## **Grace Church of Orange**

## **Membership Commitment**

Having been brought by God's grace and mercy to repent of our sin and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation, and having been baptized upon our profession of faith, we seek to live out the following commitments we make before God and to one another as members of Grace Church of Orange:

We acknowledge that Jesus Christ is the head of His church and affirm our allegiance to Him, believing that His Word is the ultimate authority in every aspect of our lives and this church.<sup>1</sup>

We will seek to live holy lives empowered by the Holy Spirit, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts because sin no longer has dominion over us, walking in newness of life.<sup>2</sup>

We commit to be a Christ-centered community, intent on proclaiming the gospel, making disciples, and sacrificially serving Jesus, knowing that serving Jesus Christ is a greater privilege than anything the world has to offer.<sup>3</sup>

We affirm our responsibility for the continuing work of the ministry in this church, upholding the value of corporate worship, the observance of the ordinances, church discipline, and sound doctrine.<sup>4</sup>

We desire to gather regularly, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, or neglecting to pray for others, submitting ourselves to one another in the fear of Christ.<sup>5</sup>

We affirm our desire to weave our lives together in brotherly love, rejoicing with those who rejoice, and with tenderness and sympathy bearing the burdens and sorrows of those who weep.<sup>6</sup>

We will seek to live peaceably with all people as far as it depends on us, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, dealing biblically with any conflicts that arise, putting the welfare of others before our own.<sup>7</sup>

We affirm our desire to contribute cheerfully to the support of the ministry, using the resources and spiritual gifts God has given us to bless the members of this local church and advance the gospel to the ends of the earth.<sup>8</sup>

We will joyfully submit ourselves to our elders, who are called to keep watch over our souls, trusting that God has placed them in positions of leadership as humble, imperfect shepherds for our good.<sup>9</sup>

If God leads us to move from here, we will seek counsel from our elders, addressing any issues lovingly, and unite as soon as possible with another church where we can live out the spirit of these commitments with fellow believers.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Colossians 1:18; 2 Timothy 3:16 <sup>2</sup>Romans 6:4–14 <sup>3</sup>Colossians 1:18; Matthew 28:18–20 <sup>4</sup>Acts 2:42–47; Titus 2:1 <sup>5</sup>Hebrews 10:25 <sup>6</sup> Romans 12:15; Galatians 6:2
<sup>7</sup> Romans 12:18; Philippians 2:3
<sup>8</sup> 1 Corinthians 9:6–15
<sup>9</sup> Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 5:5
<sup>10</sup> Proverbs 12:15; 19:20; 24:6