

Resolution as a “Confessing Church”

We, the Session of Concord Presbyterian Church, Concord, Tennessee, endorse the Confessing Church Movement as a movement toward the reclaiming of the PC(USA)’s essential unity in Jesus Christ, and as a reaffirmation of the following essential tenets of the Reformed faith:

- 1) That “God has put all things under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and made Christ Head of the Church which is his body” (G-1.0100); that “the church is called to tell the good news of salvation by the grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ as the only Savior and Lord” (G-3.0300); and that “there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12; cf. BOC 8.10-11, 9.10-11).
- 2) That “the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments [are], by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal (G-14.0405 b2); and that “the authority of the Holy Scripture, for which it ought to be believed and obeyed, depends not upon the testimony of any man or church, but wholly upon God (who is truth itself), the author thereof, and therefore is to be received, because it is the Word of God.” (BOC 6.004, cf. 9.27).
- 3) “That truth is in order to goodness; and the great touchstone of truth [is] its tendency to promote holiness, according to our Savior’s rule, ‘By their fruits ye shall know them.’” (G-1.0304); that this holiness includes the honoring of marriage between a man and a woman as the only relationship within which sexual activity is appropriate (BOC 4.108, 5.245-246, 6.133), and that “anarchy in sexual relationships is a symptom of man’s alienation from God, his neighbor, and himself” (BOC 9.47).

We believe that our church today faces a crisis of integrity in the collision between this clear witness of Scripture and our Constitution on the one hand, and ambiguous or contradictory policies and practices on the other. We would see our church reclaim its essential unity in Jesus Christ. Therefore we call upon members and officers of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to join us in affirming these historic principles of our faith, and to pray for the Peace, Purity and Unity of the Church.

Original signed by:

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