Christian Life Church Statement of Faith | *Adopted December 1, 2019*

1. God

We believe in one God[1], Creator of all things[2], holy[3], infinitely perfect[4], and eternally existing[5] in a loving unity[6] of three equally divine Persons[7]: the Father[8], the Son[9] and the Holy Spirit[10]. Having limitless knowledge[11] and sovereign power[12], God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself[13] and to make all things new[14] for His own glory[15].

2. Scripture

We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures[16], both Old and New Testaments[17], through the words of human authors[18]. As the verbally inspired Word of God[19], the Bible is without error in the original writings[20], the complete revelation of His will for salvation[21], and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged[22]. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches[23], obeyed in all that it requires[24], and trusted in all that it promises[25].

3. Humanity

We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image[26], but they sinned when tempted by Satan[27]. In union with Adam[28], human beings are sinners by nature and by choice[29], alienated from God[30], and under His wrath[31]. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ[32] can we be rescued[33], reconciled[34], and renewed[35].

---

[1]Dt. 6:4; Mk. 12:29
[2]Gen. 1:1; Ps. 33:6; Jn. 1:3; Col. 1:15-17; Heb. 11:3
[3]Ex. 15:11; Isa. 6:3; 57:15
[4]Dt. 32:4; Job 1:7-10; Ps. 18:30; 50:2; 90:2; 145:3; Matt. 5:48
[5]Ps. 33:11; 102:25-27; 115:3; Dan. 4:34-35; Jn. 5:26; Acts 17:24-25
[6]Jn. 3:35; 17:24; 1 Jn. 4:8,16
[7]Jn. 17:11; Matt. 3:16-17; 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14; 1 Pet. 1:2
[8]Dt. 32:6; Mt. 6:6; Rom. 8:15; 1 Cor. 8:6
[9]Matt. 3:17; Jn. 1:14; 3:16; Gal. 4:4; Heb. 1:5
[10]Jn. 14:16, 17, 26; 15:26; 16:7-15; Rom. 8:9, 26; Gal. 4:6
[11]Ps. 139:1-16; 147:5; Isa. 46:10; Jn. 21:17
[12]Jer. 32:17; Eph. 1:11; Rm. 8:28; 2 Cor. 6:18; Eph. 3:20; Rev. 1:8
[13]1 Cor. 2:7; Eph. 1:11; 3:10,11; 2 Tim. 1:9; Tit. 1:2; 1 Pet. 1:20; Rev. 13:8
[14]Matt. 19:28; Acts 3:21; Rom. 8:19-21; Rev. 21,22
[15]Ps. 19:1-2; Isa. 43:7; Jer. 13:11; Col. 1:15-23; Rev. 4:11; 5:9-14
[16]Matt. 1:22; 4:4; 19:4,5; Heb. 1:1-2
[17]2 Pet. 3:15,16
[18]Lk. 1:1-4
[19]2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:20,21
[20]Num. 23:19; 2 Sam. 7:28; Prov. 30:5; Ps. 119:96, 160; Matt. 5:18; Jn. 10:35; 17:17; Tit. 1:1,2
[21]Lk. 16:29-31; Gal. 1:8,9; 2 Tim. 3:15
[22]Jn. 17:17; 1 Tim. 3:15-17; 1 Pet. 1:23; Ps. 119:44,45,165
[23]Matt. 22:29; Rom. 15:4; 2 Tim. 3:16
[24]Matt. 28:20; 2 Thess. 3:14; 1 Jn. 2:5
[25]Rom. 1:2; 4:21; Heb. 10:23; 2 Pet. 1:4; 3:13
[26]Gen. 1:26-27; 5:1; 9:6; 1 Cor. 11:7; Col. 3:10; Jms. 3:9
[27]Gen. 3:1-6; Jn. 8:44; Rom. 5:12-14; 16:20; 2 Cor. 11:3; 1 Tim. 2:13-14
[28]Job 14:4; Ps. 51:5; Jn. 3:6; Rom. 3:12; 5:12-14; 1 Cor. 15:22a; 1 Jn. 1:8
[29]Gen. 6:5; Jer. 17:9; Isa. 6:5; Rom. 5:15; 8:5-8; Eph. 2:1-2; 4:17-19
[30]Rom. 5:10
[31]Rom. 1:18; 2:5; 3:9-19; 3:23; Eph. 2:3
[32]Acts 4:12; 1 Tim. 2:5
[33]1 Thess. 1:10
[34]Rom. 5:1,2,10; Col. 1:20
[35]Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:18; Eph. 4:24; Phil. 3:21; 1 Jn. 3:2

