



Statement of faith

Our Mission

To glorify God and prepare for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ through teaching the Bible, fellowship, breaking of bread, prayer and sharing the gospel.

What We Believe

BIBLE

The Bible is the inspired Word of God; it is without error in the original writings and is of supreme and final authority in all matters of faith and practice. (2 Timothy 3:16 & 17; 1 Corinthians 2:13; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:19-21; Hebrews 4:12 & 13; Psalm 119:89.)

GOD

There is one God, Creator of all things, perfect, holy, eternally existent in three equal Persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God is gracious, merciful, compassionate, abounding in steadfast love. (Matthew 28:19; John 1:18; Ephesians. 4:6; Hebrews 9:14.)

JESUS CHRIST

The Lord Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man. Scripture declares His virgin birth, sinless life, atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension and future return. (1 Timothy 2:5 & 6, & 3:16; Luke 1:34 & 35, & 24:39; Hebrews 4:14-16; 1 Peter 2:22 & 24; 1 John 2:1 & 3:5; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 5:19; 1 Corinthians 15:1-9; Ephesians 1:20; Revelation 19:11-16.)

HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, regenerates and dwells in the true believer, making him alive and empowering him in all his life and service. The Holy Spirit gives each Christian at least one spiritual gift to serve others, for the building up of the body of Christ and the outworking of God's love towards us, thus showing God's love to the world through us. (Rom. 12:6-8; Ephesians 4:11-12; 1 Corinthians 12:6-11 & 28-31; Hebrews 2:4; 1 Corinthians 6:19 & 12:13; Ephesians 1:13 & 14, & 4:30; Romans 8:9 & 11; Galatians 5:16, 22 & 23; John 16:7-15.)

MANKIND

Through Adam and Eve humanity was created in the image and likeness of God equal before God as persons and distinct as male and female as determined by male and female anatomy at birth. Through Adam's wilful sin, humanity fell and died spiritually. In this way spiritual death and a depraved sin nature has been transmitted to the entire human race. Every human being born into the world has a nature which does not possess divine life but is sinful and unchangeable apart from the grace of God found in Jesus Christ. All believers in Jesus Christ, whether male or female, are full members of the

body of Christ enjoying complete equality in person-hood, dignity and worth. (Genesis 1:26-28 & 2:16 & 17, & 3:1-24; Isaiah 59:1 & 2; Psalm 51:5; Romans 5:12 & 19; Romans 3:23; Acts. 4:12.)

SALVATION

No one can enter the kingdom of God unless born again. This involves confession, repentance and faith by each individual. Redemption is wholly by the blood of Christ shed on the cross and salvation is by grace alone through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Each born again person will have their hope fulfilled possessing eternal life with the Lord, an eternal life that can never be lost. (John 3:7, 8 & 16; 1 Peter 1:18-23; Acts 3:19; Ephesians 2:8 & 9; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 3:24-26.)

RESURRECTION AND FUTURE EVENTS

One of the great coming events in the fulfillment of prophecy concerning the church is the personal, bodily return of the Lord to remove from the earth his waiting church and to reward them according to their works. Another future event is the seven year period of tribulation during which the judgments of God will be poured out upon the unbelieving world. These judgments will climax with the return of Christ in glory to the earth. He will destroy His enemies and restore Israel to the land formally promised to Abraham. Christ will then establish His thousand-year kingdom in which the saints will reign with Him over Israel and all the nations of the earth. At the close of the thousand-year reign the unsaved dead will be raised and committed to eternal punishment and the saved will enter the eternal state of glory with God. (I Corinthians 15:3-4; II Corinthians 5:15; John 5:28-29; I Corinthians 15:51-53; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 20:12-15)

CHURCH

The Church, which was established at Pentecost, is the body of Christ consisting of all Christians, with the Lord Jesus Christ as the head. The local church is part of the universal Church and by the leading of the Spirit gathers believers to worship in prayer, fellowship, song, partaking of the Lord's supper and studying and maintaining the truth of the Word of God, which edifies and encourages us as we individually or collectively evangelize. It is the local church's responsibility to exercise discipline of any member living in unrepentant sin. We believe that church leadership should consist of a plurality of church elders. The Church is not a replacement but is separate and distinct from Israel. (Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5:1-13; Acts 11:15,16; 1 Corinthians 12:12,13; Ephesians 2:19-22; Ephesians 1:22 & 23; 1 Cor. 12:12-27; Acts 2:42.)

LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's supper is the remembrance of the Lord's death. It is the privilege and responsibility of every believer to heed the Lord's request: "This do in remembrance of Me." The Lord's Supper was observed by the early church on the first day of the week. There are two requirements that should be met before a person partakes of the supper. First, a person must be a Christian. Second, Christians should individually examine themselves for unconfessed sin. No person who gives a credible confession of faith is to be refused participation in the communion of our Lord unless that person wilfully persists in sin, in dissemination of false doctrine, in creating schism, or is being disciplined by another assembly for these practices. Under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, believers are free to exercise their common priesthood to remember and worship their Lord. (Acts 2:42 & 46 & 20:7; Luke 22:15-22; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Matt. 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 10:16 & 17; 1 Peter 2:9; Matthew 5:23,24; 1 Corinthians 11:28-32)

MAN AND WOMAN IN THE CHURCH

God created men and women in his image and are equal. We believe that in the church both men and women should use their spiritual gifts. God designed men and women to work in partnership as brothers and sisters but with some different roles, for example in the local church, men may teach the Scriptures and serve as elders. (Genesis 1:27; 1 Timothy 2:11-12; Titus 2:4, Rom 12:6-8)

MARRIAGE

We believe that marriage was designed by God as a union between one man and one woman and is meant to symbolize the love between Christ and his bride the church. We believe that God's revealed will for all people is chastity outside of marriage and fidelity within marriage. (Genesis 2:23-24; Ephesians 5:25.)

BAPTISM

We believe that every believer should take the name of Christ publicly through water baptism. (Romans. 6:1-13; Colossians. 2:12; Matthew. 28:19; Galatians 3:27; Acts 2:41.)

CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of all Christians to:

- love God, fellow Christians, and their neighbours;
- to worship God in spirit and in truth;
- to study the Scriptures;
- and pray continually in order to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ in daily living.

Christians are to be filled with the Spirit, to be fruitful, to share the good news of salvation through Christ, and to encourage one another in faith, and expectation of the coming of our Lord. They are to be the salt and light of the earth, demonstrating God's righteousness and compassion. (John 4:23-24 & 15:17; Luke 10:27; 2 Timothy 2:15; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Ephesians 5:18-21; Galatians 5:22-26; Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Titus 2:11-15; Matthew 5:13-16.)