



COMMUNITY  
COVENANT  
CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF FAITH

### Basic Beliefs

#### ***The Bible: God Speaks***

The Bible is God's word written by men under the inspiration of God's Spirit. The Bible is infallible, authoritative and sufficient.

#### ***Trinity: God Is***

There is one true God who exists in a communal relationship of three distinct persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He created all things, and everything exists through His power and for His glory.

#### ***Fall: Man Separated***

When God created the world, He declared it "good," but human beings rebelled against God and, consequently, were alienated from Him. As a result, humanity is inherently sinful by both birth and action. This fractured relationship with God continues to perpetuate sin, death, and brokenness in our world.

#### ***Incarnation: God Comes***

Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem in 1<sup>st</sup> century Palestine. He is the eternal Son of God and the second Person of the Trinity.

We affirm the following about Jesus Christ:

He was fully God and fully man.

His virgin birth.

His sinless life amidst numerous trials and testing.

His teachings and miracles demonstrated His love, compassion, and divinity.

His establishment of the Kingdom of God on earth.

His sacrificial death for the atonement of sin.

His bodily resurrection from the dead overcame the power of evil and defeated death.

His ascension to heaven where He is seated at the right hand of the Father.

His eventual personal return in power and glory.

### ***Gospel: God Restores***

Man's rebellion and alienation from God demands a punishment. Jesus Christ died on a cross as our substitute and took the punishment on Himself in our place—He substituted Himself for us and took what we rightly deserved. The only hope for human beings to be reconciled to God and experience true life and joy is to turn away from their sin and turn to faith in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. There is no other way to salvation except through repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ alone. The inward evidence of salvation is a direct witness of the Spirit. The outward evidence is a life of increasing righteousness.

### ***Church: God Sends***

The Church is the community of all true believers for all time, which includes the visible Church as those who currently profess faith in Christ and give evidence of that faith in their lives, as well as the invisible Church, which is the Church as God sees it—consisting of all believers' past, present, and future.

### ***Kingdom: God Reigns***

Jesus established the Kingdom of God at his first coming and will consummate the Kingdom of God at his second coming. All those who live under the rule and reign of God are citizens of God's Kingdom as servants of their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

### ***Final Judgment: Christ the Judge***

At his second coming the dead will be raised and Jesus Christ will judge all people. Those who are His will be rewarded with eternity in heaven; those who are not will be separated from God for all eternity in hell. He will usher in His New Creation (New Heaven and New Earth) restoring all things to God's original intent. There will be a physical resurrection of the dead and all things will flourish as God intended.

## **Statement on Marriage and Sexuality**

Though various cultures and customs have evolving definitions of marriage and sexuality, it is God alone who has the ultimate authority to describe and prescribe the basis of human flourishing (Genesis 2.24, Matthew 19.1-9, Mark 10.1-12).

The Church regards any and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography, or even lustful intent toward such, as sinful and ultimately unsatisfying.

Moreover, the Church also regards as sinful the intent or desires to identify or surgically alter one's biological sex to a different sex. Since the body is a creation of God the Church holds sexual identity to be biologically determined, and associated gender norms are to be observed as appropriate biblical standards.

This subsection specifically gives the Church the right and authority to prohibit acts or omissions, including but not limited to permitting any church assets or property, whether real, personal, intangible, or any property or asset of any kind that is subject to the direction or control of the Church, to be used in any manner that would be – or, in the sole determination of the Elders, could be perceived by any person to be – inconsistent with this statement; and permitting any Church facilities to be used by any person, organization, corporation, or group that would or might use such facilities to convey, intentionally, or by implication, what might be perceived as a favorable impression about any definition of marriage other than that contained in this section.

The Church's statement on Marriage and Sexuality shall not be subject to change through popular vote, referendum, prevailing opinion of members or the general public, influence of or interpretation by any government authority, agency, or official action, or legal developments on the local, state, or federal level.