



# CREDO *This I Believe*

WEEK 7 | JUNE 13

*I believe in amazing grace*

## RECEIVE

- Prayerfully recite the Apostles' Creed.
- Focus Section: **I believe in the forgiveness of sins.**
- Read Psalm 32:5 and 1 John 1:5-10.

## REFLECT

- How does the belief that God will and does forgive your sins through Jesus effect your every day life?
- As you consider the phrase "walking in the light" from 1 John, what comes up in you?
- How does 1 John instruct us to return to the light?
- What is the fundamental power in this process?
- Have you ever been in a place emotionally and spiritually when you believed God could never forgive you? As you are comfortable, share that story or journal through that time in your life. How does this week's movement in the Creed continue to help you move forward?
- To fully experience the "communion of saints," as we shared last week, forgiveness of sins is essential. When you reflect on that, is there anyone or any situation you need to ask for the healing presence of the Holy Spirit to help you forgive? Offer that as a prayer to God.

## RESPOND

- Spend some time in reflective silence or have an appropriate worship song playing softly in the background. During this time write out a prayer, a verse, a list expressing your heart of confession for your sins before God.
- Then together fold and place the "sins" in a pile and light them on fire.
- As you watch your sins "disappear" have someone read 1 John 1:5-7.
- Offer prayers of thanks for the grace of God through Jesus.

## RESOURCES (for personal and group study)

- *Embracing the Love of God*, by James Bryan Smith.
- If you find yourself in a place where your sins seem to overshadow God's grace and life offered to us through Jesus—let's talk about it. Reach out to Pastor Eric Haskins: [ehaskins@christchurch.us](mailto:ehaskins@christchurch.us) for some possible next steps forward.

## RECALL

- **Recite in the round.** During your small group time or with your family before a meal or before bed have one person start with "We believe..." Then the next one continues with the next phrase where they stopped. Go round and round until you help each other get through all of the Apostles' Creed.

## *The Apostles' CREED*

*I believe* in God the Father Almighty,  
 Maker of heaven and earth,  
 and in Jesus Christ,  
 His only begotten Son, our Lord.

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the Virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, dead and buried.

He descended into hell.  
 The third day He rose again from the dead.  
 He ascended into heaven,  
 and is seated at the right hand  
 of God the Father Almighty.  
 From there He shall come  
 to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy Christian Church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life everlasting.

Amen.