

The Garden Community
Church Covenant

Having been brought by God's grace to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and to give up ourselves for him, and having been baptized upon our profession of faith, we renew our covenant with each other.

We will work and pray for the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.¹

We will walk together in Christ-like love; exercise an affectionate care and watchfulness over each other and faithfully strengthen one another.²

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, nor neglect to pray for one another.³

We will work to bring up any who are under our care in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and by a pure and loving example, seek the Salvation of our friends and family.⁴

We will rejoice at each other's happiness and bear each other's burdens and sorrows.⁵

We will seek to live carefully in the world, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, and remember that we have been voluntarily buried by baptism and raised again from the symbolic grave, so there is on us a special obligation now to lead a new and holy life.⁶

We will faithfully continue the work of the church as we sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrine.⁷

We will contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.⁸

We will, when we move from this place, as soon as possible, unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

¹ Ephesians 4:3; Romans 14:19

² Hebrews 10:24; Galatians 6:1

³ Hebrews 10:25; I Thessalonians 1:1-2

⁴ Ephesians 6:4; Luke 14:23; Ephesians 6:19-20

⁵ Galatians 6:2

⁶ Philippians 1:27

⁷ Worship: Hebrews 10:25; Ordinances: Corinthians 11:23-26, Matthew 28:19-20; Discipline: I Corinthians 5:6-7, Matthew 18:15-17; Doctrine: Matthew 7:15, Hebrews 5:11-6:3 (See "Definitions" for further explanations)

⁸ I Corinthians 16:2; Leviticus 27:30; II Corinthians 9:6-15