

Essential Beliefs

The biblical convictions that ground our faith, teaching, and life together.

01

About God

We believe in one God eternally existing in three distinct persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each equal in value, power, personhood, and glory.

Matthew 3:16 • Matthew 28:19 • John 17:5 • Ephesians 4:30 • 1 Peter 1:2

02

About Jesus Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God, fully God and fully human, and that he was born of the virgin Mary. He lived a perfect sinless life and died a sinner's death on behalf of all who would believe in him. He rose from the dead after three days and is coming again in glory to make a final end of sin and death, and to create a new heaven and a new earth where we will live with him eternally.

John 1:1 • Isaiah 7:14 • Luke 1:27 • 2 Corinthians 5:21 • Romans 5:8 • Matthew 28:5-6 • Revelation 21:1-4

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About the Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit has full personhood as the third member of the Godhead and is not simply a "force" that does the will of God. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer from the moment of salvation, empowering sanctification, and the work of ministry, guiding them into spiritual truth, and providing wisdom for everyday living. The primary role of the Holy Spirit is to bear witness about Jesus, and to apply Jesus' saving work to the world.

Ephesians 1:13-14 • Ephesians 4 • John 15:26 • Philippians 1:6

04

About the Bible

We believe that the Bible is the infallible, inerrant word of God in its original manuscripts, the written record of His supernatural revelation of Himself to man, absolute in its authority, complete in its revelation, final in its content and without error in its teaching.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 • 2 Peter 1:20-21 • Hebrews 4:12

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About Salvation / Gospel

We believe that salvation is found in Jesus Christ alone, and that we become partakers in this great salvation by faith, through His grace toward us. We believe that every person is morally responsible for their sinful actions and for accepting or rejecting Christ as their savior. Those accepting Christ should, mindful of His grace, repent of sin, confess their faith, be baptized into Him and live a life of obedience.

John 14:6 • Ephesians 2:8-9; 4:1 • Romans 10:9-11 • Acts 2:38

06

About Marriage / Sexuality

We believe that marriage is between one man and one woman, and that gender, being assigned by God, is evidenced by anatomy at birth. We acknowledge the comprehensive brokenness of humanity because of sin, and the varied temptations endured by people because of that brokenness. We believe that men and women are both made in the image of God, and therefore are of equal value. We also believe that men and women are complementary to one another and together reveal a picture of the relationship between Christ and the Church.

Genesis 2:18-25 • Romans 3:23 • Ephesians 5:22-33

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07

About the Sanctity of Human Life

We believe that all human life is made in the image of God and is therefore of great value. We believe that life begins at conception, and that the early, purposeful termination of that life is sin. We believe that the mistreatment of people is egregious in the eyes of God, and that we as the church are called to act on behalf of those who are being mistreated, both through benevolence and advocacy.

Genesis 1:27 • Psalm 139:13 • James 1:27

08

About the Church

We believe that the church is not a building or a place, but a group of people with faith in the gospel of Jesus Christ, committed to making disciples who make disciples through the preaching and teaching of scripture, the sacraments, loving their neighbors, and serving others.

1 Peter 2:4-5 • Matthew 22:39-42; 28:19 • Luke 22:14-26 • 2 Timothy 4:2

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About Heaven / Hell

We believe in the reality of two eternal dwelling places for souls after death: Heaven, where those who put their faith and trust in Jesus will live eternally in His presence, and where there are pleasures forever more, and Hell, where those who did not put their faith and trust in Jesus will live under God's eternal judgement.

Matthew 25:46 • Revelation 21:1-4