



REDEEMER

church

REDEEMER CHURCH DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

WE BELIEVE the 66 books, which compose the canon of Holy Scripture, to be the sole authority for our faith and practice. The Holy Bible is the inerrant, inspired Word of God, existing as His perfect revelation of absolute truth (without any mixture of error) in all matters in the original manuscripts penned by the biblical authors under the superintending guidance of the Holy Spirit. (John 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:20, 21)

WE BELIEVE in one, true, and living God, who eternally subsists in three, divine yet distinct Persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Each Person of the Holy Trinity possesses fullness and completeness of Deity, sharing together all of the divine attributes within a perfect, living community. (Matthew 28:19; John 1:14; 3:16; Acts 5:3, 4; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Colossians 1:15-20; 2:9; Hebrews 1:1-3; Revelation 1:4-6)

WE BELIEVE during His First Advent, our Lord Jesus Christ voluntarily left the glories of Heaven, taking upon Himself full and perfect humanity in His Incarnation. As the perfect God-Man Savior through the Virgin Birth, Jesus unites full Deity and perfect humanity without mixture, change, confusion, or separation in one person forever. Jesus lived a perfect, sinless life, revealing God to sinful humanity. At the cross, Jesus, though innocent, voluntarily endured the shameful death of a criminal, atoning for the sins of all humanity with His substitutionary death and serving as the propitiation for these sins by turning aside the wrath of God. Upon His death, Jesus was buried in an empty tomb, and three days later, He victoriously arose in a physical body, thus conquering sin, Satan, and death. After His resurrection, Jesus ascended into Heaven, where He now sits in exaltation at the right hand of God the Father. (Matthew 1:18— 2:12; Luke 1:30-35; John 1:1-18; 3:16; Romans 3:21-26; 1 Corinthians 12; 15:1-8; Ephesians 1:22, 23; Philippians 2:5-8; Colossians 1:15-23; 1 Timothy 2:6; Hebrews 1:1- 13; 4:14-16; 7:25; 10:5-14; 1 Peter 3:18; 1 John 1:1—2:2)

WE BELIEVE the Holy Spirit permanently indwells all believers, fulfilling His regenerating work of the new birth unto eternal life. Moreover, the Holy Spirit baptizes all believers at the moment of their salvation into the Body of Christ, His Church, sealing them forever secure until the day of their glorification in Christ. Until the consummation of their salvation, the Holy Spirit ministers to all believers through intercessory prayer, conviction of sin, motivation toward holiness, illumination of the Word, and empowerment for ministry. The Holy Spirit also bestows spiritual gifts to all believers at the moment of their salvation to be used for the edification of the Church and the evangelization of the world. The manifestation of the various spiritual gifts is the sovereign prerogative of the Holy Spirit, as He wills different gifts to the Church at different times. Like the spiritual gift of apostleship, which appears to have been limited to the Apostolic

Era, the Holy Spirit may choose to limit specific, “sign” gifts to distinct periods of time, such as before the canonization of the New Testament. (John 14:15-26; Acts 2:1-33; 4:8; Romans 8:1-27; 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 6:19; 12; Galatians 5:16-23; Ephesians 1:13, 14; 2:22; 4:30; 5:18; 1 John 2:20-27)

WE BELIEVE God created humans, both male and female, in His perfect image. Through their moral fall in the Garden of Eden, however, Adam and Eve plunged themselves and their entire human race into sin, which is rebellion against God and the moral transgression of His holy character and righteous standard. As the head of all humanity, Adam incurred death, which is separation from God, upon himself and all his posterity in the human race. Thus, all humans are born totally depraved, being sinners by nature and deed and incurring guilt before a holy God. (Genesis 1:26-31; 3; Romans 3:10-18; 5:12-21; Ephesians 2:1-3)

WE BELIEVE salvation in our Lord Jesus Christ is a redemptive process wholly of God, in which believers participate solely on the basis of His grace through their faith in Jesus. All who trust in Jesus alone as their Lord and Savior receive the forgiveness of sins and the free gift of new life, which is eternal and abundant. As the Author and Perfector of our faith, Jesus will complete the good work of salvation begun in every believer. Such eternal security of the believer’s salvation in Jesus is kept solely by the power and promises of God. (John 3:16; 5:24; 6:35-40; 10:27-30; Romans 8:28-39; Ephesians 1:13, 14; Philippians 1:6; 2 Timothy 2:13; 1 Peter 1:3-9; 1 John 5:11-13)

