



THIS WEEK'S ALTERNATE CREED:

### STATEMENT OF FAITH OF THE KOREAN METHODIST CHURCH

We believe in the one God,  
creator and sustainer of all things,  
Father of all nations,  
the source of all goodness and beauty,  
all truth and love.

We believe in Jesus Christ,  
Godmanifest in the flesh,  
our teacher, example, and Redeemer, the  
Savior of the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
God present with us for guidance, for comfort,  
and for strength.

We believe in the forgiveness of sins,  
in the life of love and prayer,  
and in grace equal to every need.

We believe in the Word of God  
contained in the Old and New Testaments  
as the sufficient rule both of faith and  
of practice.

We believe in the church,  
those who are united in the living Lord  
for the purpose of worship and service.

We believe in the reign of God  
as the divine will realized in human society,  
and in the family of God,  
where we are all brothers and sisters.

We believe in the final triumph of righteousness  
and in the life everlasting. Amen.

#### WEEK 4

## JESUS CHRIST, HIS ONLY SON, OUR LORD

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2025

### I. Opening Prayer & Introduction

- A. Recite the Statement of Faith of the Korean Methodist Church
- B. Review

### II. Line-by-Line Teaching & Discussion

(Split into **5 main sections**, each covering a key aspect of Christology.)

#### A. The Identity of Jesus: Fully God, Fully Human

1. Lines:

- a. *We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father.*
- b. *God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.*

2. Key Teaching:

- a. **Who is Jesus?** The Creed affirms that He is divine (“God from God”) and eternal (“born of the Father before all ages”).
- b. **Arian Controversy:** Arius claimed Jesus was created, not divine. The Creed rejects this—He is *begotten, not made* (same nature as God).
- c. **Fully God:** Jesus is of the same essence (Greek: *homoousios*) as the Father.

3. Discussion:

- a. Why does it matter that Jesus is truly God? What would be different if He were just a created being?

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#### B. Soteriology: What did God do in the Person of Jesus that saves us?

1. Line:

- a. *For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,*

2. Key Teaching:

- a. **Jesus Saves:** Salvation is more than just about Jesus’ death. The creed invited us to think holistically about what Jesus did that saves us.

## THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit  
and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
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,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We 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 worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic\* and  
apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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## C. The Incarnation: Jesus Takes on Flesh

1. Lines:
  - a. *He came down from heaven,*
  - b. *was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.*
2. Key Teaching:
  - a. **The Gnostic Problem:** Some early heresies (like Gnosticism) rejected Jesus' full humanity.
  - b. **Why the Incarnation Matters:** Jesus had to be truly human to redeem us (Hebrews 2:14-17).
  - c. **Mary's Role:** The wording highlights the Holy Spirit's work and affirms the reality of Jesus' humanity.
3. Discussion:
  - a. How does believing in the Incarnation change the way we view Jesus' teachings and suffering?

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## D. The Work of Christ: His Death & Resurrection

1. Lines:
  - a. *For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.*
  - b. *On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;*
2. Key Teaching:
  - a. **The Cross & Resurrection:** Jesus' suffering was not symbolic—He truly died and truly rose.
  - b. **In accordance with the Scriptures:** Fulfillment of prophecy (Isaiah 53, Psalm 16).
3. Discussion:
  - a. How does the resurrection confirm Jesus' identity and our salvation?

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**E. The Reign & Return of Christ**

1. Lines:
  - a. *He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.*
  - b. *He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.*
2. Key Teaching:
  - a. **Ascension:** Jesus rules now, advocating for us (Hebrews 7:25).
  - b. **Final Judgment:** Jesus is not just Savior but Judge.
  - c. **Eternal Kingdom:** His reign is everlasting—this is our hope.
3. Discussion:
  - a. How does knowing Christ will return shape our faith and daily lives?

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**III. Reflection & Application**

A. Reflection Question:

1. How does confessing Jesus as Lord shape our faith and practice?

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- a. Encourage group discussion.
- b. Consider implications: obedience, trust, worship, mission.

**IV. Closing Prayer**

- A. Thank God for the gift of Jesus.
- B. Pray for a deeper understanding of His Lordship in our lives.