



STATEMENT OF FAITH

THE BIBLE

We believe the Bible, consisting of only the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, to be the inerrant Word of God—every word of the original manuscripts having been breathed by God Himself and written by men moved by the Holy Spirit and spoken from God. As God's revelation, the Bible is understandable and fully sufficient as our ultimate authority for faith and practice. With the completion of the Scriptures, believers should now seek to know God's revealed will, as found in the pages of the Bible. Spiritual maturity and growth should be pursued through the ordinary means revealed in Scripture.⁽¹⁾

[Psalm 19:7-9](#) | [2 Timothy 3:15-17](#) | [2 Peter 1:2-4, 20, 21](#) | [Hebrews 4:12](#) | [Revelation 22:18-19](#)

GOD

We believe there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. All are identical in essence and equal in power, glory, attributes, and perfection.⁽²⁾

[Deuteronomy 6:4](#) | [Isaiah 45:5-7](#) | [Matthew 28:19](#) | [1 Corinthians 8:4](#) | [2 Corinthians 13:14](#)

We believe God the Father is the author of creation and the source of all things. He is the Head of Christ, the initiator of our salvation, the standard of holiness, and the designer of our redemption. As God, He is holy, righteous, good, loving and full of mercy. God the Father sovereignly controls the flow of human history and will personally bring it to fulfillment through the person of His Son, Jesus Christ.⁽³⁾

[Genesis 1:1-31](#) | [1 Chronicles 29:11](#) | [Psalm 103:19; 145:8-9](#) | [1 Corinthians 8:6; 11:3](#) | [Ephesians 1:3-5, 10](#)

We believe in the true deity and full humanity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His substitutionary and atoning death through His shed blood, in His by resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His promised personal return to earth in power and glory to reign as the King of kings.⁽⁴⁾

[Luke 1:26-35](#) | [John 1:1-5, 14; 5:21, 25; 10:30; 14:16-17](#) | [Romans 3:24-25; 6:5-10](#) | [Philippians 2:5-8](#) | [Colossians 1:15-17](#) | [1 Peter 1:18-21](#) | [Revelation 20:11-15](#)

We believe in the full deity of the Holy Spirit as eternal and coequal with the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, brings new life to those who were once spiritually dead, and baptizes (places) all believers into the one true universal Church. The Holy Spirit permanently indwells every believer beginning at the moment of salvation and seals them unto the day of their final redemption. The Holy Spirit gives spiritual gifts for ministering to others, guides believers in all truth, and empowers them to live in victory over sin.⁽⁵⁾

[John 3:3-8; 14:16-17; 16:7-13](#) | [Romans 8:9-11](#) | [1 Corinthians 12:7-14](#) | [Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:4-6, 30; 5:18](#)

MAN

We believe man was created in the image and likeness of God in innocence and without sin, with the power to will and to do that which is pleasing to God. Through Adam's voluntary transgression, all humanity has fallen and is in rebellion against God and is therefore spiritually dead and alienated from God.⁽⁶⁾

[Genesis 1:26; 3:1-24](#) | [Psalm 14:1-3](#) | [Jeremiah 17:9](#) | [John 1:12-13; 3:3-8](#) | [Romans 3:9-18, 23; 5:10-12; 8:6-8](#) | [Ephesians 2:1-3](#) | [Titus 3:4-7](#)

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within a person.⁽⁷⁾

[Genesis 1:26-28](#) | [Psalm 139:13-16](#)



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SALVATION

We believe that those who are saved are recreated spiritually, born again, as completely new creatures, resulting in the full forgiveness of sins and the liberty of holy living. Though indwelling sin remains a reality in every believer, we are to be led by the Holy Spirit, grow in the knowledge of the Lord, keep the Lord's commandments, and live in such a way that all may see our good works and thus glorify our Father who is in heaven.⁽⁸⁾

[Ezekiel 36:16–27](#) | [John 3:1–21; 14:15](#) | [Romans 6:17–18; 7:21–25; 8:1](#) | [2 Corinthians 5:11–19](#) | [Galatians 5:1](#) | [Titus 3:1–8](#) | [1 Peter 1:13–21](#)

We believe that those who are saved are pardoned of their sin and are given the promise of eternal life by virtue of the perfect righteousness of Christ that is freely given to us of God.⁽⁹⁾

[Romans 3:26; 4:6; 8:33](#) | [1 Corinthians 1:30](#) | [2 Corinthians 5:21](#) | [Colossians 2:13–14](#)

We believe salvation is eternal, and that God finishes the saving process without the threat of losing saving grace.⁽¹⁰⁾

[John 3:16–17; 10:27–30](#) | [Romans 8:31–39; 16:25](#) | [1 Corinthians 3:10–15](#) | [Ephesians 2:8–10](#) | [Ephesians 4:30](#) | [John 6:39](#) | [Philippians 1:6](#) | [1 John 5:13](#)

