

1

Since we

- Have come into the presence of the Lord God with a deep conviction
 - Of His awful majesty and glory
 - Of His omniscience, His purity, His justice and His grace
 - Of our guilt and total depravity by nature, and our utter inability to save ourselves from deserved condemnation to everlasting punishment
- With renunciation of all dependence on our own righteousness as the ground of pardon and acceptance with God

Then we

- Receive for ourselves and for our children
 - the Lord Jesus Christ as He is offered in the Gospel to be our Saviour
 - the Holy Spirit as our Enlightener, Sanctifier and Guide
 - the Father to be our everlasting portion
 - Approve and accept of the Covenant of Grace as all our salvation and desire
 - Take the moral law as dispensed by the Mediator, Christ:
 - to be the rule of our life
 - to be obeyed by us in all its precepts and prohibitions
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Since we

- Are aiming to live for the glory of God as our chief end

Then we

- Will diligently attend to:
 - searching the Scriptures
 - religious conversation
 - the duties of
 - the closet
 - the household
 - the fellowship-meeting
 - the sanctuary
 - Will seek in them to worship God in spirit and in truth
 - Do solemnly promise:
 - To part from all iniquity
 - To live soberly, righteously and godly in this world
 - Commend and encourage by our example
 - Temperance
 - Charity
 - Godliness
-

2

Since we:

- Have (after careful examination) embraced the system of faith, order and worship revealed in the Holy Scriptures
- Have summarized, as to doctrine, in:
 - The Westminster Confession of Faith
 - The Catechisms
 - The Reformed Presbyterian Testimony
- Have summarized, as to order and worship, justly set forth in substance and outline in the Westminster Form of Church Government and Directory for Worship

Then we:

- Publicly profess and own as true Christian faith and religion, and the system of order and worship appointed by Christ for his own house
- Sincerely and constantly (by the grace of God)
 - endeavor to understand it more fully
 - hold and observe it in its integrity

- transmit the knowledge of it to posterity
- Solemnly reject whatever is known by us to be contrary to:
 - the Word of God
 - our recognized and approved manuals of faith and order
 - the great principles of the Protestant Reformation
- Particularly, we abjure and condemn Infidelity, under all its various aspects;
 - Atheism, or the denial of the divine existence;
 - Pantheism with its denial of the divine personality;
 - Naturalism, with its denial of the divine Providential Government;
 - Spiritualism, with its denial of the Bible redemption;
 - Indifferentism, with its denial of man's responsibility;
 - Formalism, with its denial of the power of godliness.
- We abjure and condemn
 - Popery, with:
 - its arrogant assumption of supremacy and infallibility
 - its corrupt and heretical teachings
 - its dogma of the Immaculate Conception
 - its hostility to civil and religious liberty,
 - to the progress of society in civilization and intelligence
 - especially its denial, in common with Infidelity, of the right and duty of the State to educate in morality and religion by the use of the Bible in schools enjoying its patronage and support.

Since we:

- Believe Presbyterianism to be the only divinely instituted form of government in the Christian Church

Then we:

- disown and reject all others forms of ecclesiastical polity,
 - as without authority of Scripture
 - as damaging to purity, peace and unity in the household of faith.
- we reject all systems of false religion and will-worship, and with these all forms of secret oath-bound societies and orders, as
 - ensnaring in their nature,
 - pernicious in their tendency
 - perilous to the liberties of both Church and State

Moreover we:

- pledge ourselves to pray and labor according to our power:
 - that whatever is contrary to godliness may be removed
 - that the Church beautified with universal conformity to the law and will of her Divine Head and Lord.

