

**Statement of Faith**  
**[According to the Categories of Systematic Theology]**  
Ratified by the Church Membership on January 30, 2022

**A. The Holy Scriptures**

We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the verbally inspired Word of God,<sup>1</sup> without error in the original writings,<sup>2</sup> infallible when properly handled,<sup>3</sup> and the final authority for faith and life.<sup>4</sup>

(1) 2 Tim. 3:15-17; (2) Ps. 12:6; (3) 2 Tim. 2:14-18; (4) Ps. 119:105; Prov. 6:23; 2 Tim. 3:15-17; Rev. 22:18, 19

**B. The Godhead**

We believe in one Triune God, Creator of all things, eternally existing in three persons — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — co-eternal in being, co-identical in nature, co-equal in power and glory, and having the same attributes and perfections. The Triune God performs distinct, but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence, and redemption.

Deut. 6:4; Matt. 28:19; 1 Cor. 12:4-6; 2 Cor. 13:14; Eph. 2:18-20

**C. The Father**

We believe the distinguishing quality of the Father in contrast to the Son and Holy Spirit is found in the economy of the Tri-unity. Their economy describes the manner in which they relate to one another. In the functioning of the Trinity, the Father is said to send the Son<sup>1</sup> and together they send the Spirit.<sup>2</sup>

(1) John 3:16, 17; 1 John 4:14; (2) John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7

**D. The Son**

We believe the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man, without ceasing to be God,<sup>1</sup> conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary,<sup>2</sup> in order that He might reveal God to humanity<sup>3</sup> and redeem sinful humanity from sin.<sup>4</sup> We believe the Lord Jesus Christ ascended to heaven,<sup>5</sup> and is now exalted at the right hand of God,<sup>6</sup> where, as our High Priest<sup>7</sup>, He fulfills the ministry of Representative,<sup>8</sup> Intercessor, and Advocate,<sup>9</sup> who mediates before the Father in our behalf.<sup>10</sup>

(1) John 1:1-2, 14; (2) Luke 1:34-35; (3) John 14:9; Col. 1:15; Heb. 1:3; (4) Matt. 1:21; Gal. 4:4-5; (5) Acts 1:9-11; (6) Col. 3:1; Heb. 1:3; Rom. 8:34; (7) Heb. 2:17-18; 4:14-16; (8) Romans 5:12-21 (9) Heb. 7:25; Rom. 8:34; 1 John 2:1-2; (10) 1 Tim. 2:5

**E. The Holy Spirit**

We believe the Holy Spirit is a person [i.e. self-identifying and relational] who convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, of judgment,<sup>1</sup> and that He is the Supernatural Agent in regeneration,<sup>2</sup> indwelling and abiding in them individually<sup>3</sup> and corporately.<sup>4</sup> The Holy Spirit along with Jesus advocates and intercedes for His people,<sup>5</sup> sovereignly bestowing all spiritual gifts for the good of the Church,<sup>6</sup> and sealing all believers unto the day of redemption.<sup>7</sup>

(1) John 16:7-15; (2) Titus 3:4-7; (3) Rom. 8:1-11; (4) Eph. 2:22; (5) Romans 8:26-39; Heb. 7:23-28; 1 John 2:1, 2 (6) 1 Cor. 12:1-11 (7) Eph. 1:13, 14

**F. The Sin of Humanity**

We believe humanity was created in the image and likeness of God,<sup>1</sup> but that in Adam's sin humanity fell,<sup>2</sup> inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God.<sup>3</sup> Moreover, humanity is in total rebellion against God, and of himself utterly unable to remedy his lost condition.<sup>4</sup>

(1) Gen. 1:26-27; (2) Rom. 5:12-21; (3) Eph. 2:11, 12; (4) Rom. 3:10-18; Eph. 2:1-3

**G. Salvation**

We believe the Lord Jesus Christ as the fulfillment of the Seed Promise,<sup>1</sup> accomplished our redemption through His perfect obedience<sup>2</sup> and voluntary substitutionary death on the cross.<sup>3</sup> In so doing, He completed the Blood Picture.<sup>4</sup> He made the forgiveness of our sins<sup>5</sup> sure by His physical resurrection from the dead.<sup>6</sup> We believe that salvation (justification, sanctification, and glorification) is the gift of God brought to man by grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>7</sup>

(1) Gen. 3:15; Gal. 3:16; (2) Rom. 3:19-26; 8:1-4; (3) 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Pet. 2:24; (4) Gen. 3:21; Matt. 26:28; 1 Peter 1:19; 1 John 1:7; Rev. 12:11 (5) Rom. 3:24-25; 4:25 (6) 1 Pet. 1:3-5; (7) John 1:12, 13; Eph. 2:8-10

**H. The Church**

We believe the church is the body<sup>1</sup> and the espoused bride of Christ<sup>2</sup> and is represented through the gathering of local churches with Christ as the head.<sup>3</sup> We believe the Church has been tasked with the ministry of reconciliation to proclaim the Gospel<sup>4</sup> both near and far<sup>5</sup> for the gathering and perfecting of the saints in this present age<sup>6</sup> and is God's means of spreading His glory globally.<sup>7</sup>

(1) 1 Cor. 12:12-14; (2) 2 Cor. 11:2; (3) Eph. 1:22, 23; (4) 2 Cor. 5:18, 19; (5) Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8 (6) Eph. 4:11-16; (7) Acts 2:1-13, 41-47

**I. Satan**

We believe Satan is a created being and the first angel to fall.<sup>1</sup> He is the open and declared enemy of God and humanity.<sup>2</sup> He was judicially defeated at Christ's death and resurrection,<sup>3</sup> and that he shall be eternally punished in the Lake of Fire.<sup>4</sup>

(1) Gen. 3:1; Isa. 14:12-17; Luke 10:18; (2) Job 1:6-7; Rev. 13:7; (3) Col. 2:15; Heb. 2:14; (4) Rev. 20:10

**J. The Coming of Christ**

We believe we are in the last days,<sup>1</sup> and the return of Jesus is imminent.<sup>2</sup> When He does return, He will come to judge the living and the dead<sup>3</sup> at which time death, the last enemy, will be defeated.<sup>4</sup> At that time, He will turn everything over to the Father, so that "God will be all in all."<sup>5</sup>

(1) 1 John 2:18-20; (2) James 5:7-9; (3) Acts 10:42; 17:31; 2 Tim. 4:1; (4) 1 Cor. 15:20-28; (5) 1 Cor. 15:28

**K. The Eternal State**

We believe in the bodily resurrection of all humanity; the saved to eternal life and the unsaved to everlasting punishment.

Matt. 25:31-46; John 5:28-29; 1 Thess. 4:13-5:10