



TRUE LIFE CHURCH

LOVE:LIVE:GIVE

OUR CONFESSION

We embrace the beliefs of the historic Christian church as declared in the Bible and practiced in the ancient church.

1. We believe the Bible is God’s timeless Word to us and is relevant to our lives today.

The Bible – We believe in the inspiration of the Bible, both the Old and New Testaments. We also believe that it is inerrant (i.e. totally true), sufficient and authoritative over our community. The Bible is the foundation for all of our faith and practice.

“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness” 2 Timothy 3:16

Deuteronomy 4:2; 17:19; Psalm 12:6; 19:7-10; 119:11,89,105,140,160; Proverbs 30:5; Isaiah 34:16; 40:8; Jeremiah 15:16; Matthew 5:17-19; Luke 17:17; 21:33; 24:44-46; Romans 15:4; 16:25-27; Hebrews 1:1-2; 4:12; 1 Peter 1:25; 2 Peter 1:19-21.

2. We believe in one God who exists eternally as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Godhead – We believe in one true and living God who exists eternally as three Persons: the Father, the Son, which is Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. All three Persons are of the same essence and have the same divine attributes, but are distinct Persons with distinct roles.

“Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!” Deuteronomy 6:4

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations; baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,” Matthew 28:19

“Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; from now on you know Him, and have seen Him.’ Philip said to Him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.’ Jesus said to Him, ‘Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the

Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; otherwise believe because of the works themselves. Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father. Whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.” John 14:6-13

Genesis 1:2, 26; 3:22; 11:7; Exodus 3:2-6; Judges 13:2-22; Nehemiah 9:20; Psalm 139:7
Isaiah 6:8; 48:16b; 63:10-14; Matthew 3:13-17; Acts 2:32-36; Romans 14:17-18; 15:16;

1 Corinthians 2:2-5; 6:11; 12:4-6; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22; 13:14; Ephesians 1:1-14; 2:18;
3:16-19; 4:4-6; Colosians 1:6-8; 1 Thessalonians 1:3-5; 2 Thessalonians 2:13.

3. We believe that we are created for the Father’s glory.

The Person and the work of the Father – We believe the Father glorifies Himself through redemption by adopting sinners and restoring them to the purpose for which they were created, i.e. worship.

“But now, O LORD, You are our Father, we are the clay, and You are the potter; and all of us are the work of Your hand.” Isaiah 64:8

“yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things and we exist for Him . . .” 1 Corinthians 8:6

Genesis 1:1; Exodus 3:14; 6:2-3; Deuteronomy 6:4; 32:6; 1 Chronicles 29:10; Isaiah 43:3, 15; Jeremiah 10:10; Matthew 6:9; 7:11; 23:9; John 4:24; 5:26; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 4:6; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 12:9; 1 Peter 1:17; 1 John 5:7.

4. We believe that Jesus’ death, burial and resurrection are essential for the forgiveness of sin.

The Person and work of Jesus Christ – We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the one and only Son of God, though eternal with the Father, was born of the Virgin Mary. Being fully God and fully man, without any diminishment of either nature, he lived a sinless life, was crucified, buried, raised from the dead and presently sits at the Father’s right hand. One day he will return to judge both the living and the dead and to establish his Father’s kingdom. His work accomplished our salvation for the Father’s glory.

“But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His son, born of woman, born under the Law, so that he might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.” Galatians 4:4-5

“For in Him all fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form.” Colossians 2:9

“For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen

asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall always be with the Lord.” 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17

Psalm 2:7-12; Isaiah 7:14; 53; Matthew 1:18-23; 3:17; 8:29; 11:27; 14:33; 16:16, 27; 17:5; Mark 1:1; 3:11; Luke 1:35; 4:41; 22:70; John 1:1-18, 29; 10:30, 10:38; 11:27; 12:44-50; 16:15, 28; 17:1-5, 21-22; 20:28; Acts 1:9; 2:22-24; 7:55-56; 9:4-5, 20; Romans 1:3-4; 3:23-26; 5:6-21; 8:1-3, 34; 10:4; 1 Corinthians 8:6; 15:1-8; 15:24-28;

2 Corinthians 5:19-21; Ephesians 1:20; 3:11; 4:7-10; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:13-22; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 3:16; Titus 2:13-14; Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:14-15; 9:12-15, 24-28; 12:2; 13:8; 1 Peter 2:21-25; 3:22; 1 John 4:14-15; 5:9; Revelation 1:13-18; 5:9-14; 12:10-11; 13:8; 19:16.

5. We believe that the Holy Spirit is at work in our lives to draw us to the Father through Jesus Christ and to seal our salvation.

The Person and work of the Holy Spirit – We believe that the Holy Spirit, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, convicts the world of sin, of righteousness and of judgment. He applies the redeeming work of Jesus Christ to those whom he leads to repentance and faith. The Spirit continues to transform the lives of believers by sanctifying them, gifting them, and sealing them until the day of redemption.

“It will come about after this that I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; and your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your younger men will see visions. Even on male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.”

