



## Statement of Faith

We believe that the Scriptures comprised of 66 books contain the only written revelation, given by the Holy Spirit to human authors. The Word of God is free from errors in the original manuscripts, constituting the only infallible and sufficient rule for life and godliness. (Psalm 19:7-9; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21; 3:16).

We believe that there is one true and living God, perfect in all attributes, one in essence, yet eternally existing in three persons (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) each equally deserving of devotion and worship. (Deuteronomy 6:4; John 20:28; Acts 5:3-4; Romans 11:36; Colossians 2:9).

We believe that the eternally existing Son of God came in time and space to take on flesh. Fully God and yet fully man, He was without sin. In perfect righteousness He came to fulfill the offices of Prophet, Priest, and King. He was crucified, buried, and raised to life. He ascended to heaven where He is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Luke 14:25-26; 22:69; John 1:1-3, 14; Acts 3:20-23; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Philippians 2:6-8; Hebrews 4:15; 5:5-6).

We believe that man and woman were directly created by God in His image and likeness. Though originally free from sin, mankind fell and rebelled, resulting in death. All the offspring of Adam and Eve are then born sinful and morally wicked in nature, actions, and will, unable to wake themselves to spiritual life and to do good without God's spiritual intervention. (Genesis 1:27; 2-7; 3:1-13; Ecclesiastes 7:29; Romans 3:11; 5; 12-21; 8:7-8; Ephesians 2:1-8).

We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life. (Job 10:11; Ps. 51:5; Ps. 119:73; Ps. 139:13-16; Is. 44:24; Jer.1:5)

We believe that God created human beings in two embodied sexual kinds—male and female (Gen. 1:26-27). We believe that God designed marriage to be the uniting of one man and one woman, in a complementary, exclusive, and permanent union until parted by death. We believe

that it is sinful to engage in any sexual activity outside the joyful confines of this biblical definition of marriage, including, but not limited to adultery, fornication, sexual abuse, and the use of pornography. We believe it is sinful to intentionally alter or present oneself in willful rejection of one's God-designated biological sex from conception. (Gen. 2:18, 24; Deut 22:5; Ps. 51; Mat. 5:19; 19:4-6; Acts 15:29; Rom. 1:24-27; 1 Cor. 5:11; 6:13; 7:39; Gal. 5:19; Eph. 5:3; Col 3:5; 1 Thes. 4:3; Heb. 13:4).

We believe that the cross of Christ is the only means by which we can be made right with God, whereby God provides substitutionary righteousness on the basis of Christ's righteousness and atoning death. His righteousness is received on our behalf through faith alone, by Christ alone, excluding any and all good works of our own. (1 Corinthians 15:3; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Philemon 3:9; Romans 5:6; 18-19; Galatians 2:21; Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 8:31-34; Acts 11:18).

We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells all believers. He, likewise, convicts of sin, increases desires for righteousness and obedience, leads in truth, brings assurance, empowers, and gives spiritual gifts to the church. Therefore, true believers grow in grace and knowledge and are completely and eternally kept by the power of God. (John 14:16-18; 16:4, 7-11, 14; Acts 1:8; 4:31; 16:14; Romans 8:16; Philippians 1:6; 2:12-13; 1 Thessalonians 1:5; Jude 24-25).

We believe that believers comprise the Church and are one Body, having Christ as their Lord, God's glory as their aim, and the proclamation of His gracious forgiveness as their mission. This Body is manifested in local congregations that seek to represent His spiritual Body, the universal church, with baptism, teaching, fellowship, prayer, discipline, and the Lord's Supper. We believe that the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper are to be administered to believing, regenerate Christians. (Matthew 18:15-20; 28:19-20; Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 10:31; 11:23-26; 12:4-7; Galatians 6:1; Ephesians 4:11-12; Colossians 1:18; 2 Timothy 4:1-3).

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the dead, some to life and righteous rest with God, others to darkness and judgment. We believe that Christ will return in glory to gather His church to Himself. This is the blessed hope for the believer. (Matthew 24:31; 25:46; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17; 2 Timothy 4:1).

We believe in a literal heaven and hell, and that all men will either spend eternity under God's just and holy judgment or in His glorious presence. (Mark 9:43-48; 2 Thessalonians 1:9; Revelation 21).