



Articles of Faith

From Christ Church Bylaws; Article 9: Articles of Faith

ARTICLE IX. ARTICLES OF FAITH

9.1 Statement of Biblical Authority

At the center of Christian faith and practice stands the belief that God has spoken to the world in the person and work of Jesus Christ, which is accurately and authoritatively revealed in the Bible, (Scripture, the Scriptures). The Bible, both Old and New Testaments, is the inspired, inerrant, and sufficient Word of God and is thus the ultimate authority for life, faith, and morals. Though the various theological statements of the Church reflect succinct

9.2 Statement of Basic Belief

The following Statement of Basic Belief represents core orthodox beliefs of the Church from a biblical and historical perspective. While Church members are not required to fully understand and articulate all aspects of the Statement of Basic Belief, the explicit rejection of any part of it disqualifies one from membership at Timber Creek Fellowship Church. Revisions to the Statement of Basic Belief to align more clearly with Scripture shall be the sole discretion of the Council of Elders, with the understanding that such changes will be communicated to the Church members.

(a) *The Word of God*

The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct (Psalm 19:7–11; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20–21).

(b) *The Holy Trinity*

We believe in one God eternally existing as one essence and three distinct persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, each of whom is fully God, yet there is one God (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 2:5; Matthew 28:17–20; John 1:1; Ephesians 1:3–14; 2 Corinthians 13:14).

(c) *The Doctrine of Humanity*

We believe that all humanity, both male and female, are created in the image of God and possesses intrinsic dignity and worth (Genesis 1:26–27; 5:1–2; Psalm 139:14; Acts 17:26).



(d) *The Doctrine of Sin*

We believe that sin has fractured all things, leaving the world in desperate need of salvation. All humanity by birth and action are sinners. The result of sin is guilt, physical and spiritual death, corruption, and separation from God (Genesis 3; Romans 1:18; 3:23; 5:6–21).

(e) *The Doctrine of Salvation*

We believe that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone in Jesus Christ alone. Jesus Christ died as a substitute to pay the penalty for sin. Jesus Christ physically rose from the dead and forever reigns and Lord (Matthew 28:1–20; Luke 24:1–53; John 1:29; 10:1–18; Romans 3:21–26; 5:1; 6:23; 1 Corinthians 15:1–4; Galatians 1:4).

(f) *The Church*

We believe that the Church is the body of Christ sent into the world to shine forth the glory of God (Matthew 16:18; 28:18–19; Acts 15:22; 20:28; 1 Corinthians 1:2).

(g) *The Kingdom*

We believe that Jesus Christ is returning to the world to judge the living and the dead and to establish the consummation of his Kingdom here forever (John 14:1–3; 1 Corinthians 15:50–57; 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11; Titus 2:11–14; Revelation 20:11–15; 21:12–13).

9.3 Ordinances of the Church

9.3.1 Believer's Baptism

Water baptism was commanded by Christ in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19–20; Acts 2:38). It is the outward testimony of an inward spiritual transformation (regeneration). It will be administered only to those who give testimony of their personal faith in Jesus Christ as Savior. Timber Creek Fellowship practices believer's baptism by immersion, accurately portraying the believer's death, burial, and resurrection with Christ (Romans 6:3–4).

9.3.2 Communion

The Lord's Supper was commanded by Christ on the eve of his Crucifixion (Matthew 26:26–29; Mark 14:22–25; Luke 22: 14–23). The Lord's Supper is a sacred commemoration of the death of Jesus Christ as an atoning sacrifice for sinners. The elements serve as emblems of his body and blood. Timber Creek Fellowship opens communion to all who are believers in Christ Jesus regardless of denomination.