

*THE DISCLAIMER OF FAITH from "A Declaration of Faith" (1977)
Amended for Election Year Use in Worship (2008)

**We are certain that Jesus lives!
Well maybe not certain, but possibly open to prevailing
interpretation.**

**He lives as God with us,
touching all of human life and binding himself to us in love.
(but don't get the wrong idea... not the S&M kind of binding,
and of course, not that kind of touch, either... we certainly can't
afford for anyone to get the wrong idea.)**

**We have an advocate in the innermost life of God,
to a greater or lesser extent,
depending upon political party affiliation.**

**We declare that Jesus is Lord, yet His lordship is hidden (from security
cameras, ATM cameras and the like).**

**The world appears to be dominated by people and systems
that do not acknowledge his rule...
Mainly because we *are* dominated by people and systems
that do not acknowledge his rule...**

**...as well they ought not,
given the high likelihood that one day everyone will most probably
have to repudiate childhood friends, teachers, clergy, and even
kindly grandmothers who may become political liabilities.**

**And that's just the way it is, Lord,
on All Fools Day, two thousand eight. Good day!**

*THE GREETINGS OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP

*Please, no video cameras or digital recordings allowed, to protect
those who may wish to snub a neighbor and not want to be
burdened with providing an explanation to Tim Russert or other
representatives of the media menagerie. (Remember when Barack
Obama reached behind Hillary Clinton to shake someone else's
hand? We don't want that kind of horrific scene here in church!)*

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON (expletives deleted)

THE NOT TOO LOUD AND NOT TOO SOFT OFFERING
(formerly designated as "The Noisy Offering")

THE SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
Limited to 3 minutes total

THE TIME FOR PUBLIC REPUDIATIONS
*Kindly limit each repudiation to 8 minutes (15 max).
(If you will be making a Powerpoint presentation,
please inform the sexton well in advance)*

THE CHORAL PRAYER OF ABJURATION

Alleluia, Alleluia! But Let's Not Get Carried Away! B. Adagio

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON *(Pew Bible pp. 113-120,122 ff)*

Acts 2:14a, 22-32b, 3:3-7c, 8:4-17, 12:1-11a, 13:13, 14:15, 16:17, 18:21-43 plus
only the good parts of chapter 19 as selected by the pastor and session

Liturgist: This may be the word of the Lord. All: **Yah, sure, you betcha!**

THE ANTHEM *All Glory, Loud Dishonor* Jeremiah Wright Jr.

THE EPISTLE LESSON 1 Peter (Paul & Mary) 19:63 *(Pew Bible,
Sixties Edition., p. 12)*

Liturgist: This may be the word of the Lord. All: **Ya think?**

*THE GOSPEL LESSON Judas 1:5-3:18 *(Pew Bible pp. 104-106)*

Pastor: The Gospel of our Lord. All: **We doubt it sincerely.**

*THE CONGREGATIONAL CANTICLE 333 *(vs. 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8 & 9 only)*

THE SERMON “*DEFAULT MUST BE YOURS...
'CUZ IT SURE AS HECK AIN'T MINE*” Dr. Swanson

THE PASTORAL PRAYER & DA LORD'S PRAYER
(using “outstanding fiscal obligations” for “debts” and
“doze guys what owes us money” for “debtors”)

THE CHORAL RESPONSE *Two-Fold Wrinkle-Free Amen* Robert Lau

THE PRESENTATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, GIFTS, RE-GIFTS,
PETS AND UNWANTED CHILDREN

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Puff The Magic Dragon* Lipton & Yarrow

THE FOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow:

Praise Him all creatures here below:

Praise Him on Fox and CNN,

Thank God this fall will be the end. Amen.

*THE UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Almighty God, who on a bad hair day hast given us the fruit of thy frustration, namely pundits, prevaricators and pollsters: we pray that none of the offerings we have given in good faith will find their way to re-election war chests, special interest nesteggs, offshore drug accounts, Ponzi-schemes or --forbid it please-- Amway International... Now consecrate these tithes and offerings to do what has to be done, when and how and where it is required, through your great power. In You We Trust (all others pay cash). Amen.

