

# REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

700 South Broadway  
New Ulm, MN 56073

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## WORSHIP

Sunday 9:00 AM

Monday 6:30 PM

Following 1st & 3rd  
Sundays of the Month  
With Communion

## FELLOWSHIP TIME

10:00 AM

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:15 AM

## ADULT STUDY

10:30 AM

## CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Grant T. Bode, Pastor  
Tammy Gramstad, Youth/Music  
Jaime Kirtz, Secretary  
Lucy Dolly, Organist  
Jim Krapf, Custodian

## CHURCH PHONE

507-233-3470

## FAX

507-359-7789

## WEBSITE

[www.redeemernewulm.net](http://www.redeemernewulm.net)

## E-MAIL

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## KINDER HAUS

354-1220

## KINDER HAUS II

354-5102



THE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MISSOURI SYNOD



## REDEEMER VIEWS

## AUGUST 2008

### What Does This Mean? Credal Questions to Ponder

Q. What is the meaning of "God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God" in the Nicene Creed (AD 325-381)?

A. This phrase from the Nicene Creed is used to emphasize that Jesus Christ is truly God. When He assumed human flesh and a human nature, he did not become any less God, nor was He any less than true God. These descriptive phrases were necessary to reject false beliefs about Jesus, most notably the heresy of Arianism which held that though Jesus Christ was "a" God He was certainly not THE one true God, nor could it be said that He was of same essence or nature as God. In short Arianism denied the belief in the Trinity. Jehovah Witness basically are the modern day equivalent to Arianism.

B. Hence, the Nicene Creed uses these descriptive phrases to confess the truth and thus to combat false views. Thus with such words we confess that the Second Person of the Most Holy and Blessed Trinity, the Son of God, who was incarnate as Jesus of Nazareth, is God of God - - true God from true God (which is what "very" is in the original Greek and Latin of the Creed).

C. We praise the Holy Triune God for His mercy in sending our Savior, who as true God, paid the perfect ransom for our atonement, winning for us peace with God and life forever in heaven.

Q. *In the Apostle's Creed (ca. 100), it says, Christ was "...crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again...." But in Luke, Jesus says to the thief next to him: "Surely today you will be with me in paradise." My question is, where in the Bible does it ever talk about Jesus descending into hell?*

A. Christ's descent into hell is described in 1 Peter 3:18-20. While this passage does not provide a great deal of detailed information about this event, it is clear that after Christ died he was "made alive in the spirit" and that in this state of exaltation he descended into hell--not to suffer, but to proclaim his victory over hell and the devil.

B. The events of Easter (Christ's physical resurrection) then followed, and eventually (40 days later) his physical, visible ascension into heaven.



~ Pastor Bode