



ARTICLES OF FAITH

Our source of strength, vitality, and health is revealed in our Statement of Faith by which we endeavor to fully align ourselves in word and deed in honor of God's Word. This Statement of Faith serves as a written declaration that this church's position on matters that pertain to the essentials of historical Christianity is and always will be our biblical worldview that is grounded in the Word of God.

Section A: The Holy Scriptures

We believe that the Bible is the verbally inspired Word of God in its entirety, both the Old and New Testaments, and without error in the original manuscripts. It was breathed out by the Holy Spirit of God and has supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

John 7:17; Rom. 15:4; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:19-21

Section B: The Tri-Unity of God

We believe in one living, true, and unchanging God who exists eternally in three persons – God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. They are equal in divine perfection while also executing distinct, harmonious offices in the work of creation, provision, and redemption.

Gen. 1:26; Deut. 6:4; Matt. 28:19; John 1:1-4; 2 Cor. 13:14; Heb. 9:14

Section C: God the Father

We believe in God the Father, an infinite, personal Spirit who is perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love. He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men and He both hears and answers prayer. He saves from spiritual death all who turn to Him in faith by grace through the cross work of Jesus Christ.

John 3:16-17; 4:24; 17:5; Eph. 2:4-9

Section D: Jesus Christ

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin. He lived a sinless life, performed miracles, and discipled His followers. He died a substitutionary atoning death on the cross, was raised bodily, ascended into heaven, and makes perpetual intercession for His

people. In the future, He will return for His church and visibly return to earth as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Isa. 7:14; John 1:14; Phil. 2:5-11; 1 Thess. 4:16-17; Heb. 1:1-2; Rev. 19:11-16

Section E: The Holy Spirit

We believe in the Holy Spirit who was sent forth by the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. He regenerates, sanctifies, and empowers all who believe in Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit indwells, seals, and baptizes every believer into the body of Christ. He is an abiding helper, teacher, and guide who gifts every believer for the purpose of building up God's church.

John 14:25; 16:7-15; Rom. 8:14-17; Eph. 1:13-14

Section F: Salvation

We believe that all mankind are sinners by nature and by choice and are under condemnation. Those who confess their sin, recognize their inability to save themselves, and trust Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are saved from the penalty of sin, born again unto eternal life by the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit, and brought into personal fellowship with God. Salvation is a free gift from God, effected upon the basis of the shed blood of Jesus alone that it is given by grace and received through faith. Apart from Jesus Christ, salvation is impossible.

All who are born again are eternally secure in Christ. Salvation, once received, it is not maintained by human effort but preserved by God's grace, through the finished work of Christ and the sealing of the Holy Spirit.

John 1:12-13; 3:16-17; 14:6; Acts 4:12; 20:21; Eph. 2:1-9; Tit. 3:5

Section G: The Church

We believe that the universal church is composed of all born-again believers, beginning at the day of Pentecost and continuing through the end of this present age. The universal church will in heaven be the "Bride of Christ." The local church is comprised of those who have voluntarily united for the purposes of worshipping God, ministering to the saints, and making disciples of all nations.

Matt. 16:16-18; 28:19-20; Acts 2:38-41; Eph. 2:19-22; 5:25-27

Section H: The Ordinances

We believe that the Lord Jesus committed two ordinances to the local church: baptism and the Lord's Supper. These ordinances serve as pictures for the church to teach us about our new life in Christ. Believer's baptism is by immersion in water in the name of the triune God. The Lord's Supper was instituted by Christ to remember His death and resurrection. The two ordinances should be observed and administered regularly until the return of Christ.

Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 2:41; 8:38-39; Rom. 6:3-5; 1 Cor. 11:23-32

Section I: Future Events

We believe that Jesus Christ is going to return in the clouds to rapture His church before the seven-year tribulation that will come upon the whole earth. At the end of the tribulation, Christ will return to the earth at the second coming with His saints and all His holy angels to set up His literal, one-thousand-year kingdom.

We believe that the nation of Israel has a special place in God's plan and is distinct from the New Testament local church. All of God's promises to Israel will be fulfilled, both now and when Jesus Christ returns to the earth to establish His kingdom reign.

We believe that God the Father has entrusted Jesus Christ with the responsibility to execute judgment in the last days. Jesus will preside as Judge at two specific reckonings. The first is the Bema Seat, where those who have placed their faith in Christ will receive rewards. The second is the Great White Throne judgment, where those who have rejected Christ will be condemned for all eternity in the Lake of Fire.

We believe that heaven is a real and literal place where the saved will dwell forever in God's presence, and that the Lake of Fire is a literal place of torment and separation from God where unbelievers, alongside Satan and his demons, will reside forever.

Gen. 12:3; Psalm 112:1; Matt. 24; John 5:22, 27; 14:1-3, 13; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Heb. 9:27; Rev. 19; 20:11-15, 21:8, 22:5

Section J: Religious Liberty

We believe every human being is created to have direct communication with God and is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith. Each local church is independent and must be free from interference by an ecclesiastical or political

authority, though we submit to government as they operate in accordance with God's purposes.

God created government to fulfill specific purposes, and He ordained the church to be the vehicle by which He accomplishes His will in the world today. Therefore, the church should be involved in and influence government. However, the church should remain free from governmental interference.

Gen. 9:6; Ex. 18:25; Matt. 22:21; Acts 4:19, 29; Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Pet. 2:9

Section K: Evangelism, Discipleship, and World Missions

We believe that evangelism, discipleship, and world missions are central to God's mission for the local church and are the personal responsibility of every believer. Evangelism is the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ to all people, calling them to receive the free gift of salvation by grace through faith in Christ. Discipleship involves the lifelong process of growing in Christ through the Word, prayer, fellowship, and obedience by equipping believers to live faithfully and make disciples themselves. World missions reflects God's heart for the nations. We embrace our calling to take the gospel to all people by supporting and sending missionaries, planting indigenous churches, training national pastors, and partnering globally for the advance of God's kingdom.

Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 1:8; 4:12; Rom. 1:16; 1 Thess. 1:6-8; 2 Tim. 2:2; Rev. 7:9

Section L: Sanctity of Life

We believe that, in obedience to the authority of the Holy Scriptures and guided by their clear instruction, life is to be preserved without exception because all human beings are God's image bearers.

We believe that life begins at the moment of fertilization. Therefore, abortion in all of its forms is morally unjustified and is the indefensible taking of human life. In short, abortion is murder.

We believe that a pro-life ethic requires us to reject any teaching that argues that abortion, euthanasia, or assisted suicide in any circumstances is morally permissible. We are also opposed to providing any financial support for abortions, euthanasia, or assisted suicide, whether directly or through third parties like insurance providers. We object to any teaching, ethic, or political view in favor of abortion, euthanasia, or assisted suicide.

Gen. 1:27; 9:6; Psalm 139:15-16; Jer. 1:5; Eph. 1:4

Section M: Marriage & Human Sexuality

We believe that biblical marriage is between one man and one woman for one lifetime. The Bible teaches that marriage is a picture of the relationship between Christ and the church, therefore it's purity and holiness should be treasured and protected. This means that marriage is a sacred, covenantal union between a man and a woman that limits sexual relations to monogamous, heterosexual marriage.

God created man on the sixth day of creation. He created mankind as two distinct, individual genders: male and female. Any attempt to circumvent God's revealed will in creation regarding, marriage, gender, and human sexuality is sin and violates God's plan and purpose for mankind.

Gen. 1:26-27; 2:24; Rom. 1:18-32; 1 Cor. 6:9-10; Eph. 5:22-32; 1 Thess. 4:3-5; Heb. 13:4