WE BELIEVE all believers are baptized by the Holy Spirit into the Body of Christ, which is the Church. The Universal Church is the community of all believers in Christ, whether in heaven or on earth. The visible, local church, though a part of the universal community, abides in Jesus in the unity of the Holy Spirit as an autonomous fellowship of believers, who willingly gather together in truth and love to fulfill God’s purposes for His people. (Acts 2:42-47; Romans 12:5; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 12:12-17, 27; Galatians 1:2; 3:26-29; Ephesians 1:20-23; 4:3-10; Colossians 3:14, 15; 1 Thessalonians 1:1; 1 Peter 1:9; Revelation 1:11)

WE BELIEVE Believer’s Baptism and the Lord’s Supper are the only ordinances ordained by God for observance in the church.

- In obedience to our Lord’s command and in accordance with the teachings and practices of His apostles, all believers are to follow Jesus in Believer’s Baptism. This ordinance outwardly and visibly demonstrates the inward, invisible reality of the believer’s new life in Jesus. The baptismal act of immersion symbolizes the believer’s identification with Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection. Water baptism is the believer’s public testimony, wherein s/he professes faith in Jesus Christ before the believing church and unbelieving world. Redeemer Church observes as normative the practice of baptism by immersion after the believer’s conscious decision to trust Jesus Christ as her/his personal Savior and Lord. Redeemer Church only accepts baptisms, in which the meaning was biblical (i.e., symbolizes the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ) and the timing was biblical (i.e., after conscious conversion through personal faith in Jesus). Redeemer Church will accept baptisms, which agree with the biblical meaning and timing, but differ only in mode (i.e., sprinkling, pouring). (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 9:36-38; 16:33; 18:8)
- In obedience to our Lord’s command and in accordance with the teachings and practices of His apostles, all believers are to regularly and reverently observe the Lord’s Supper in the unity of the Spirit and the purity of the Word. The elements of the Lord’s Table symbolize His broken body and shed blood. As such, believers are to gratefully receive these elements in memorial observance of Jesus’ death and resurrection, remembering the accomplished work of His First Advent and reflecting on the

anticipated work of His Second Advent. Redeemer Church observes as normative the practice of open Holy Communion, in which all true believers in Jesus share together the elements of His Table. (Luke 22:7-20; Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34)

WE BELIEVE the Bible's prophecies concerning God's future program on earth will be perfectly and completely fulfilled by His unfailing promises and incomparable power. Jesus Christ at His Second Coming will victoriously descend from Heaven to earth to consummate His judgment against unbelieving humanity, along with Satan and his demonic hosts, casting them into an eternal state of conscious torment, which is separation from God. Moreover, God will reward all believing humanity with resurrection in glorified bodies, as He eternally dwells among His people in the new heavens and the new earth. (Matthew 24; 25; 1 Corinthians 15; 2 Peter 3:7, 10-13; Revelation 19:11-21)

WE BELIEVE the 66 books of the Bible are true, authoritative, and sufficient.

WE BELIEVE there is only one God who eternally exists in three divine yet distinct persons: God the Father, God the Son, & God the Holy Spirit.

WE BELIEVE Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God who was born of a virgin, is both fully God and fully human, who during His incarnation lived the life we could not live and died the death we deserve to die as a sacrificial substitute, that God raised Him from the dead, and that He will one day physically return.

WE BELIEVE that humanity was created in God's perfect image but the result of the fall is that we all are sinners by nature and choice and rightly find ourselves under God's just judgment of physical and spiritual death.

WE BELIEVE that the only means of salvation from God's just judgment is to turn from sin to trust and treasure Jesus Christ thereby receiving the gift of God's grace.

WE BELIEVE the Holy Spirit permanently indwells all who turn from sin to trust and treasure Jesus Christ and in so doing fulfills His regenerating work both securing and leading to eternal life.

WE BELIEVE there will be a future resurrection from the dead for all humanity: all who turn from sin to trust and treasure Jesus will be raised to eternal life while all who do not turn from sin to trust and treasure Jesus will be raised to eternal punishment.