

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN KINGDOMTIDE

September 11, 2022

The Apostles' Creed:

What it Means, and Why it Matters

“The Need for a Creed”

Scripture: Isaiah 45:18-22 (Common English Bible)

¹⁸ For this is what the LORD said, who created the heavens,
who is God,
who formed the earth and made it,
who established it,
who didn't create it a wasteland but formed it as a habitation:
I, the LORD, and none other!

¹⁹ I didn't speak in secret
or in some land of darkness;
I didn't say to the offspring of Jacob,
“Seek me in chaos.”

I am the LORD, the one who speaks truth,
who announces what is correct.

²⁰ Gather and come,
draw near together,
fugitives of the nations!

Those who carry their wooden idols don't know;
those who pray to a god who won't save.

²¹ Announce! Approach! Confer together!
Who proclaimed this from the beginning, announced it from long ago?

Wasn't it I, the LORD?
There's no other God except me,
a righteous God and a savior;
there's none besides me!

²² Turn to me and be saved,
all you ends of the earth,
for I am God, and there's no other.

~ SERMON NOTES ~

Reasons why we need a creed:

- A. Creeds keep us anchored to _____.
- B. Creeds sum up the central _____.
- C. Creeds compel us to see our _____.

In Article 1 of the Apostles' Creed, which is our focus for today, we affirm some important themes about God:

“I believe in God the Father, Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.”

This means that we must have a firm grasp on what the *Fatherhood of God* means for our faith today:

- 1. **ALL theological language is** _____.

All language about God, scriptural and theological is at best an approximation and can never fully capture the nature of God.

- 2. **Scripture describes God in both _____ & _____ imagery.**

The prevalence of fatherly language for God throughout biblical literature isn't exclusive.

- 3. **The word “father” is part of Jesus's** _____.

Jesus speaks of God is the concept of God as *Abba*. It does not function as a dispensable category, but rather as intrinsic to the identity of God as the sender of Jesus.
