

Covenant for Children and Families

We Believe children are created by God for God.

- As confessed in the words of the French Huguenot baptismal confession:

Little Child,
For you Jesus Christ came into the world,
He did battle in the world, suffered;
For you he went through the agony of Gethsemane and the darkness of Calvary;
For you he cried, 'It is fulfilled';
For you he triumphed over death...for you,
And you, little child, do not yet know anything about this.
But thus is the statement of the apostle confirmed, 'We love God because God first loved us.'

- As expressed in the vows taken at baptism:

"To guide and nurture by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging the body of Christ to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of the church of Jesus Christ."

- As demonstrated in the invitation to the Lord's Table:

Children are a part of our covenant community, and as such are invited to join us at table. This feast focuses on the gift of Jesus Christ and as such nourishes and sustains us to live into Christ's body and out into the world.

Accordingly, we promise to guide and nurture children and families

- to know and follow Christ with all of their mind,
- to know and follow Christ with all of their body,
- to know and follow Christ with all of their soul.

...mind, body, and soul – the totality of the human creature.

Therefore, we will

- educate children and families to determine and communicate normative beliefs therefore enabling children and families to interpret and reinterpret these beliefs so that they may live out into the Peaceable Kingdom of God;
- strengthen the body of Christ by immersing children and families into the whole life of the church and our life together out into the Peaceable Kingdom of God;
- nurture the central Christian practices for living all of life—social, economic, political, cultural, and religious—into and out of Christian faith