



ATHANASIAN CREED

The Athanasian Creed is named in honor of St. Athanasius, a fourth-century defender of the orthodox faith confessed in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds. This creed proclaims that its teachings concerning the Holy Trinity and our Lord's incarnation are "the catholic faith." In other words, this is what the true church of all times and all places has confessed. More than fifteen centuries later, the church continues to confess this truth, confident that the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, has given himself for our salvation.

- ¹ Whoever desires | to be saved*
must, above all,
hold the | catholic faith.
- ² Whoever does not keep it
whole and | undefiled*
will without doubt
perish e- | ternally.
- ³ And the catholic faith is this, ⁴ that we
worship one God in | Trinity*
and Trinity in | Unity,
neither confusing the | persons*
nor dividing the | substance.
- ⁵ For the Father is one person,
the Son is an- | other,*
and the Holy Spirit is an- | other.
- ⁶ But the Godhead of the Father and
of the Son and of the
Holy Spir- | it is one: *
the glory equal,
the majesty coe- | ternal.
- ⁷ Such as the Father is,
such | is the Son,*
and such is the Holy | Spirit:
- ⁸ the Father uncreated,
the Son uncre- | ated,*
the Holy Spirit uncre- | ated;
- ⁹ the Father infinite,
the Son | infinite,*
the Holy Spirit | infinite;
- ¹⁰ the Father eternal,
the Son e- | ternal,*
the Holy Spirit e- | ternal.
- ¹¹ And yet there are not
three E- | ternals,*
but one E- | ternal,
- ¹² just as there are not three Uncreated
or three | Infinites,*
but one Uncreated and
one | Infinite.
- ¹³ In the same way,
the Father is almighty,
the Son al- | mighty,*
the Holy Spirit al- | mighty;
- ¹⁴ and yet there are not
three Al- | mighties,*
but one Al- | mighty.
- ¹⁵ So the Father is God,
the | Son is God,*
the Holy Spir- | it is God;
- ¹⁶ and yet there are not | three Gods,*
but | one God.
- ¹⁷ So the Father is Lord,
the | Son is Lord,*
the Holy Spir- | it is Lord;
- ¹⁸ and yet there are not | three Lords,*
but | one Lord.
- ¹⁹ Just as we are compelled by the
Christian truth to acknowledge each
distinct person as | God and Lord,*
so also are we prohibited by
the catholic religion to say that
there are three | Gods or Lords.

- ²⁰ The Father is not made
nor cre- | ated*
nor begotten by | anyone.
- ²¹ The Son is neither
made nor cre- | ated,*
but begotten of the Fa- | ther alone.
- ²² The Holy Spirit is of the Father
and | of the Son,*
neither made nor created
nor begotten, but pro- | ceeding.
- ²³ Thus, there is one Father,
not three Fathers;
one Son, not | three Sons,*
one Holy Spirit,
not three Holy | Spirits.
- ²⁴ And in this Trinity none is
before or after an- | other,*
none is greater or
less than an- | other;
- ²⁵ but the whole three persons are
coeternal with each other
and co- | equal,*
so that in all things, as has been
stated above, the Trinity in Unity
and Unity in Trinity is
to be | worshiped.
- ²⁶ Therefore, whoever
desires | to be saved*
must think thus about the | Trinity.
- ²⁷ But it is also necessary for
everlasting sal- | vation*
that one faithfully believe
the incarnation of
our Lord | Jesus Christ.
- ²⁸ Therefore, it is the right faith that
we believe | and confess*
that our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Son of God, is at the same time
both | God and man.
- ²⁹ He is God, begotten from the
substance of the Father
before all | ages,*
and He is man, born from
the substance of His
mother in | this age:
- ³⁰ perfect God and | perfect man,*
composed of a rational soul
and | human flesh;
- ³¹ equal to the Father with respect to
His di- | vinity,*
less than the Father with respect to
His hu- | manity.
- ³² Although He is | God and man,*
He is not two, but | one Christ:
- ³³ one, however, not by the conversion
of the divinity | into flesh,*
but by the assumption of the
humanity | into God;
- ³⁴ one alto- | gether,*
not by confusion of substance,
but by unity of | person.
- ³⁵ For as the rational soul
and flesh is | one man,*
so God and man is | one Christ,
- ³⁶ who suffered for our sal- | vation,*
descended into hell, rose again the
third day | from the dead,
- ³⁷ ascended into heaven, and is seated at
the right hand of the Father,
God Al- | mighty,*
from whence He will come to
judge the living | and the dead.
- ³⁸ At His coming all people will
rise again with their | bodies*
and give an account
concerning their | own deeds.
- ³⁹ And those who have done good will
enter into e- | ternal life,*
and those who have done evil
into e- | ternal fire.
- ⁴⁰ This is the | catholic faith,*
whoever does not believe it
faithfully and firmly
can- | not be saved.
- Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**