

Article V. Affirmation of Faith *(from the GracePoint Constitution, 2018 revision)*

Section 1. The Word of God

We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error in the original manuscripts, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that it has supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct (2 Samuel 7:28; Psalm 119:160; John 16:12-15, 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21).

Section 2. The Trinity

We believe that there is one living and true God eternally existing in three persons, that these are equal in every divine perfection, and that they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence and redemption (Genesis 1:1, 1:26; Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19; John 1:1-4, 14:26, 17:11; Romans 9:5; Acts 5:3-4; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 4:4-6; Hebrews 9:14; 1 Peter 1:2).

Section 3. God the Father

We believe in God the Father, an infinite personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love. We believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of people, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and eternal death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ (Proverbs 15:29; Mark 11:24; John 3:16, 4:24; Romans 1:20, 11:33-36; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Ephesians 1:3-12; 1 Peter 1:3).

Section 4. Jesus Christ

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe in His virgin conception and birth, sinless life, miracles, and teachings. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and personal and visible return to earth (Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:35, 24:36-39; John 10:30-33, 20:30-31; Acts 1:9-11; Romans 3:25-28, 5:6-8, Philippians 2:5-8; Colossians 1:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-16; Hebrews 1:1-3, 4:15, 7:25-28).

Section 5. The Holy Spirit

We believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ, and that He is an abiding helper, teacher, and guide (John 14:16-17, 15:26; 16:7-15; Romans 8:9-11; 1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19; Galatians 5:22-26; Ephesians 3:16).

Section 6. Regeneration and Conversion

We believe that all people are sinners by nature and by choice and are, therefore, under condemnation. We believe that those who have faith and repent of their sins and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit (John 1:12, 3:16; Acts 2:36-39; Romans 3:23, 5:12; 1 Corinthians 15:22; Titus 3:5-7).

Section 7. The Church

We believe in the universal church; a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head and all regenerated persons are members (1 Corinthians 12:12-28; Ephesians 2:19-22, 4:15-16). We believe in the local church, consisting of a company of believers in Jesus Christ, baptized on a credible profession of faith and associated for worship, work, and fellowship. We believe that God has laid upon the members of the local church the primary task of making disciples for Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8, 2:42; Ephesians 5:19-21; Hebrews 10:23-25).

Section 8. Christian Conduct

We believe that Christians should live for the glory of God and the well-being of others, that their conduct should be exemplary before the world, that they should be faithful stewards of their possessions, and that they should seek to realize for themselves and others the full stature of maturity in Christ (John 14:15, 23-24; Romans 12:1-3, 1 Corinthians 10:31; 2 Corinthians 9:6-9; Ephesians 5:1-21; Philippians 1:27, 3:10-14; Colossians 1:9-12, 1:27-29; Hebrews 12:1-2).

Section 9. The Ordinances

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local church: baptism and the Lord's Supper. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Triune God. We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by Christ for commemoration and proclamation of His death. We believe that these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of the Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 26:26-29, 28:18-20; Acts 2:38, 16:31-33, 18:8; Romans 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 11:23-27).

Section 10. Religious Liberty – The Priesthood of Believers

We believe that every human being has direct relations with God and is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith, and that each church is independent and must be free from interference by any ecclesiastical or political authority (Acts 5:27-29; Romans 14:7-12; 1 Timothy 2:1-5; Hebrews 4:14-16, 7:23-28; 1 Peter 2:4-9).

Section 11. Church Cooperation

We believe that local churches can best promote the cause of Jesus Christ by cooperating with one another in a denominational organization. Such an organization, whether a regional or district conference, exists and functions by the will of the churches. Cooperation in a conference is voluntary and may be terminated upon amendment of the Constitution. Churches may likewise cooperate with inter-denominational fellowships on a voluntary, independent basis (Acts 15:36, 41, 16:5; 1 Corinthians 16:1; Galatians 1:1-3; Revelation 1:4, 10, 11).

Section 12. The Last Things

We believe in the personal and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to earth and the establishment of His kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the eternal blessedness of the righteous, and the endless suffering of the wicked (Matthew 24:1-51, 25:31-46; Luke 16:19-31; John 5:21-30, 14:3, 28; Acts 1:6-11; 1 Corinthians 15:22-28; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 2 Thessalonians 1:7B-10).

Section 13. Sexuality and Marriage

We believe that any act of sexual immorality, such as: adultery, fornication, homosexual conduct, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, or pornography is sinful and offensive to God. We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to only occur between a man and a woman who are married to each other. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman (Genesis 1:26-28, 2:18-24; Matthew 15:18-20; Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 18; 7:2-5; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 18; 7:2-5; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 18; 7:2-5; Ephesians 5:21-33; Hebrews 13:4).