4. The Person of Jesus

We believe that Jesus[36] is God incarnate[37], fully God[38] and fully man[39], one Person in two natures[40]. Jesus—Israel's promised Messiah[41]—was conceived through the Holy Spirit[42] and born of the virgin Mary[43]. He lived a sinless life[44], was crucified under Pontius Pilate[45], arose bodily from the dead[46], ascended into heaven[47] and sits at the right hand of God the Father[48] as our High Priest[49] and Advocate[50].

5. The Work of Jesus

We believe that Messiah Jesus, as our representative[51] and substitute[52], shed His blood on the cross[53] as the perfect, all-sufficient sacrifice[54] for our sins[55]. His atoning death[56] and victorious resurrection[57] constitute the only ground for salvation[58].

6. Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Messiah[59]. He convicts the world of its guilt[60]. He regenerates sinners[61], and in Him they are baptized[62] into union with the Messiah[63] and adopted as heirs[64] in the family of God[65]. He also indwells[66], illuminates[67], guides[68], equips[69] and empowers[70] believers for Christ-like living and service[71].

> **DISTINCTIVE |** We believe in the continuation of spiritual gifts. These gifts should be earnestly desired for the building up of the body to the glory of God.

---

[36]Matt. 1:21; 16:18
[37]Jn. 1:14, 18; 1 Jn. 4:2
[38]Isa. 9:6; Jer. 23:6; Jn. 1:1; 20:28; Rom. 9:5; Col. 2:9
[39]Matt. 4:2; Lk. 2:40, 52; Jn. 11:35; Heb. 5:7-8; 1 Jn. 1:1-3
[40]Jn. 3:13; 10:30; 17:5
[41]Gen. 3:14-20; 12:1-3; 49:8-12; 2 Sam. 7:11b-16; Matt. 1:1, 17; Lk. 4:16-22; 24:25-27; Jn. 1:41; 4:25-26; Acts 2:36; 13:23,32; Rom. 1:2-3; 2 Tim. 2:8,9
[42]Matt. 1:18; Lk. 1:34,35
[43]Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:20; Lk. 1:34,35
[44]Rom. 5:19; Gal. 4:4,5; Matt. 3:15; Phil. 2:7,8; Heb. 4:15
[45]Dt. 21:23; Ps. 16:10; Matt. 27:26; Mk. 15:15; Lk. 23:16; Jn. 19:16; Acts 2:27, 37
[46]Matt. 28:1-10; Mk. 16:1-8; Lk. 24:39; Rom. 4:25; 1 Cor. 15:20, 44-45; Col. 1:18; Rev. 1:5
[47]Lk. 24:51; Acts 1:6-11; Eph. 1:20; 4:8-10; 1 Tim. 3:16
[48]Eph. 1:20; Col. 3:1; Heb. 1:3; 8:1; 10:12; 1 Pet. 3:22
[49]Heb. 2:17; 3:1; 4:14; 6:20; 8:1
[50]Rom. 8:34; Heb. 7:25; 9:24; 1 Jn. 2:1
[51]Gen. 2:15-17; Matt. 4:1-11; Mk. 1:12-13; Lk. 4:1-13; Rom. 5:18-19; 1 Cor. 1:30; 15:45, 47; Phil. 3:9
[52]Mk. 10:45; Heb. 2:16-17; 1 Pet. 2:24; 3:18
[53]Lev. 17:11; Mt. 26:28; Heb. 9:14, 22; 10:19; 1 Pet. 1:18-19; Rev. 12:10-11
[54]1 Cor. 5:7; Heb. 9:23-24, 26, 28; 10:1; 13:11, 12
[55]Isa. 53:5-7, 12; Jn. 1:29; Rom. 3:21-26; 2 Cor. 5:21; Gal. 3:13; 1 Jn. 3:5
[56]Rom. 3:25; Heb. 2:17; 1 Jn. 2:2; 4:10
[57]Col. 1:13; 2:13-15; Heb. 2:14-15
[58]Rom. 4:25; 6:4, 11, 14; 1 Cor. 6:14; 15:20; 2 Cor. 4:14; Eph. 1:19-20; 2:5-6; 1 Pet. 1:3
[59]Jn. 16:14
[60]Jn. 16:8; 1 Cor. 2:14
[61]Ezek. 36:25-27; Jn. 3:3, 5; 1 Cor. 12:3; 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 2:5; Col. 2:13; 1 Thess. 1:4-5; 2 Thess. 2:13; Tit. 3:5; Jms. 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:3
[62]Mk. 1:8; Acts 1:5; 1 Cor. 12:13
[63]Rom. 3:24; 5:15-21; 12:5; 1 Cor. 1:2; 6:19; 15:22b; 2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 1:22; 2:17; 3:28; Eph. 1:4; 2:12; 3:6; 4:32; 2 Tim. 2:10; 1 Thess. 4:16
[64]Rom. 8:15, 23; 9:4; Gal. 4:5; Eph. 1:5; Tit. 3:7
[65]Matt. 12:49-50; 2 Cor. 6:18; Eph. 3:14; 1 Jn. 3:14-18
[66]Jn. 14:17; Rom. 8:11; 1 Cor. 3:16
[67]1 Cor. 2:2; 2 Cor. 4:4-15; Eph. 1:17-19; Phil. 1:9-11
[68]Jn. 16:13; Acts 15:28; Rom. 8:4, 14; Gal. 5:16, 18
[69]Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:4-10; Eph. 4:7-11; 1 Pet. 4:10-11
[70]Acts 1:8; 10:38; Rom. 15:13; 1 Cor. 12:11; Eph. 3:16; 2 Tim. 1:7
[71]Acts 6:8; Rom. 8:4-6, 12-16; 2 Cor. 13:14; Gal. 3:3, 5; 5:22-23, 25; Eph. 2:22; 4:3; Phil. 2:1-2

