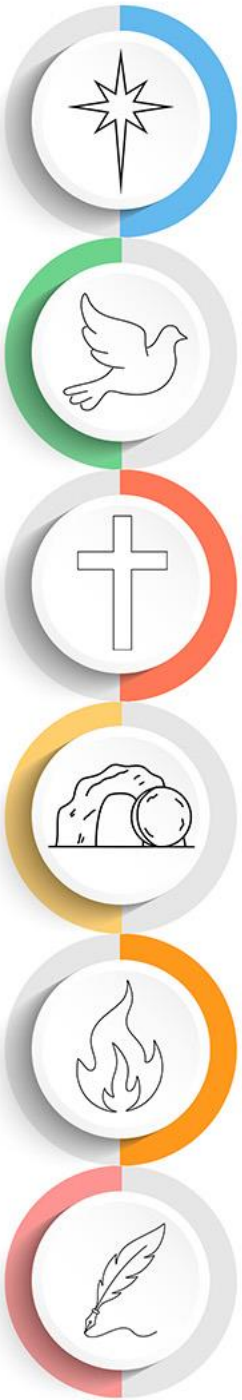
THE LIVING STORY



NEW COVENANT

NEW COMMUNITY



The Prayed-For Community

John 17:20–24



Jesus prays for us

“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who believe in me through their word…”

John 17:20

1. The nature of oneness

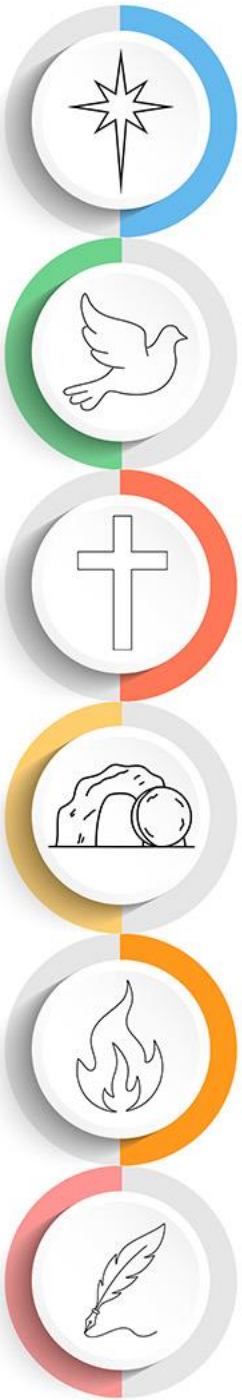
“…that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us…”

John 17:21a

1. The nature of oneness

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.”

John 14:15–17

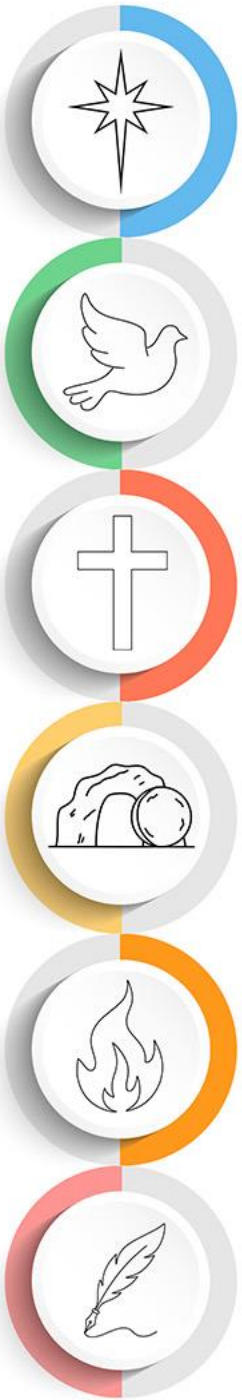


What oneness of Jesus' followers is not

It is not unanimity (the sameness of all opinions on all matters).

It is not uniformity (the sameness of organization, practice, or ritual).

It is oneness as the Son and the Father are one.



Oneness of

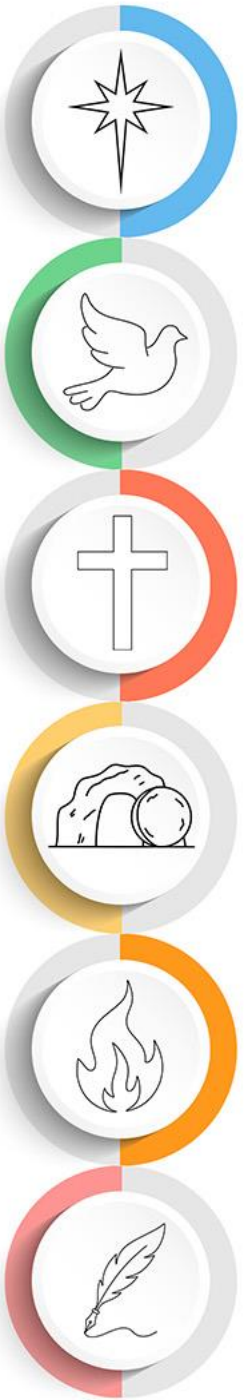
Primary Issues: Consistently and clearly taught and practiced in Scripture and throughout the Church, regardless of geography or time.

Not oneness of

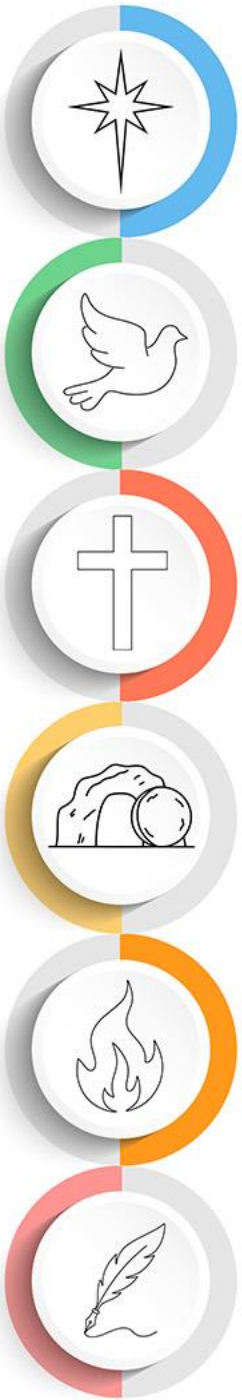
Secondary Issues: Differences in practical and doctrinal matters that affect the life of the community.

Not oneness of

Tertiary Issues: Differences of practice and doctrine that do not impact core teachings and practice of the community.



“Jesus’ glory is a visible manifestation of God’s divine character, presence, and power in him.”
Karen Jobes



“They dwell in their own countries, but simply as sojourners. As citizens, they share in all things with others, and yet endure all things as if foreigners. Every foreign land is to them as their native country, and every land of their birth as a land of strangers. They marry, as do all [others]; they beget children; but they do not destroy their offspring. They have a common table, but not a common bed. They are in the flesh, but they do not live after the flesh.”
Epistle to Diognetes, second century AD

2. The purpose of oneness

“…so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”
John 17:21b

3. The future of oneness

“Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.”

John 17:24

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