

Statement of Faith

Christ Community Fellowship

We believe that God through His love, mercy and grace reveals to us His Son, Jesus Christ (Creator, Redeemer and Lord), as the answer to our greatest need. Our hope is in Jesus living within us. God works continually in our lives to bring us to maturity, making us like Christ. As His body, we are conduits of God's transforming, life-changing power to our community and world, and as thus, together hold these foundational truths:

The Bible: We believe the Bible, both Old and New Testaments, is the Word of God, the sole authority and entirely trustworthy in all matters of faith and godliness. It was delivered without error in the original manuscripts as the Holy Spirit worked through men (2 Tm 3.16-17; 2 Pt 1.20-21; 3.16; 1 Co 14.37-38; Heb 4.12; Jn 20.31).

The Trinity: We believe in the only true God, triune in nature, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; co-equal and co-eternal, three distinct persons, one God; sovereign over all creation, all knowing, all powerful, wholly sufficient, ever present, ever the same, just and right in all he does, and perfectly holy (Ex 31.13; Dt 4.32-39; Isa 40.10-28; 45.6; 57.15; Job 11.7; Mt 3.16-17; 28.19; Jn 14.16; Ac 5.4; Heb 1.1-3).

God the Father: We believe in God the Father, the loving initiator and sustainer in creation and salvation, the ultimate recipient of all glory, honor, and praise (Gn 3.15; 1 Co 8.5-6; 1 Pt 1.17; Eph 3.14-15; Ps 33.10-11; Isa 14.24-27; Heb 11.3).

God the Son: We believe in God the Son, who in obedience to the Father was born of the virgin Mary, becoming Jesus, fully man and fully God. He revealed the Father by living a sinless life as our substitute and perfect example, assumed the judgment due sinners by dying in our place, was bodily raised from the dead, ascended as Savior and Lord, and now intercedes for all believers (Mt 1.18-25; 28.1-10; Mk 16.12-13; Lk 1.34-35; 22.42; Ph 2.5-11; Col 2.9; 1 Co 15.3-8, 45; 1 Jn 3.4-5; Heb 4.15; 7.25).

Man: We believe God created man (male and female) in His image, yet through willful disobedience, when tempted by Satan, he fell from perfect harmony and unity with God, becoming a sinner by nature and bringing condemnation upon himself and all creation. As a result, mankind is hopelessly separated from God, continues to sin by choice, and is deserving of eternal death (Gn 1.26-28; 2.7-25; 3.1-24; Isa 6.4-6; Rm 3.10-23; 5.12-21; 7.18; 2 Th 1.9; 1 Jn 3.4).

Salvation: We believe that God out of His great love for mankind initiates salvation and by His sovereign election chooses to redeem and save by grace all who place their faith alone in Jesus' perfect sacrifice, dying in our place. Having received this salvation, we are declared righteous, become a new creation, children of God, called to be imitators of our Savior, confident that what God began in us he will surely complete (Jn 3.16-17; 1 Jn 4.9-10; Rm 5.8; 8.23-39; 9.10-18; 2 Co 5.18-21; Eph 1.4; 2.4-10; 5.1-4; Mk 13.20; Jn 10.27-29; Ph 3.21).

God the Holy Spirit: We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who has been at work throughout the ages. Today He restrains and convicts men of sin, imparts new life, permanently indwells the

believer, is the giver of gifts, reveals truth, empowers for godly service, and transforms the character of the Christian (Gn 1.2; 6.3; Ex 31.3; 2 Th 2.7; Ac 5.3; 16.6-11; 1 Co 2.10-11; 6.11; 2 Co 3.18; Isa 40.12-14; 63.10; Jn 16.7-11; Tt 3.5; Rm 8.9-11).

The Church: We believe the church is the worldwide body of Christ composed of all who have trusted Jesus as Savior. In its local expressions, believers are to meet regularly for the purpose of worship, prayer, fellowship, teaching, encouragement, service, discipline, participation in Baptism and the Lord's Table, sharing the Good News and making disciples (Ac 2.41-47; 1 Co 12; Heb 10.24-25; Tt 1.5; Ph 3.3; 1 Th 5.17; Tt 2.15; Gal 2.11; 2 Tm 4.2; Mt 28.18-20; 2 Co 5.18-20).

Satan: We believe in the existence of Satan, the evil deceiver who, along with other created angelic beings, fell from his original state and is now at work to thwart God's righteous purposes on earth. Though more powerful than man, Satan already stands defeated and condemned, thus believers can resist him through Christ's finished work on the cross (Eph 6.10-18; 1 Tm 3.6; Mt 25.41; Rv 12.4; 20.10; Ezk 28.16-18; Isa 14.12-15; 2 Co 4.3-4; Ga 5.16; Jas 4.7; 1 Pt 5.8-9).

Last Things: We believe in the victorious reign and imminent, visible, bodily return of Jesus Christ, who will judge all people with justice and mercy, giving the unrepentant over to eternal condemnation but receiving the redeemed into eternal life (Ac 1.11; 1 Th 4.13-18; 1 Co 15.51-54; Ph 3.18-21; Lk 16.19-31; Rv 20.11-15; 21.1-22; 2 Pt 3.10).

Proposed by the Elders

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