3

Since we:

- Are persuaded that God:
 - is the source of all legitimate power
 - that He has instituted civil government for His own glory and the good of man
 - that He has appointed His Son, the Mediator, to headship over the nations
 - that the Bible is the supreme law and rule in national as in all other things

Then we:

- Will maintain
 - the responsibility of nations to God
 - the rightful dominion of Jesus Christ over the commonwealth
 - the obligation of nations to legislate in conformity with the written Word.
- Take ourselves sacredly bound to:
 - Regulate (by our allegiance and loyalty to the Lord, our King, Lawgiver and Judge) all of our:
 - civil relations

- attachments
 - professions
 - deportment
 - Are pledged (by this, our oath) to:
 - promote the interests of public order and justice
 - support cheerfully whatever is for the good of the commonwealth in which we dwell
 - pursue this object in all things:
 - not forbidden by the law of God
 - or
 - inconsistent with public dissent from an unscriptural and immoral civil power.
 - Will pray and labor:
 - for the peace and welfare of our country
 - for its reformation by a constitutional recognition:
 - of God as the source of all power
 - of Jesus Christ as the Ruler of Nations
 - of the Holy Scriptures as the supreme rule
 - of the true Christian religion
 - Will continue to refuse to incorporate by any act, with the political body, until this blessed reformation has been secured.
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4

Since we:

- Believe
 - That the Church to be one
 - That all the saints have communion with God
 - That all the saints have communion with one another in the same Covenant;
 - That schism and sectarianism are
 - Sinful in themselves; and
 - **Inimical** to true religion (*being adverse often by reason of hostility*)
- Trust
 - That divisions shall cease
 - That the people of God become one Catholic church over all the earth,

Then we:

- Will pray and labor for the visible oneness of the Church of God, nationally and globally, based on the truth and the scriptures.
-

Since we

- Consider it a principal duty of our profession to cultivate a holy brotherhood,

Then we

- Will strive to maintain Christian friendship with pious men of every name
- Feel and act as one with all in every land who pursue this grand end.

By the means of:

- Dissemination (***spread widely***) that which we are professing
 - Applying the principles of truth which we are professing
 - Cultivating and exercising Christian charity
 - Working to remove stumbling-blocks
 - Gather into one the scattered and divided friends of truth and righteousness.
-

5

Since we:

- Rejoice that the enthroned Mediator is not only King in Zion, but King over all the earth

- Recognize the obligation of His command to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature, and to teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost,
- Rest with faith in the promise of His perpetual presence as the pledge of success,

Then we

- Dedicate ourselves to the great work of making known God's light and salvation among the nations
 - Will labor that the Church may be provided with an earnest, self-denying and able ministry.
-

Since we:

- Are profoundly conscious of past **remissness** (*the quality of being lax and neglectful*) and neglect,

Then we:

- Will seek
 - the revival of pure and undefiled religion,
 - the conversion of Jews and Gentiles to Christ, that all men may be blessed in Him, and that all nations may call Him blessed.

By the means of:

- Our prayers, pecuniary contributions, and personal exertions ... (*read: our prayers, money and labor*)
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6

We will:

- Bear true testimony in word and in deed for every known part of divine truth, and for all the ordinances appointed by Christ in His kingdom;
- We will tenderly and charitably, but plainly and decidedly, oppose and **discountenance** (*refuse to approve of*) all and every known error, immorality, neglect or perversion of divine institutions.
- We will strive to hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering, in hope of the crown of life which fadeth not away.
 - Taking as our example the faithful in all ages, and, most of all, the blessed Master Himself, and with our eye fixed upon the great cloud of witnesses who have sealed with their blood the testimony which they held

By the means of:

- Committing ourselves with all our interests to the keeping of Him in whom we have believed;
 - Remaining faithful
 - to our own vows, and
 - to the Covenants of our fathers, and
 - to our children whom we desire to lead in the right ways of the Lord;
 - Loving all mankind, especially the household of faith;
 - Obeying the commandment of the everlasting God – to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints
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Finally,

We will:

- Enter upon this solemn act of covenanting before the Omniscient God, with **unfeigned** (*sincere*) purpose of paying our vow.
- Solemnly disavow All sinister and selfish ends and motives
- Protest that we have no aim but the glory of God, and the present and everlasting welfare of immortal souls.
- Pray
 - That God will strengthen us by his spirit
 - To keep this our promise, vow and oath
 - To bless our attempt to
 - Glorify His name
 - Honor his truth
 - Cause (with such success as will bring salvation to our souls)
 - the wider spread and triumph of truth and holiness
 - the enlargement and establishment of the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, **to whom, with the Father and the Spirit, one God, be glory in the Church throughout all ages, world without end. AMEN**