



Statement of Mission and Beliefs

Our Mission...

Great Plains Lutheran High School provides a Christ-centered education to assist families in nurturing students as lifelong disciples of Christ

We believe...

The Bible is the inspired and inerrant word of God. It clearly teaches all we need to know for life with God now and forever. It is the only standard for faith and life.

(2 Peter 1:21, 1 Corinthians 2:13, 2 Timothy 3:16, Luke 11:28, John 5:39, Psalm 119:105)

There is only one true God. In the Bible God reveals himself as three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This is why he is called Triune. All three persons are fully God, equal in power, glory, and in every quality. It is God who created, redeemed, and sanctified us.

(Deuteronomy 6:4, Matthew 28:19, Genesis 1:1, 1 John 2:2, Romans 15:13)

At the beginning of time God created heaven and earth and all creatures. He did this in six days, using his almighty word to create all things. Man and woman are God's special creation.

(Genesis 1:1, Genesis 1:31, Exodus 20:11, Psalm 33:6-9, Psalm 124:8, Mark 10:6, Hebrews 11:3)

The first man and woman, Adam and Eve, lost the image of God when they gave in to the temptation of Satan and sinned by disobeying God's command. Since that time the whole human race is corrupted by sin, making all people guilty before God and subject to damnation. We are therefore dead spiritually and unable to make ourselves right with God by our own efforts and deeds.

(Genesis 2:17, Psalm 51:5, Ephesians 2:1, John 3:6, Psalm 5:4, Romans 5:12, Romans 8:7-8)

The message of the gospel is the good news that our loving God sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to take away the sins of all people. The gospel freely offers to all sinners the righteousness that is found in Jesus. God offers and gives eternal life and salvation to all those who believe in the gospel promises.

(John 1:17, Romans 1:16, John 3:16, Colossians 2:13, Luke 2:10-11, 2 Corinthians 5:21)

Jesus Christ is the Savior of everyone. He is the eternal son of God, equal to the Father and the Holy Spirit. He is also the son of the Virgin Mary. He became man to redeem all people. Taking our place, he lived a perfect life keeping the law of God for us. He also died as our innocent substitute on the cross to pay the price sufficient for everyone's sin. After rising from the dead, Jesus ascended into heaven. On the Last Day he will judge all the people who are still living and those whom he will raise from the dead.

(1 John 5:20, Matthew 1:23, Ephesians 1:7, Galatians 3:13, Hebrews 4:15, Romans 1:4, Acts 10:42)

God declared all sinners righteous in his sight when Jesus Christ died on the cross for us. God declared everyone free from the guilt and punishment owed for our sins. The sinner receives this free gift of forgiveness, not by doing good deeds, but only by faith worked by the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 2:8-9, 2 Corinthians 5:19, Romans 3:22-24, Romans 3:28, Mark 16:16, 1 Corinthians 12:3)

As believers in Jesus, Christians will seek to grow in knowledge and faith through the study of the Holy Scriptures. The Holy Scriptures will be their source of comfort, security, guidance, encouragement, and hope (confidence) for the future. (Psalm 119:105, 1 Peter 2:2-3, John 20:31, John 5:39, 2 Timothy 3:15).

As believers in Jesus, Christians will strive to show their love to God by using their gifts and talents to help spread the Word of God. They will help their fellow Christians and all people in every possible way. (John 14:15, 1 Thessalonians 2:8, Galatians 5:22-23, 1 Corinthians 10:31, Matthew 28:19-20)

The Lord gave parents the primary responsibility for the Christian training of their children. (Ephesians 6:4, Psalm 78:1-7, Deuteronomy 4:9-10, Deuteronomy 6:6-9)

The Lord gave to his Church on earth the responsibility to train its children according to the Scriptures. (Acts 20:28, Matthew 28:20, John 21:12-17, 1 Peter 5:2)

The Lord's Church through its various agencies calls pastors and teachers to function in its midst as public ministers of the Word of God. These ministers strive to honor their Lord by serving their students and parents by performing the privilege of their ministry faithfully. (Acts 1:21-26, Ephesians 4:11-12, Romans 10:12-15, 2 Timothy 4:2, Matthew 25:14-30)

Baptism is a sacrament, a sacred act instituted by Christ. Using water and God's Word, it offers and gives the forgiveness of sins, spiritual life, and eternal salvation. It is meant for young and old, including children. Infants are also sinful and therefore need the spiritual rebirth brought through baptism. (Matthew 28:19, John 3:5-6, Titus 3:5, Mark 10:14, Acts 22:16, Mark 16:16)

Holy Communion is a sacrament instituted by Christ. Together with bread and wine we receive Jesus' true body and blood. In this special meal Jesus gives the forgiveness of sins, strengthens our faith, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe. (Matthew 26:26-28, I Corinthians 10:16, I Corinthians 11:27-28, I Corinthians 10:17)

God commissions his people to go into the world with his word. In this way God's people praise him and share the way of salvation with others. God uses this law/gospel message to bring people to faith and equip them for lives of service. (Mark 16:15, Matthew 28:19-20, 1 Peter 2:9, 1 Peter 3:15-16, Romans 10:13-17, Ephesians 4:11-12)

A more detailed summary of the main teachings of our church body are outlined in a document called *This We Believe*, available at www.wels.net/about-wels/what-we-believe/this-we-believe.

We welcome the opportunity to visit with you and talk more about our school, the blessings God is providing at GPLHS, and the opportunities that abound for our students.