*THE RECESSIONAL HYMN 109 *On Our Way Rejoicing* OVERNOW

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE CHORAL RESPONSE

May Your Road Be Free of Potholes Irish-American Jig

*LAST CHANCE FOR PASTORAL REPUDIATIONS !

Please be advised that your failure to repudiate something Dr. Swanson may have said (whether you heard him say it or not) at some point in his life between January 3, 1949 and today's date may prevent you from successfully seeking elective office in the lower forty-eight states plus Hawaii, Alaska and Guam at some time in the near or distant future. Do not miss this final opportunity to publicly disclaim, disavow, disassociate, disinvite, discongratulate or disembowel the pastor. Seriously... don't miss this one last chance, or you may find yourself watching a special news report in which you are tragically reminded of what political analysts all profess as a matter of principle: "You can always walk away from your pastor, but you can't walk away from your grandmother."

*THE TIME OF SILENCE (FINALLY!)

*THE CHARGE AND DISMISSAL

*Those preferring 220 Volts AC to the left,
Those preferring 12 Volts DC on the right*

Pastor: Let us go in Peace and serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

THE POSTLUDE *These Boots Were Made For Walkin'* Nancy Sinatra
(Away from your Pastor)

*Those who are able please stand, sit, or otherwise position yourself
in a politically correct mode for worship.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR immediately follows this worship service downstairs in the Assembly Room. Everyone is semi-cordially invited to attend, if you care to take the risk. Media cannot be barred from this public gathering, therefore, be on the alert for overanxious journalists, predatory reporters, and especially Chris Matthews or Geraldo Rivera (even though an unnamed source reveals that they may be otherwise occupied today). Hosting today's Fellowship Hour is Anonymous. Thank you, Anonymous, for the delicious treats!

GREETINGS TO ALL this day who have come to worship.

We may want to get to know you, possibly!

Just a friendly suggestion: you should probably use an alias when signing our guest register. Also, please display your Visitor Pass prominently on your attire. Official Covenant Visitor Passes may be procured by making an appointment with the Sexton's Office for Biometric Identification. A fee of \$85 is charged (VISA, MC and Discover accepted) for fingerprinting, mug shot, and plastic ID card, good for admittance to any PC-USA church service east of the Mississippi and \$6 off any single cup of Starbuck's Coffee (a savings of almost 40%). Thank you for your patronage.

FOOLS IN SCRIPTURE

"How long will you simple ones love your simple ways? How long will mockers delight in mockery and fools hate knowledge? ~Proverbs 1:22

"Fools mock at making amends for sin,
but goodwill is found among the upright." ~Proverbs 14:9

Parables of "Fools" in the New Testament:

Of the foolish virgins - Matthew 25:1-13

Of the rich fool - Luke 12:15-22

Of wise and foolish builders - Matthew 7:21-27

April Fools' Day, or All Fools' Day, is the first day of April is traditional day for playing pranks on unsuspecting people. In many countries, including the United States, it is the custom on this day to play tricks on people. A favorite joke is to send someone on a fool's errand, a search for something that does not exist. In the United States, the victim is called an April Fool.

No one knows where the April Fools' custom began. The origin uncertain but may be related to arrival of spring in late March, when nature is said to "fool" humanity with changes in weather; another explanation has to do with the change to the Gregorian calendar in 1582, which moved New Year's Day to Jan. 1; those who were unaware of the change or too conservative to break tradition celebrated on April 1, the last day of the old 8-day New Year's festival; tradition in France (where victim is called "April fish") and Great Britain; introduced into America in colonial times; favorite gags include sending someone on impossible errand and running harmless fibs in the media; when person grows confused or realizes he is being tricked, the joker calls out "April Fool!"; in France, people stick cutout paper fish on another's back or send them anonymously in the mail. (Really now...cutout paper fish?? Those French are hopelessly humorless!)

Even so, some historians believe it may have started in France. There, the old New Year's festival was observed from March 25 to April 1 and ended with an exchange of gifts. In the mid-1560's, King Charles IX changed the New Year to January 1. People who still celebrated the New Year in April were called April fish and sent mock presents. April Fools' Day may be related to the ancient Roman spring festival Hilaria, which celebrates the resurrection of the god Attis.

