The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church Faith and Order

The Faith

The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church is a member of the Oriental Orthodox Church Family and the worldwide Council of Churches. The Church traces its origins to the apostolic church of the Holy Land established by the apostle Mark the Evangelist, who was reportedly present at the Pentecost and directed the mission in Lower Egypt. The Church has a rich historical tradition and cultural heritage.

Faith and Order

The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church is an apostolic church that upholds the teachings of the early Church fathers and the ecumenical councils. The Church follows the Nicene Creed and the Athanasian Creed as its foundational statements of faith. It is characterized by its liturgical richness and devotion to the Virgin Mary, the Holy Fathers, the Holy Apostles, and the saints.

The Church is governed by the Holy Synod, which is composed of bishops, priests, and deacons. The Synod is responsible for the spiritual and administrative affairs of the Church, and it is divided into districts (woreda) and provinces (zonal boards). The Church also has a network of monasteries and convents, which play a significant role in the life of the faithful.

The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church is known for its sacraments, including baptism, confirmation, Holy Communion, and ordination. These sacraments are celebrated with great solemnity and richness, reflecting the Church's deep commitment to the spiritual well-being of its members.

The Church is committed to social justice and the alleviation of human suffering, and it participates in various charitable and development projects. It also plays a significant role in the field of education, with numerous schools and universities under its auspices.

The Church's relationship with the state is characterized by mutual respect and cooperation, with the government recognizing the Church's role in the cultural and religious life of the nation. The Church and the state have a long history of coexistence and mutual support, which has contributed to the stability and prosperity of Ethiopia.

In summary, the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church is a living testimony to the enduring faith and spiritual legacy of the apostles and saints, who have guided the Church through the ages. It stands as a beacon of hope and inspiration, upholding the timeless truths of the Gospel and offering its members a path of spiritual growth and service to their fellow human beings.

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