

## High Desert URC – Heidelberg Catechism Supplement

February 2026

\* Read each Heidelberg question and answer before discussing them according to the prompts below.

### I. Question and Answer 24

*Question and Answer 24 outlines the Apostles Creed. How is this creed organized?*

Into three parts: the first is of God the Father and our creation; the second, of God the Son and our redemption; the third, of God the Holy Spirit and our sanctification.

### II. Question and Answer 25

*According to question and answer 25, the Scriptures teach that there is one divine being, since this is true, how can we speak of three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?*

The answer speaks to the truth of the Scriptures that describe the one divine being as existing, eternally, as three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. That is, the Scriptures reveal that the Father is God, the Son is God and the Holy Spirit is God, yet there is only one God.

### III. Question and Answer 26

*Question and answer 26 asks what we believe and are confessing in the Apostles Creed when we say that “I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth?*

There are three points in this confession:

- First, that God is our Father through faith in Jesus Christ and this God who created out of nothing upholds and governs the creation by his eternal counsel and providence.
- Second, this same God is the one I can trust as to have no doubt that he will provide me with all things necessary for body and soul in this difficult life.
- Third, God the Father when he sends evil upon me in this troubled life will turn these difficulties to my good, for he is able to do it, being Almighty God, and willing also, being a faithful Father.

*Is God evil when he sends evil upon us?*

No. God sending evil upon us means that he permits hard things in our lives as a function of living in a fallen and cursed world. Further, when he does send evil, he is not punishing us but is using evil or difficulties for our sanctification (growth in faith) as is clear from God's action of turning the evil to our good (see Romans 8:28).