

## HIGHLAND PARK STATEMENT OF FAITH

**We believe in one God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit** (*Matthew 5:16, 45; 6:1, 4, 8, 9; James 1:17; John 1:1; 4:24; 14:9; 14:16-20; Genesis 1:2; 2 Peter 1:21*).

**We believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of all things visible and invisible** (*Genesis 1:1; Acts 17:24-28; Hebrews 11:3*).

**We believe in Jesus Christ, God's one and only Son, my one and only Savior** (*John 1:14; 3:16; 1 John 4:9; 2 Peter 3:18*), **who was born Jesus of Nazareth, both fully human and fully divine, conceived of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary** (*Matthew 1:18; 21:11; John 1:14; 19:19; Romans 5:15-17; Colossians 2:9; 1 John 1:1; Luke 1:26-38*), **who suffered and was crucified under Pontius Pilate** (*Luke 23:1-46*), **who died and was buried, and who rose again bodily from the dead on the third day** (*Luke 23:44-24:8; John 20:24-29; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8*), **who ascended into Heaven and now sits at the right hand of the Father** (*Luke 22:69; Acts 1:1-9; Colossians 3:1*), **and who will return to earth to judge both the living and the dead** (*Matthew 24:36-42; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:10-11; 10:39-42; 1 Peter 4:5*).

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, who is an active and operative part of the triune God** (*John 16:5-15; Acts 1:7-8; Romans 8:26-27*), **and who indwells every Christian** (*1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19; 2 Timothy 1:14*).

**We believe in the Bible – God's Holy Word, Scripture. I believe God inspired the autographs (original writings) of the Scripture and those autographs were consequently without error** (*Mark 12:36; John 14:26; 16:12-15; Acts 1:16; 1 Corinthians 2:12-13; 2 Timothy 3:14-16; 2 Peter 1:20-21*).

**We believe the Bible teaches that man, created by God, willfully sinned against God and is consequently lost and without hope apart from Jesus Christ** (*Acts 4:12; Romans 3:23*).

**We believe all people are created in the image of God and should be loved and treated with dignity** (*Genesis 1-2, Matthew 25*).

**We believe the Bible teaches that salvation – the forgiveness of sins – is only by grace through the blood of Jesus Christ** (*Matthew 26:28; Romans 5:9; Ephesians 2:8-9; 1 Peter 1:18-19; 1 John 1:7*).

**We believe the Bible teaches that one receives God's grace by putting faith in Christ, repenting of sin, confessing Christ and being immersed into Christ, but that none of these is sufficient in and of itself for the assurance of salvation** (*Romans 5:1-2; 6:1-7; Luke 24:45-47; Acts 3:19; 17:30; 2 Peter 3:9; Matthew 10:32; Romans 10:9; Philippians 2:11; 1 John 4:15; Acts 2:38; Galatians 3:27; Colossians 3:27; Colossians 2:12; 1 Peter 3:21*).

**We believe in the Church of Jesus Christ, founded on the Day of Pentecost and consisting of all Christians everywhere** (*Matthew 16:13-18; Acts 2:14-47*).

**We believe the Bible teaches that the Elders are to exercise authority over the local congregation** (*Acts 20:28; Philippians 1:1; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4*).