

Summary of Basic Beliefs

Triune God

God is one God in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Scripture

The writings of the Old Testament and New Testament are the inspired word of God.

Human Need

While human beings were created in the image and likeness of God, all humans are sinners for whom the image of God has been distorted. Sin estranges us from God and corrupts human nature such that we cannot heal or save ourselves.

Salvation Through Jesus Christ

God's redeeming love is active to save sinners through Jesus' incarnate life and teachings, through his death and resurrection, his sovereign presence through history, and his promised return.

The Sacraments

We have two Sacraments: Holy Baptism and Holy Communion. Other rites such as Confirmation, Ordination, Holy Matrimony, Service of Death and Resurrection, and Anointing of the Sick, are performed but they are not considered Sacraments.

Free Will

The United Methodist Church believes that people, while corrupted by sin, are free to make their own choices because of God's divine grace.

Grace

God gives unmerited favor freely to all people, though it may be resisted. There are three ways we understand the work of God's grace. The grace of God is at work drawing all humanity towards the salvation God provides. Justifying grace is when a person accepts the work of Christ for themselves. Sanctifying grace happens as we grow in our faith and conform ourselves more into the image of Jesus Christ through our discipleship.