7. The Church

We believe that the true church[72] comprises all who have been justified by God's grace through faith alone in the Messiah alone[73]. They are united by the Holy Spirit in the body of Messiah[74], of which He is the Head[75]. The true church is manifest in local churches[76], whose membership should be composed only of believers[77]. The Lord Jesus mandated two ordinances, baptism[78] and the Lord's Supper[79], which visibly and tangibly express the gospel. Though they are not the means of salvation, when celebrated by the church in genuine faith, these ordinances confirm and nourish the believer[80].

DISTINCTIVE | We believe baptism to be by immersion after belief.

8. Discipleship

We believe that God's justifying grace must not be separated from His sanctifying power and purpose[81]. God commands us to love Him supremely and others sacrificially[82], and to live out our faith with care for one another[83], compassion toward the poor[84] and justice for the oppressed[85]. With God's Word, the Spirit's power, and fervent prayer in Messiah's name[86], we[87] are to combat the spiritual forces of evil[88]. In obedience to Christ's commission, we are to make disciples among all people[89], always bearing witness to the gospel[90] in word and deed[91].

9. Jesus' Return

We believe in the personal, bodily[92], and glorious[93] return of our Lord Jesus[94]. His coming, at a time known only to God[95], demands constant expectancy[96] and, as our blessed hope[97], motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service and energetic mission[98].

