

MY STATEMENT OF FAITH

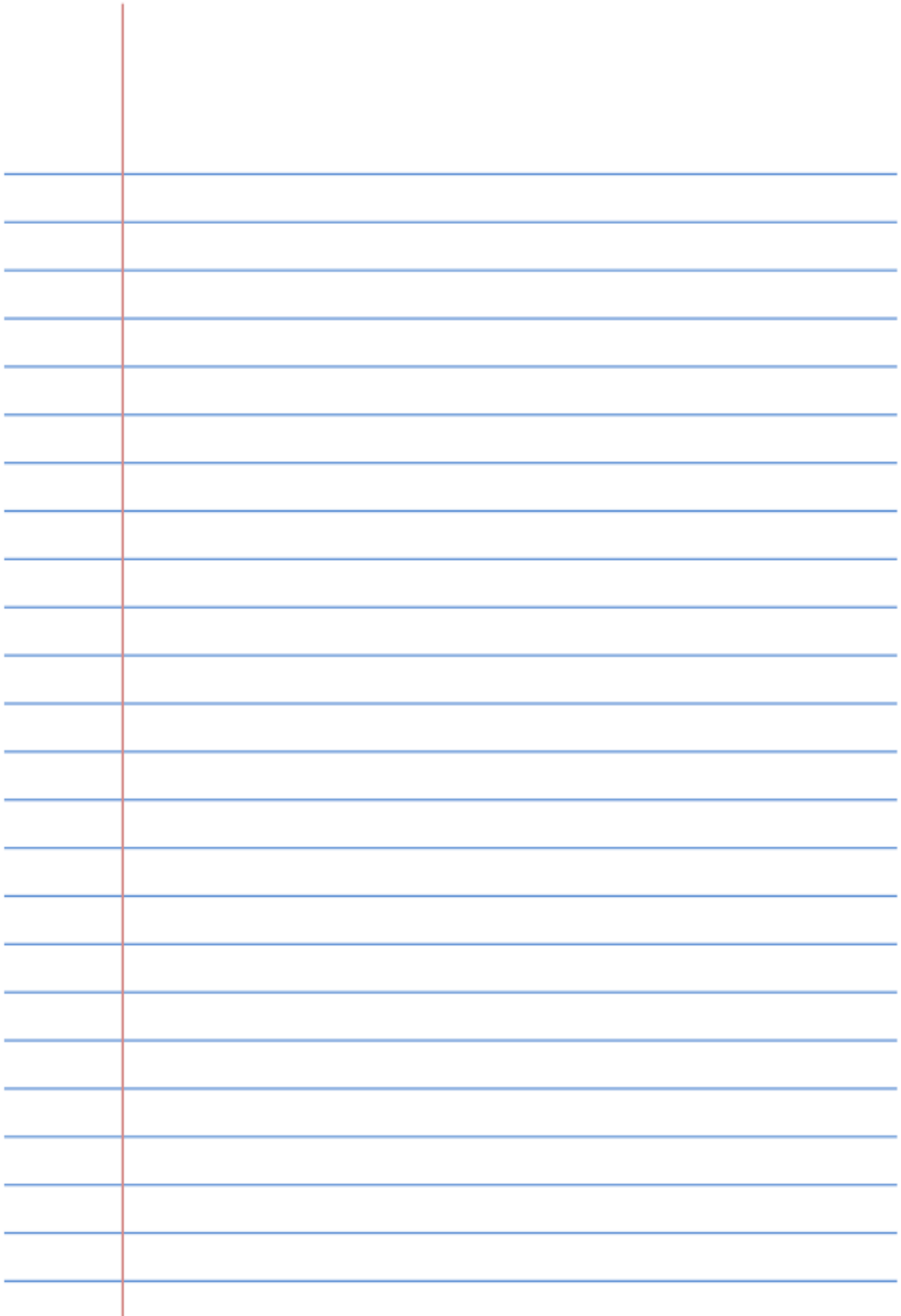
As you work on the Statement of Faith, you may wish to consider the following questions:

- * What words and terms (ie: love, faith, sin, God) are key to my faith, and how do I understand them?
- * What statements from the memory passages or prayers do I want to include?
- * What questions have been answered? What am I still unsure of?

All statements should, in some way, include responses to the following:

- * Who is Jesus?
- * Why do I want to join the church?

As you prepare your statement, it would be a good idea to know what the church asks during the service of Confirmation. Read through the Act of Confirmation at the end of this packet.



ACT OF CONFIRMATION

Pastor: *Calls the confirmands forward. They face the congregation.*

(To the congregation) The Confirmation Class is presented by the session, for the reaffirming of the baptismal covenant into which they were baptized. They now desire to publicly profess their faith and to assume greater responsibility in the life of the church, and God's mission in the world.

(To the Confirmands) We rejoice with you that you now desire to declare your faith and to share with us in our common ministry.

- * In baptism you were joined to Christ and made members of his church.
- * In the community of the people of God, you have learned of God's purpose for you and for all creation.
- * You have been nurtured at the table of our Lord and called to witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Hear these words from Scripture:

You are the light of the world.

A city built on a hill cannot be hid.

No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket,

but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house (Matthew. 5:14-16 NRSV).

In the same way, let your light so shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your God in heaven.

Now, as you publicly declare your faith, profess your faith in Christ Jesus, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which you were baptized; I ask you to answer these questions:

- * Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? If so say, **“I do.”**
- * Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love? If so say, **“I do.”**
- * Will you be Christ’s faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love? If so say, **“I will, with God’s help.”**
- * You have publicly professed your faith. Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, share in its worship and ministry through your prayers and gifts, your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ? If so say, **“I will, with God’s help.”**

Pastor: *Asks Teaching Elders, and Ruling Elders, and mentors to come forward for the laying on of hands.*

(Confirmands kneel)

Defend, O Lord, your servant

with your heavenly grace,
that he/she may continue yours forever,
and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more;
until he/she comes to your everlasting kingdom.

(Confirmands stand)

Pastor: *Closing Prayer*