

# **The Five Solas: An Affirmation of Faith**

**A Worship Service  
for  
Reader and Congregation**

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## **Introduction**

*for the church to read or print to introduce this service*

The year 2017 is the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. On this occasion we choose to affirm our belief in five foundational truths of the Christian faith, often called “the five solas”. These five convictions drove the reformers to act boldly to restore the Church to a biblical Christian faith.

“Sola” is the Latin word for “alone” or “only”. It is used in five phrases that express basic theological principles of the Christian faith:

Sola Scriptura, or by Scripture alone	(p.5)
Sola Fide, or through faith alone	(p.6)
Sola Gratia, or by grace alone	(p.7)
Solus Christus, or by Christ alone	(p.8)
Soli Deo Gloria, or for the glory of God alone	(p.9)

## **Suggestions for Use**

Feel free to adapt this worship service to your own situation. For example, two readers might be used instead of one reader and congregation. Simply have a second reader read the “Congregation” portions. Or make this adaptation on only part of the segments; for example, segments two and four, for variety.

This service might be presented on a single occasion, or the five individual sections could be presented on five successive Sundays, with each accompanied by a sermon on the topic.

All the hymns are set to familiar hymn tunes, so learning should be unnecessary. If any of the tunes are less familiar to your congregation, have the accompanist play through the entire hymn once as an introduction. Note also that all the recordings on [LNWhymns.com](http://LNWhymns.com) are downloadable and may be reproduced freely and without charge, as long as they are not sold. Feel free to email the recorded hymns or burn CDs for participants and/or congregation. [Click here for details.](#)

For additional hymns useful with The Five Solas, [click here.](#)

Also available as a free download is [The Five Solas Devotional Companion.](#)

*The Five Solas: An Affirmation of Faith, LNWhymns.com, p.4*

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## **Sola Scriptura or By Scripture alone**

LEADER: “The grass withers and the flowers fall,  
but the word of our God endures forever.” (Isaiah 40:8, NIV)

CONGREGATION: “Your word, Lord, is eternal;  
it stands firm in the heavens.” (Psalm 119:89, NIV)

LEADER : “The words of the Lord are pure words;  
As silver tried in a furnace...refined seven times.  
“Not one word has failed of all His good promise.”  
(Psalm 12:6; 1 Kings 8:56, NASB)

CONGREGATION: “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking,  
correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God  
may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-  
17, NIV)

LEADER: “The law of the Lord is perfect,  
refreshing the soul.  
The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy,  
making wise the simple.” (Psalm 19:7, NIV)

CONGREGATION: “Your word is a lamp for my feet,  
a light on my path.” (Psalm 119:105, NIV)

LEADER : “Great peace have those who love your law,  
and nothing can make them stumble.” (Psalm 119:165, NIV)

ALL: We believe that Scripture alone is our ultimate written authority for  
faith and practice. The Bible is completely trustworthy and teaches  
all that is necessary for our salvation.

**HYMN:**            [The Word of God](#)

**Sola Fide  
or  
Through faith alone**

LEADER: “Jesus said...‘I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die.’” (John 11:25-26, NASB)

CONGREGATION: “God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” (John 3:16, NASB)

LEADER: “If you confess with our mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” (Romans 10:9, NASB)

CONGREGATION: “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved.” (Acts 16:31, NASB)

LEADER: “By grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.” (Ephesians 2:8-9, NASB)

CONGREGATION: “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 5:1, NASB)

LEADER: “I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes...for in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed – a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.” (Romans 1:16-17, NIV)

ALL: We are saved from sin by faith in Jesus Christ. We are justified and declared innocent, not by our own works or merits, but by trusting in Him alone.

**HYMN:**            [By Faith in Jesus Christ](#)

**Sola Gratia  
or  
By grace alone**

LEADER: “God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8, NASB)

CONGREGATION: “At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another.” (Titus 3:3, NIV)

LEADER: “But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.” (Titus 3:4-7, NIV)

CONGREGATION: “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.” (Ephesians 1:3, NASB)

LEADER: “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us.” (Ephesians 1:7-8)

CONGREGATION: “By grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.” (Ephesians 2:8-9, NASB)

LEADER: “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus.” (Romans 3:23-24, NASB)

ALL: We believe that we are saved, not by our own works, by God’s grace, His unmerited favor toward us shown in Jesus Christ.

*Prepare ahead of time for one or two people  
to testify to their own personal experience of  
God’s saving grace.*

HYMN: [\*\*Your Ceaseless, Unexhausted Love\*\*](#)

## **Solus Christus or By Christ alone**

- LEADER: “There is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all people.” (1 Timothy 2:5-6, NIV)
- CONGREGATION: “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12, NIV)
- LEADER: “There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death.” (Romans 8:1-2, NASB)
- CONGREGATION: “He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him.” (Hebrews 7:25, NASB)
- LEADER: “In Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form, and in Him you have been made complete.” (Colossians 2:9-10, NASB)
- CONGREGATION: “Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.” (Revelation 1:17-18, NASB)
- LEADER: “We preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.” (1 Corinthians 1:23-24, NASB)
- ALL: We know God, and come to God, and are saved by God through Jesus Christ alone. Only He and His sacrificial death can atone for our sin.
- HYMN:** [Christ Crucified](#)



**Soli Deo Gloria**  
**or**  
**For the glory of God alone**

LEADER: “Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.” (Deuteronomy 6:4-5, NASB)

CONGREGATION: “Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” (1 Corinthians 10:31, NIV)

LEADER: “Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.” (1 Corinthians 6:19-20, NASB)

CONGREGATION: “Let your light shine before men in such a way that you may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16, NASB)

LEADER: “As each one has received a *special* gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God...so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever.” (1 Peter 4:10-11, NASB)

CONGREGATION: “Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!...From Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him *be* the glory forever. Amen.” (Romans 11:33, 36, NASB)

LEADER: “To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever.” (Revelation 5:13, NASB)

ALL: \**“What is the chief end of mankind? Our chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.” This is our all-consuming purpose. Every activity is to be sanctified to the glory of God alone.*  
*(\*Paraphrased from the Westminster Shorter Catechism)*

Hymn: [God Alone](#)