



## STATEMENT OF FAITH

### **Section 1. The Scriptures**

We believe the Bible, the Holy Scriptures of the Old Testament and the New Testament, is the inspired and authoritative Word of God, true and trustworthy, never failing, without error, and sufficient to instruct us in living faithful and godly lives.

*Ex. 24:4; Deut. 4:1-2; Ps. 119:11; Is. 40:8; Matt. 5:17-18; Rom. 15:4; 16:25-26; 2 Tim. 3:15-17; 2 Pet. 1:19-21.*

### **Section 2. God**

We believe there is only one God who reveals Himself to be the Triune God – God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. God is infinite in His holiness and perfect in all His attributes.

- A. God the Father reigns over all of His creation and works throughout history to accomplish His purposes. He is all powerful, all knowing, all loving and all wise.
- B. Christ is God the eternal Son who, in the incarnation, was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin, Mary. Christ is one person with two natures: He is both fully God and fully man. He lived a perfect, sinless life, died a substitutionary death on the cross, and arose from the dead. Through His death, He made provision to redeem man from sin. Through His resurrection, He was victorious over death.
- C. The Holy Spirit is the divine Spirit of God. He inspired men to write the Scriptures. He convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He illuminates people to understand God's truth, regenerates the saved, comforts believers, bestows spiritual gifts, and helps the believer in spiritual growth.

*Gen. 1:1-2; 2:7; Ex. 3:14; Deut. 6:4; Ps. 19:1-3; Jer. 10:10; Matt. 23:9; John 5:26; 1 Cor. 8:6; Eph. 4:5; Heb. 11:6; 1 John 4:7-8; Is. 7:14; 53; Matt. 27-28; Mark 1:1, 9-11; Luke 1:35; John 1:1-18; Rom. 3:23-26, 5:6-21; Gal. 4:4-6; Col. 1:13-22; 2:9; Heb. 9:12-15, 24-28; Rev. 5:9-14; Joel 2:28-32; Matt. 1:18; Acts 1:7-8; Rom. 8:9-11, 14-16, 26-27; 1 Cor. 2:10-14; 12:3-11; Eph. 1:13-14; 1 Tim. 3:16; 1 John 4:13.*

### **Section 3. Salvation**

We believe man was created male and female in the image of God. The sin of Adam, the first man, marred that image, creating an eternal divide between God and man. Every person is born into sin and also has chosen to sin against a holy God with the result being impending judgment and eternal separation from God. Each and every person is in need of forgiveness and salvation.

We believe the only way a person can have a true, forgiven, and reconciled relationship with God is through Jesus Christ's sacrifice on the cross. Our right standing with God is made sure because of His literal, physical resurrection.

## *STATEMENT OF FAITH Continued*

We believe God offers eternal life as a free gift and that it must be received by faith alone through God's grace alone. The life that comes from this gift is a permanent possession of the one receiving it. There is no salvation apart from faith in Jesus Christ as Lord. One's salvation is evidenced through repentance and the bearing of spiritual fruit.

*Gen. 1:26-30; 2-3; Matt. 1:21; 4:17; John 3:14-21; Acts. 2:21; Rom. 1:16-32; 3:23-25; 6:1-23; 10:9-13; 2 Cor. 5:17-20; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 1:7; 2:8-22; Phil. 2:5-13; James 2:14-26; 1 John 1:6-2:11.*

### **Section 4. The Church**

We believe the church of the Lord Jesus Christ is a local body of believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel, on mission to enlarge God's kingdom. The New Testament teaches that the church is also the Body of Christ which includes all redeemed people of all the ages, believers from every tribe, language, people and nation. We believe that believer's baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper are the two ordinances of the church given by our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Matt. 16:15-19; 18:15-20; Acts 2:41-47; Rom. 1:7; 12; Eph. 2:19-22; 1 Tim. 3:1-15; Heb. 10:24-25; 1 Pet. 5:1-4; Rev. 2-3; 7:9-10; 21:2-3.*

### **Section 5. Last Things**

We believe in the literal, physical return of Jesus to judge the living and the dead. In His own time and in His own way, God will bring this world to an appropriate end. At the Consummation, all of creation will be restored and reconciled with Creator God.

*Is. 2:4; 11:9; Matt. 16:27; 24:27-44; Luke 12:40; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:11; Rom. 14:10; 1 Cor. 15:24-58; 2 Cor. 5:10; 1 Thess. 4:14-18; 2 Tim. 4:1, 8; Heb. 9:27-28; 2 Pet. 3:7-13; Rev. 20:1-22:13.*

### **Section 6. Baptist Faith & Message**

We affirm the confessions of faith contained in the Baptist Faith & Message 1963 and 2000 versions.