---

[72]Matt. 16:18; 1 Cor. 12:28; Eph. 4:4-6; 5:25; Heb. 12:28
[73]Ps. 103:12; Isa. 44:22; Jn. 3:16; Acts 16:31; Rom. 3:20-28; 4:3; 5:1, 21; 8:1, 30, 33-34; 10:4, 9; 2 Cor. 5:21; Gal. 2:16; Eph. 2:8-9; Phil. 3:9; Tit. 3:7; Heb. 10:14
[74]1 Cor. 12:12-27
[75]Eph. 1:22-23; 4:15-16; Col. 1:18; 2:19
[76]Acts 9:31; 20:28-30; Rom. 16:5; 1 Cor. 1:2; 16:19; 2 Cor. 1:1; 1 Thess. 1:1; Philem. 1-2
[77]Matt. 18:15-20; Acts 2:41, 47; 14:23; 20:7; 1 Cor. 1:2, 9; 11:20; 12:13; 14:40; 16:1-2; 1 Tim. 3:1-13; 5:9; Tit. 1:5-9; Heb. 10:25
[78]Matt. 28:18-20; Rom. 6:3-4; Col. 2:12
[79]Matt. 26:26-29; Mk. 14:22-25; Lk. 22:15-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-26
[80]Jn. 6:55-56; Acts 2:38; 8:39; 16:34; 1 Cor. 10:16; 11:29-30; Col. 2:12
[81]Matt. 7:17-18; 12:33, 35; Heb. 11:6; Eph. 2:10; 1 Cor. 10:31; Col. 3:17, 23; 1 Thess. 5:23; 2 Thess. 2:13; 2 Cor. 5:17; 1 Jn. 2:29; 3:9; 5:18; 2 Cor. 3:18; Tit. 3:5; 1 Cor. 6:11; Rom. 6:11, 14; 1 Pet. 1:15; Phil. 2:12-13; Heb. 12:1, 14; 2 Tim. 1:9; Js. 2:17; 1 Pet. 2:24; 2 Pet. 1:3-11
[82]Dt. 6:5; Lev. 19:18; Matt. 22:37-39; Mk. 12:30; Lk. 10:27
[83]Rom. 12:10; 14:13; 15:7, 14; Gal. 5:26; Eph. 4:32; 1 Thess. 3:12; 5:11, 15; Heb. 10:24-25; 1 Pet. 4:9
[84]Dt. 15:11; Psa. 82:3,4; Psa. 140:12; Prov. 14:21,31; 19:17; 22:9,16,22,23; 28:8; 29:7; 31:8,9; Jer. 22:16; Gal. 2:10; Js. 1:27
[85]Ex. 23:6; Lev. 19:15; Psa. 82:3,4; 140:12; Prov. 29:7; 31:9; Isa. 1:17; Jer. 9:24; Mic. 6:8; Zech. 7:9,10; Matt. 23:23; Luke 4:18
[86]Eph. 6:10-18
[87]Heb. 3:13; 10:25
[88]2 Cor. 10:3-5; Eph. 6:11, 12; 2 Tim. 4:7; 1 Jn. 5:3-4
[89]Matt. 28:19; Jn. 20:21; Rev. 7:9
[90]Acts 1:8
[91]Matt. 5:13-16
[92]Matt. 24:30; 26:64; Acts 1:11; Rev. 1:7
[93]Matt. 16:27; 19:28; 24:30; 25:31; Mk. 8:38; Lk. 9:26; 21:27; Col. 3:4; 2 Thess. 1:10; Tit. 2:13; 1 Pet. 1:7; 4:13; 5:1, 4
[94]Matt. 25:31; Tit. 2:13; 2 Thess. 1:6-8; Rev. 19:11-21
[95]Matt. 24:36; Mk. 13:32
[96]Matt. 24:42-51; Rom. 13:11-14; 1 Thess. 5:1-11; Js. 5:8,9; 2 Pet. 3:10-14; Rev. 3:3
[97]Tit. 2:13
[98]2 Thess. 1:6-8; 2 Tim. 4:8; Tit. 2:14; Heb. 9:28; 1 Jn. 3:2-3; 2 Pet. 3:10-14

10. Gospel Response

We believe that God commands everyone everywhere[99] to believe the gospel[100] by turning to Him in repentance[101] and receiving the Lord Jesus Messiah[102]. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily[103] and judge the world[104], assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal punishment[105] and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord[106] in the new heavens and the new earth[107], to the praise of His glorious grace[108]. Amen.

[99]Acts 17:30; 20:20
[100]Mk. 1:15; Jn. 6:29; 8:24; 11:26; 14:1; 20:31; Acts 16:31; Rom. 3:22; 10:14; Gal. 3:22; 1 Tim. 1:16; 1 Pet. 1:8; 1 Jn. 3:23
[101]Isa. 55:6-7; Lk. 24:47; Acts 2:37-38; 3:19; 14:15; 20:21; 26:17,18; Rom. 2:4; 2 Cor. 7:9-10
[102]Jn. 1:12
[103]Isa. 26:19; Dan. 12:2; 1 Cor. 15; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Rev. 20:13
[104]Ecc. 12:14; Matt. 12:36; 26:31-32; Acts 17:31; Rom. 14:10; 2 Cor. 5:10; 2 Tim. 4:1; Rev. 20:12
[105]Matt. 25:46; Lk. 16:26; 2 Thess. 1:9; Rev. 14:11; 21:6,8; 22:14,15
[106]Matt. 25:34, 46; Jn. 14:2; Rev. 21:1-3
[107]Isa. 65:17; 66:22; Rom. 8:19-21; Heb. 12:26,27; 2 Pet. 3:13; Rev. 21:1; 22:3
[108]Eph. 1:6, 12