Joel 2:28-29

“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.”
John 14:16-17

“But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you.” John 16:7-14

Genesis 1:2; Judges 14:6; Job 26:13; Psalm 51:11; 139:7; Isaiah 61:1-3; Matthew 1:18; 3:16; 4:1; 12:28-32; Mark 1:10, 12; Luke 1:35; 4:1, 18-19; 11:13; 12:12; John 4:24; 14:26; 15:26; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4; 2:38; 4:31; 5:3; 6:3; 7:55; 8:17, 39; 10:44; 13:2; 15:28; 16:6; 19:1-6; Romans 8:9-11, 14-16; 8:260-27; 1 Corinthians 2:10-14; 3:16; 12:3-11; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; 5:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:19; 1 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 9:8, 14; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 John 4:13, 5:6-7; Revelation 22:17.

6. We believe that sin has separated us from the Father.

Humanity – We believe that humans are created in the image and likeness of God. We affirm that, because of Adam’s sin, humanity became cursed and is sinful both in nature and by choice. As a result, humanity is under God’s wrath and totally unable to initiate a right relationship with the Father.

“Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ God created man in His own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them; and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’ Then God said, ‘Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you; and to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to every thing that moves on the earth which has life, I have given every green plant for food’; and it was so. God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.”

Genesis 1:26-31

“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,” Romans 3:23

“For as through the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.” Romans 5:19

Genesis 2:5-7; 2:18-22; 3; 9:6; Psalm 1; 8:3-6; 32:1-5; 51:5; Isaiah 6:5; Jeremiah 17:5; Matthew 16:26; Acts 17:26-31; Romans 1:19-32; 3:10-18; 5:12; 1 Corinthians 15:21-22; Ephesians 2:1-22; Colossians 1:21-22.

7. We believe in a literal Heaven and a literal Hell.

Eternity – We believe humans were created to exist forever. We will exist eternally either separated from God by sin or in union with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is Hell, and to be eternally in union with Him is Heaven. Heaven and Hell are places of eternal existence.

“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23

John 3:16; Romans 8:17-18; 1 Corinthians 15:42-44; Revelation 20:15.

8. We believe that salvation is a gift of grace found in Jesus through faith.

Salvation – We believe that apart from the grace of God, man is dead in sin and in danger of spending eternity in Hell. Through his death, burial, and resurrection, Jesus satisfied the wrath of God for sin. The Holy Spirit works to apply the benefits of Christ’s work to sinners through faith, so that they might be adopted by the Father as his children. Salvation is experienced when, by God’s grace, a person repents of sin and confesses by faith that Jesus is Lord. Obedience to God’s commands in the Bible and love for others are the lasting responsibilities of Christian living.

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” John 3:16

“You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.” John 15:16

“For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among the many brethren; and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.” Romans 8:29-30

Genesis 3:15; Matthew 1:21; 4:17; 16:21-26; 27:22-28:6; Luke 1:68-9; John 1:11-14, 29; 3:3-21, 36; 5:24; 10:9, 28-29; 15:1-16; 17:17; Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; 17:30-31; 20:32; Romans 1:16-18; 2:4, 23-25; 4:3-25; 5:8-10; 6:1-23; 8:1-18, 28-39; 10:9-10, 13; 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18, 30; 6:19-20; 15:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20; Galatians 2:20; 3:13; 5:22-25; Ephesians 1:3-14; 2:8-22; Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 1:9-22; 3:1-17; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 5:8-9; 9:24-28; 12:14; James 2:14-26; 1 John 1:6-2:11; Revelation 3:20.

9. We believe that salvation is neither gained nor lost by our own efforts or failures.

Eternal Security – We believe that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by God’s power and are thus secure in Christ forever. We affirm that the same grace that saves us is the grace that secures our salvation, which is neither gained nor lost by our own efforts or failure. We believe it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God’s Word. However, the Bible forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion to sin.

“And I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand.” John 10:28-29

“In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation – having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is

given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view of redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory." Ephesians 1:13-14

John 3:16; 6:37; Romans 8:1; Ephesians 2:8-10; Philippians 1:6; Colossians 3:3; 2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 7:25; 10:10, 14; 1 Peter 1:3-5.

10. We believe that the local church is a community of believers united by the same purpose and mission.

The Church – We believe that the Church is the body of Christ, which finds localized expression in a community of baptized believers. We believe that the establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament. We recognize believer's baptism and the Lord's Supper as scriptural means of testimony for the church. We also believe that those who make up the local church must be committed to a common purpose, mission, vision and values.

"So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls. They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." Acts 2:41-42

Matthew 3:13-17; 16:15-19; 18:15-20; 26:26-30; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; 14:22-26; Luke 3:21-22; 22:19-20; John 3:23; Acts 2:47; 5:11-14; 6:3-6; 8:25-29; 13:1-3; 14:23, 27; 15:1-30; 16:5, 30-33; 20:7, 28; Romans 1:7; 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 5:4-5; 7:17; 10:16, 21; 11:23-29; 12; Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 3:8-11, 21; 5: 22-32; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:18; 2:12; 1 Timothy 3:1-15; Revelation 2-3; 21:2-3.