The Five Solas of the Reformation¹

- We affirm <u>sola scriptura</u> that the Holy Scriptures alone are the sole inherently authoritative norm for faith and practice. All tradition must yield to the authority of the Bible.
- We affirm <u>solus Christus</u> that salvation comes through Christ alone. All that he has done in his perfect life of obedience, death on the cross, bodily resurrection from the grave, and session at the right hand of the Father is sufficient for our salvation. For, there is one Mediator between God and man, Christ Jesus.
- We affirm <u>sola fide</u> that justification is by faith alone. We are right before our heavenly father only because of the saving faith, which he has worked in us. Our good works alone can never merit right standing before God.
- We affirm <u>sola gratia</u> that salvation is by grace alone, God's unmerited favor toward and saving power in the lives of his people.
- We affirm <u>soli Deo gloria</u> that all things are to the glory of God alone. SDG, the abbreviation for Soli Deo Gloria, has often been used a symbol, rallying cry, and encouragement in the church (especially Reformed churches). For instance, J.S. Bach would sign his works with this inscription.

¹ Summarized by Rev. David Owen Filson @ http://www.churchtimeline.com/1500.htm