We believe salvation is wholly of God by grace through faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ, through the merit of His shed blood, and not on the basis of human merit or works. Salvation is given by God as a gift to those whom He has chosen before the foundation of the world and drawn to Himself through the work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit guides in repentance and gives the faith necessary to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and His completed work by His death, burial, and resurrection so that no one can boast.⁽¹¹⁾

[John 1:12; 16:7–11](#) | [Acts 11:18; 13:48](#) | [Romans 2:4; 6:23; 8:29](#) | [1 Corinthians 15:3–4](#) | [Ephesians 1:4,7; 2:8–10](#) | [Hebrews 10:12–14](#) | [1 Peter 1:18–19](#)

THE CHURCH

We believe that the Church is Christ's Body on this earth and is comprised of all true believers in Him throughout the world.⁽¹²⁾

[John 17:11–26](#) | [Ephesians 4:1–6](#)

We believe that the Church, whose Head is Christ Jesus her Lord, is to be led by biblically qualified men called elders, who are assisted in service by biblically qualified deacons. Properly appointed Elders are the "pastors/shepherds" of the Church. Elder selection is on the basis of character and calling.⁽¹³⁾

[Acts 14:23; 20:17–35](#) | [1 Timothy 3:1–13; 5:17–25](#) | [Titus 1:5–9](#) | [Hebrews 13:17](#) | [1 Peter 5:1–5](#)

We believe that true believers must not neglect the instruction, worship, sharing, and encouragement of the regular assembly in order to maintain spiritual growth and to encourage each other to continually look for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. These assemblies are to be characterized by corporate worship, biblical instruction, prayer, fellowship, baptism, and communion.⁽¹⁴⁾

[Acts 2:42–47](#) | [1 Corinthians 11:17–34; 12:1–14](#) | [Ephesians 4:1–16](#) | [1 Timothy 3:14–15](#) | [Hebrews 10:23–25](#) | [1 John 3:16–20](#)

We believe that the exercise of divinely granted spiritual gifts by each member of the Body is essential for attaining full spiritual maturity on behalf of all the members of this local church. Some gifts of the Spirit, while by no means outside of the Spirit's ability to empower, appear to no longer function to the same extent or degree they did in the early development of the church.⁽¹⁵⁾

[Romans 12:3–8](#) | [1 Corinthians 12:1–31](#) | [2 Corinthians 12:12](#) | [Galatians 5:13](#) | [Ephesians 2:20; 4:1–16](#) | [1 Peter 4:7–11](#)



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We believe that the members of the Church are responsible to live lives of holiness as salt and light in the world, and that individual believers are responsible for evangelizing those who are lost.⁽¹⁶⁾

[Matthew 5:13–16, 28:18–20](#) | [Acts 1:8](#) | [Ephesians 5:1–21](#) | [Titus 2:11–15](#) | [1 Peter 1:13–21](#) | [2 Peter 3:11–12](#)

We believe that the family is the foundational institution of both society and the Church, that children are a gift from the Lord, and that parents are first and foremost responsible for the spiritual education of their children. We believe, therefore, that the Church is a supporting and complementary entity in the process of training the next generation.⁽¹⁷⁾

[Genesis 1:26–28; 2:21–25](#) | [Deuteronomy 6:1–9](#) | [Psalm 78:1–7; 127:1–5](#) | [Ephesians 5:22–6:4](#) | [Colossians 3:18–21](#) | [2 Timothy 3:14–15](#)

We believe that the God of the Old and New Testaments teaches us that marriage is ordained by God as a physical and spiritual union between one man and one woman exclusively and that only such a union can be rightly blessed by the Church.⁽¹⁸⁾

[Genesis 1:26–28; 2:18–25; 5:1–2](#) | [Matthew 19:4–9](#) | [Ephesians 5:31–33](#) | [Revelation 19:7](#)

We believe that all who profess faith in Jesus Christ as Savior are to be water baptized as a public identification with Him. We also hold that the clearest portrayal of the significance of this baptism is the mode of immersion.⁽¹⁹⁾

[Matthew 28:18–20](#) | [Acts 2:41; 8:12,36–39; 10:44–48; 16:33](#) | [Romans 6:4–11](#)

We believe that participation in the Lord's Table, Communion, is the privilege and responsibility of all believers, and that it should be celebrated with regularity as a continual testimony to Christ's death and soon return to earth. We also hold that this celebration is open to all true believers.⁽²⁰⁾

[Acts 2:42](#) | [1 Corinthians 11:17–34](#)

THE END TIMES

We believe that God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly to judge all men in righteousness. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost —those who are saved to the resurrection of life in Heaven, and those who are lost to the resurrection of eternal damnation in Hell. A new redeemed heaven and earth will then come.⁽²¹⁾

[John 5:27–29; 6:39–40; 11:23–26](#) | [Romans 8:10–11,19–23](#) | [2 Corinthians 4:14](#) | [Revelation 20:13–15](#) | [1 Thessalonians 4:17, 5:2–9](#) | [Revelation 21:1–8; 22:6–21](#)