



Statement of Faith

We believe in one God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

(John 14:9-20; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 John 5:1-12)

- We believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of all things visible and invisible. *(Genesis 1:1; Matthew 5:16, 45; 6:1, 4, 8, 9; Acts 17:24-28; Hebrews 11:3; James 1:17)*
- We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the eternal Word, the one and only Savior. *(John 1:1, 14, 29; 3:16; Philippians 2:6-11; Colossians 1:15-19; 1 John 4:9)*
 - Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, both fully human and fully divine; Who lived a sinless life; Who suffered and was crucified as an atonement for sin; Who rose again bodily from the dead on the third day and ascended into Heaven. *(Luke 1:26-35; Colossians 2:9; Hebrews 4:15; Romans 5:15-17; Luke 22:47-24:53; John 20:24-29; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8; Acts 1:1-9; Colossians 3:1; Revelation 1:7-8, 11:15)*
 - Who will return to the earth in victory to rule forever as the King of all kings and Lord of all lords. Who will establish a new earth and a new heaven, restoring all things; Who will reign forever with those who trusted in his name. *(1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 19:28; Acts 1:11, 3:21; Colossians 1:19-20)*
- We believe in the Holy Spirit.
 - Who convicts the world of sin; Who indwells every Christian; Who helps us in our weakness and intercedes for us in prayer; and Who empowers us to a fruitful Christian life. *(John 16:8; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19; 2 Timothy 1:14; Romans 8:26; Galatians 5:22-23)*

We believe in the Bible—God's Holy Word, Scripture.

- We believe God inspired the original writings of the Scripture. *(Mark 12:36; John 14:26, 16:12-15; Acts 1:16; 1 Corinthians 2:12-13; 2 Timothy 3:14-16; 2 Peter 1:20-21)*
- We believe that Scripture is the final authority for all matters of faith, truth, morality, and Christian living. *(Isaiah 40:8; Psalm 119:11, 105; Matthew 5:18; 24:35; Romans 15:4)*
- We believe Scripture teaches that God is the Creator and Sustainer of human life; that God creates each person in His image; and that life is therefore sacred, from conception to natural death. We believe that God creates each person as male or

female; that these two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the "image of God" in humankind; and that each person's biological gender is an intrinsic, immutable aspect of his or her nature and identity. (*Genesis 1:26-27; 2:7, 21-22; Psalm 139:13-18*)

- We believe Scripture teaches that God established marriage in the beginning as a lifelong, exclusive relationship between one man and one woman; that He has reserved sexual intimacy as an expression of love and commitment between married couples; and that any intimate expression of sexuality outside of God's established covenant of marriage is sin. (*Genesis 2:23-25; Exodus 20:14, 17, 22:19; Leviticus 18:1-20, 22-23; 20:11-21; Matthew 19:4-6, 9; Romans 1:18-31; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, 15-20; 1 Timothy 1:8-11; Jude 7*)

We believe in the Gospel—the Good News of Salvation.

- That man, created by God, willfully sinned against God and is consequently lost and without hope apart from Jesus Christ. (*Isaiah 53:6; Acts 4:12; Romans 3:23*)
- That salvation—the forgiveness of sins—is only accomplished by grace through the blood of Jesus Christ. (*Matthew 26:28; Romans 5:9; Ephesians 2:8-9; 1 Peter 1:18-19; 1 John 1:7*)
- That one receives this salvation by putting faith in Christ. That putting faith in Christ is demonstrated by repenting of sin, confessing Christ, and obeying the command of Jesus to be baptized by immersion. That the pattern to follow to receive Jesus as Savior is to believe in Jesus as God's Son and Savior of the world, to repent of personal sin, to confess Jesus as Lord, and to be immersed in baptism. (*Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Romans 5:1-2; 10:9; Ephesians 2:8-9; Acts 2:38-39, 3:19; Romans 6:3-4; Galatians 3:27; Colossians 2:12; 1 Peter 3:21*)
- We believe that those who receive Jesus also receive the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. He marks them as the possession of God, manifests the fruit of righteousness in their character, and endows them with spiritual gifts for ministry. (*1 Corinthians 12:4-6; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22; Galatians 5:22-23*)
- That those who have received salvation through faith in Jesus Christ are sent into the world to proclaim the gospel and to love and serve the world just as Jesus Himself did. (*2 Corinthians 5:11-21; Ephesians 2:10; Matthew 28:18-20; John 20:21*)
- We believe that Heaven and Hell are real places and each of us will spend eternity in one place or the other according to our response to Jesus Christ. (*2 Corinthians 5:6-10; 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9; Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 20:15*)

We believe in the Church of Jesus Christ, founded on the Day of Pentecost, consisting of all Christians everywhere, and organized into local assemblies, called churches.

(*Matthew 16:13-18; Acts 2:14-47*)

- We believe the Bible teaches that every Christian should be an active member of a local church. (*Hebrews 10:24-25*)
- We believe that the Elders of the church are the overseers of its affairs and the shepherds of its members; that they are the final interpretive authority of Scripture's

meaning and application for the church; and that they are responsible for the oversight, instruction, edification, discipline, and restoration of church members. (*1 Peter 5:1-4; Titus 1:9, 2:1-15; 1 Timothy 3:1-15; Hebrews 13:17; Matthew 18:15-17; Galatians 6:1; 1 Corinthians 5:11-13*)

- We believe that Christian Scripture instructs church members to:
 - Meet together regularly for fellowship, worship, teaching, and the Lord's Supper. (*Acts 2:42; Hebrews 10:25; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26*)
 - Use our natural abilities and spiritual gifts to serve one another. (*Romans 12; 1 Peter 4:10; Galatians 5:13; 1 Corinthians 12:7*)
 - Love one another, bear with one another, accept one another, and forgive one another. (*John 13:34-35; John 15:17; 1 John 4:7; Romans 13:8; Ephesians 4:2, 32; Colossians 3:14; Romans 15:7*)
 - Seek unity, agreement, and peace with one another. (*Romans 12:16, 18; 1 Thessalonians 5:13; Philippians 2:2; 2 Corinthians 13:11*)
 - Encourage and build up one another. (*1 Thessalonians 5:11*)
 - Bear one another's burdens and pray for one another. (*Galatians 6:2; James 5:16*)
 - Spur one another to love and good deeds. (*Hebrews 10:24*)
 - Submit to the authority of the elders of the church. (*Hebrews 13:17*)
 - Support the church financially. (*2 Corinthians 8:7; Malachi 3:10; 1 Timothy 5:17-18*)
 - Pursue personal holiness and obedience to God's Word. (*2 Corinthians 7:1; 1 Thessalonians 4:7; 1 Peter 1:15*)
 - Strive together to fulfill the Great Commission. (*Matthew 28:18-20*)

