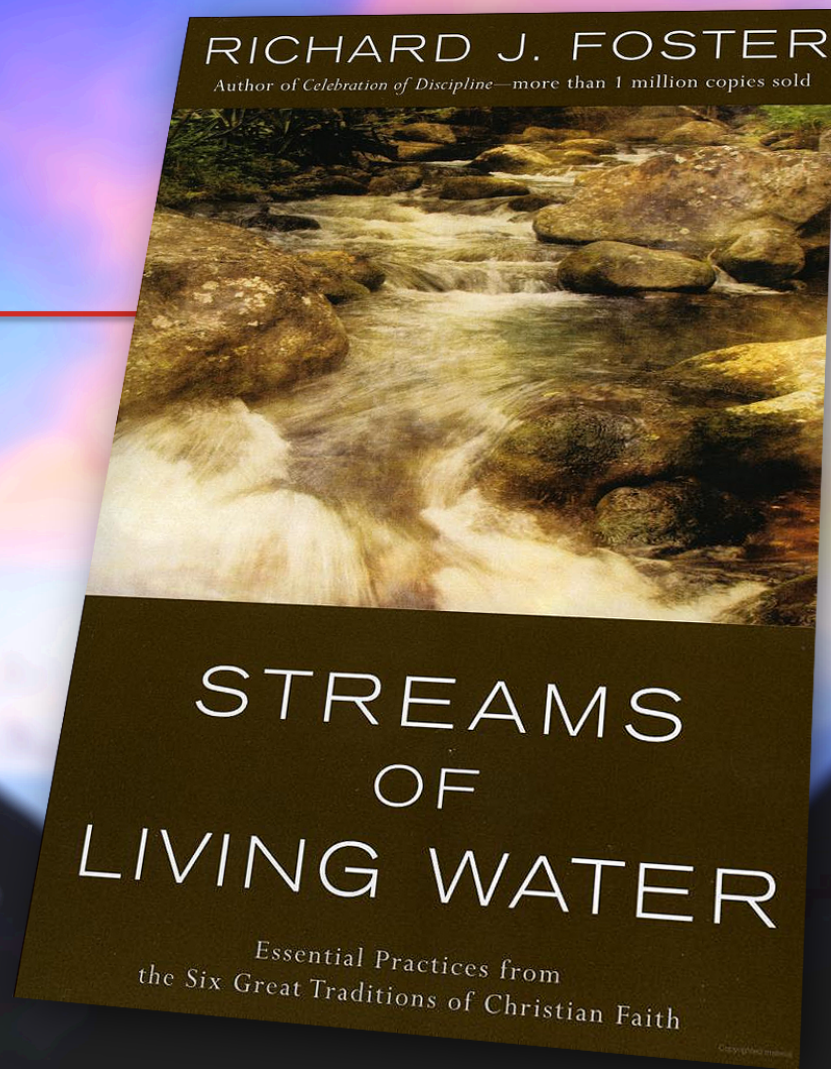
- ❖ Baptism
- ❖ Lord's Supper
- ❖ Lord's Prayer
- ❖ Creed
- ❖ Doxology/offering
- ❖ Pot-luck dinners
- ❖ Mardi Gras
- ❖ Lent
- ❖ Stations of the Cross
- ❖ Maundy Thursday
- ❖ Responsive readings
- ❖ Easter sunrise service

A photograph of a church service. In the center, a large wooden cross stands against a bright, colorful sky. In the foreground, the silhouettes of a congregation are visible, with many people raising their hands in worship. The text 'Liturgy =' is overlaid on the image, with a red horizontal line below it.

Liturgy =

A pattern for worship used by a congregation or denomination on a regular basis.

