

Members' Statement Of Faith

1. The Scriptures

We believe that the scriptures, which consist of 39 Old Testament books and 27 New Testament books, are the very inspired words of God. Since the Bible is God's word and is without error, it is the supreme authority and is sufficient for all of life and godliness. Through his word and by His Spirit, God reveals his redemptive purposes and how one can be saved through Jesus Christ.

2. The Trinity

We believe that the one true and living God exists as three distinct persons, yet one being, who is infinitely perfect in all his attributes. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are each fully and completely God, yet God is one. Each divine person executes distinct but harmonious roles in creation, providence, and redemption.

3. God The Father

We believe that God, the Almighty Father, is the creator of Heaven and Earth. Having created all things out of nothing, he upholds and governs them in accord with his eternal purposes. He works throughout history to redeem his people and restore all creation under Christ. He is infinite and personal, glorious in all his perfections and worthy of our honour, confidence, and love.

4. Jesus Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, took on flesh, and was born of the Virgin Mary. He is truly God and truly man. He led a perfect life in complete obedience to the Father. Jesus suffered and was crucified under Pontius Pilate as a substitutionary sacrifice to reconcile to God all who would trust in Him alone. He was buried and on the third day rose from the dead. He ascended to the heavens and is now seated at the right hand of God where he lives forever to intercede for his people. He will return to judge both the living and the dead and to bring about the kingdom of God in the new heavens and the new earth. Jesus is the only true mediator between God and man.

5. The Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the Lord and giver of life. Through the proclamation of the gospel he persuades men and women to trust in the mercy of God, brings about the new birth and dwells within them to bear the fruit of the Spirit in their lives. He imparts gifts for the edification of the Church and for various works of ministry in the world. He continues to give spiritual gifts to his Church and they are to be earnestly desired and practiced.

6. Mankind

We believe that God made mankind as male and female, equally in the image of God. In view of this, marriage is given by God to be between male and female as a picture of Christ and the Church. The first people, Adam and Eve, rebelled against God. All mankind, as a result of being descendants of Adam, are inwardly depraved and utterly incapable of returning to God on their own. Their depravity is radical and pervasive so that all people are lost and without hope apart from salvation in Christ.

7. The Gospel

We believe that the Gospel is God's good news for sinners centred upon the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The person and work of Jesus is the only way by which sinners can be reconciled to a Holy God. God so loved the world in rebellion against him that He gave his Son, so that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Through this gospel, sinners are saved from the wrath of God by the grace of God for the glory of God.

8. Salvation

We believe that salvation is the free gift of God and is provided by grace alone, through faith alone, because of Christ alone, for the glory of God alone. This salvation is made possible by Christ who by becoming our substitute, appeased the wrath of God, redeemed us from the bondage to sin, and reconciled us to God. Those whom God has predestined, he also called through his Word and Spirit, giving the believer a change of heart and an inclination towards holiness. As a result, the sinner responds in faith and repentance towards God. When a sinner trusts in Christ, God freely forgives his sins and declares him righteous.

9. Sanctification

We believe that sanctification is the process by which the Holy Spirit renews our hearts and minds and conforms us to the image of Christ, producing fruit which is pleasing to God. We endeavour to live in such a way that all people may see our good works and glorify our Father who is in heaven. The spiritual disciplines, especially Bible study, prayer, worship and confession, both corporately and individually, are a vital means of grace for our Christian growth and perseverance until the end.

10. Church

We believe that the Church universal is made up of God's people who have believed in the Gospel, drawn from every nation throughout all the ages of which Christ is the head. The Church exists to worship and glorify the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We also believe it is God's will that the universal Church finds expression in local churches to which members are devoted: studying, applying and proclaiming the word of God; celebrating the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper; teaching and building one another up in love; making disciples of Christ; witnessing to the lost; and reaching the nations for Christ; under biblically qualified leaders.

11. Ordinances

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local church: baptism and the Lord's Supper. Baptism is the initiation rite that signifies the entry into the covenant community of God. In accordance with the scriptures, baptism should be performed in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Lord's Supper is an ongoing ordinance where believers are assured of God's love, demonstrate their dependence on Jesus and express unity in Christ. Believers eat bread and drink the fruit of the vine to remember the atoning work of the Redeemer and anticipate his second coming.

12. Consummation

We believe that the Consummation of all things includes the visible, personal, physical and glorious return of Jesus Christ; the resurrection of the dead; the receiving of glorious bodies for all who are in Christ; the judgment of the just and the unjust; and the fulfilment of Christ's kingdom in the new heavens and the new earth. All those outside Christ will be given over to eternal punishment, but the righteous shall be made perfect in holiness and reign with Christ forever.