Church Bulletin Bloopers

- ☺ The outreach committee has enlisted 25 visitors to make calls on people who are not afflicted with any church.
- ☺ Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.
- ☺ Ushers will eat latecomers.
- ☺ For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- ☺ This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.
- ☺ The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind and they may be seen in the church basement Friday.
- ☺ Pastor is on vacation. Massages can be given to the church secretary.
- ☺ Weight Watchers will meet at 7 pm at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double doors at the side entrance.
- ☺ Please join us as we show our support for Amy and Alan who are preparing for the girth of their first child.
- ☺ The Lutheran Men's group will meet at 6 pm. Steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, bread and dessert will be served for a nominal feel.
- ☺ The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: "I Upped My Pledge--Up Yours."
- ☺ Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.
- ☺ This afternoon there will be a meeting in the south and north ends of the church. Children will be baptized at both ends.
- ☺ Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B.S. is done.
- ☺ At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- ☺ The processional hymn will be # 56 "Angels We Have Heard Get High."
- ☺ Don't let worry kill you. Let the Church help.

CLASSIC APRIL FOOL'S DAY HOAXES

The Swiss Spaghetti Harvest

In 1957 the respected BBC news show *Panorama* announced that thanks to a very mild winter and the virtual elimination of the dreaded spaghetti weevil, Swiss farmers were enjoying a bumper spaghetti crop. It accompanied this announcement with footage of Swiss peasants pulling strands of spaghetti down from trees. Huge numbers of viewers were taken in. Many called the BBC wanting to know how they could grow their own spaghetti tree. To this the BBC diplomatically replied that they should "place a sprig of spaghetti in a tin of tomato sauce and hope for the best."

The Taco Liberty Bell

In 1996 the Taco Bell Corporation announced that it had bought the Liberty Bell and was renaming it the Taco Liberty Bell. Hundreds of outraged citizens called the National Historic Park in Philadelphia where the bell was housed to express their anger. Their nerves were only calmed when Taco Bell revealed, a few hours later, that it was all a practical joke. The best line of the day came when White House press secretary Mike McCurry was asked about the sale. Thinking on his feet, he responded that the Lincoln Memorial had also been sold. It would now be known as the Ford Lincoln Mercury Memorial.

Nixon for President Again

In 1992 National Public Radio's *Talk of the Nation* program announced that Richard Nixon, in a surprise move, was running for President again. His new campaign slogan was, "I didn't do anything wrong, and I won't do it again." Accompanying this announcement were audio clips of Nixon delivering his candidacy speech. Listeners responded viscerally to the announcement, flooding the show with calls expressing shock and outrage. Only during the second half of the show did the host John Hockenberry reveal that the announcement was a practical joke. Nixon's voice was impersonated by comedian Rich Little.

Alabama Changes the Value of Pi

The April 1998 issue of the *New Mexicans for Science and Reason* newsletter contained an article claiming that the Alabama state legislature had voted to change the value of the mathematical constant pi from 3.14159 to the 'Biblical value' of 3.0. Before long the article had made its way onto the internet, and then it rapidly made its way around the world, forwarded by people in their email. It only became apparent how far the article had spread when the Alabama legislature began receiving hundreds of calls from people protesting the legislation. The original article, which was intended as a parody of legislative attempts to circumscribe the teaching of evolution, was written by a physicist named Mark Boslough.

Virgin Cola's Blue Cans

In 1996 Virgin Cola announced that in the interest of consumer safety it had integrated a new technology into its cans. When the cola passed its sell-by date, the liquid would react with the metal in the can, turning the can itself bright blue. Virgin warned that consumers should therefore avoid purchasing all blue cans. The joke was that Pepsi had recently unveiled its newly designed cans. They were bright blue.

SECOND TUESDAY OF EASTERTIDE

April 1, 2008

[The Rev. Jeremiah Wright, Jr.] was Barack Obama's Pastor until he retired last month, but Obama has recently repudiated the preacher's comments. Overall, voters are evenly divided as to whether Obama should resign membership in the Church—42% say that he should, while 40% disagree. White voters, by a 46% to 33% margin, say that Obama should leave the Church. African-American voters, by a 68% to 16% margin, say he should not... A recent Fox News report looked at the question of whether or not Pastor Wright is a political liability for Obama.

-- National telephone survey of 1,200 likely voters
conducted by *Rasmussen Reports*, March 2008

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