*Streams of
Living Water*
— Richard Foster



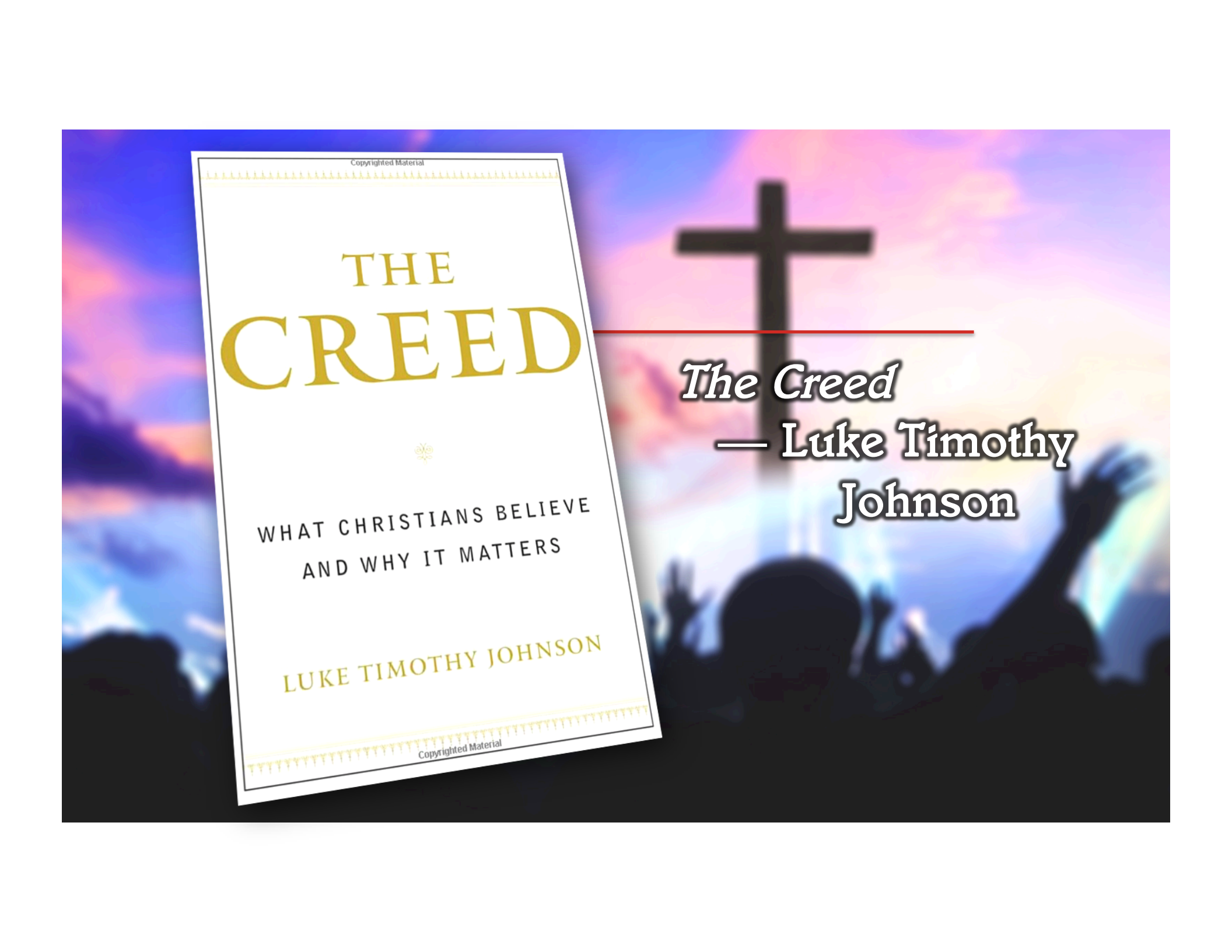
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THE CREED

WHAT CHRISTIANS BELIEVE
AND WHY IT MATTERS

LUKE TIMOTHY JOHNSON

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The Creed
— Luke Timothy
Johnson

MCC worship service, 1st half

- ❖ Prelude video
- ❖ OT reading (or NT)
- ❖ Four worship songs (Congregation stands)
- ❖ Offering and song (Congregation sits)
- ❖ Announcements
- ❖ Prayer for children

MCC worship service, 2nd half

- ❖ NT reading (or OT)
- ❖ Sermon
- ❖ Response time
 - ❖ two worship songs
 - ❖ Lord's supper
 - ❖ Prayer?
- ❖ Benediction



The Lord's Prayer

(King James Version)

Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth,
as it is in heaven.



The Lord's Prayer

(King James Version)

Give us this day our daily bread.



The Lord's Prayer

(King James Version)

And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:

(For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, for ever. Amen.)



John Wesley's quadrilateral:

- ❖ **SCRIPTURE!**
- ❖ **Wisdom**
- ❖ **Tradition**
- ❖ **Experience**

Creed =

- ❖ From the Latin *credo* = I believe
- ❖ a set of beliefs or aims which guide someone's actions
- ❖ a formal statement of Christian beliefs, especially the Apostles' Creed or the Nicene Creed.



Deuteronomy 6:4-5

“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD *is* one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.”



New Testament creeds?

- ❖ Matthew 16:16; 28:19
- ❖ John 6:68-69
- ❖ Acts 16:31
- ❖ 1 Corinthians 15:3-7
- ❖ Philippians 2:6-11

Early church creeds:

- ❖ Apostles Creed (120-250)
- ❖ Nicene Creed (325)
- ❖ Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed (381)
- ❖ Chalcedonian Creed (451)
- ❖ Athanasian Creed (500)



Luke Timothy Johnson:

“It is not simply a Christian opinion that God entered humanity through Jesus Christ, but the truth about God and about humanity.”



Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed

I believe in One God,
the Father Almighty,
Maker of Heaven and Earth,
and of all things visible and invisible.

Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Son of God, the Only-Begotten,
begotten of the Father before all ages;
Light of Light;
True God of True God;
begotten, not made;
of one essence with the Father,
by Whom all things were made;



Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed

Who for us men and for our salvation
came down from Heaven,
and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate,
and suffered, and was buried.

Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed

And the third day He arose again,
according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into Heaven,
and sits at the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again with glory to judge
the living and the dead;
Whose Kingdom shall have no end.

Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life,
Who proceeds from the Father;
Who with the Father and the Son
together is worshipped and glorified;
Who spoke by the prophets.

Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed

And in one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.
I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.
I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.



Early baptismal creed

(from *Apostolic Tradition* of Hippolytus, c. 215)

“Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?”

Early baptismal creed

“Do you believe in Christ Jesus, Son of God,
Who was born by the Holy Spirit out of Mary the
Virgin, and was crucified under Pontius Pilate and
died and was buried, and rose on the third day
alive from among the dead, and ascended into
heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father,
to come to judge the living and the dead?”



Early baptismal creed

“Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Church, and the resurrection of the flesh?”





Are you being called?

- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the Lord's Supper

Life Begins in the Womb

❖ Luke 1:15

❖ Luke 1:41

❖ Psalm 22:9-10

❖ Psalm 139:13

❖ Isaiah 49:1

❖ Jeremiah 1:4-5