

# **FILADELPHIA CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

## **STATEMENT OF FAITH**

### **The Holy Scriptures**

We believe that the Bible (Old and New Testament) is the inspired Word of God: true, immutable, steadfast, unchangeable, and reliable for doctrine, teaching and correcting toward righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16, 17).

### **The Eternal Godhead**

We believe that God is a triune being: Father, Son and Holy Spirit; the Three are coexistent, coeternal, and equal in divine perfection (1 John 5:7).

### **The Fall of Man**

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, by voluntary disobedience fell into the depths of sin and iniquity, passed down sinful nature and consequences to all mankind, with their accompanying loss of intended meaning and purposes of God (Genesis 1:27; Romans 5:12).

### **The Plan of Redemption**

We believe that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us, took our place, and with His life's blood purchased the pardon for all who believe in Him (John 3:16; Titus 2:14).

### **Salvation By Grace Through Faith**

We believe that salvation is wholly by grace through faith; that no human righteousness or merit can contribute to our receiving of God's love and favor (Ephesians 2:8).

### **Repentance and Acceptance**

We believe that, upon sincere repentance and a whole-hearted acceptance of Christ Jesus and what He did on the cross, we are forgiven and justified before God through Jesus' sacrificial death (Romans 10:6-10; 1 John 1:9).

### **The New Birth**

We believe that the change that takes place in people at conversion is a very real one; that having received righteousness in Christ and having received of His Spirit, people will have new desires, interests, and will pursue godly life in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 2:20).

### **Daily Christian Life**

We believe that it is the will of God that those who have been born again grow in sanctification, become partakers of His holiness, and daily grow stronger in the faith, power, prayer, love, and service (2 Corinthians 7:1).

### **Water Baptism and the Lord's Supper**

We believe that by being baptized in water in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is an

essential response to Jesus' command, proclaiming His lordship as Christ and King over our lives (Romans 6:4).

We believe in observing the Lord's Supper, receiving the broken bread and the fruit of the vine with joy and faith, we remember Jesus Christ and proclaim His death on the cross that brought us redemption and eternal life.

### **Christ's Cross (1 Corinthians 11:24-26)**

#### **Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

We believe that the baptism in the Holy Spirit empowers believers to exalt Jesus, to live lives of holiness, and to be effective witnesses of God's saving grace; we expect the Spirit's incoming to be after the same manner as that in which He came upon believers in the days of the Early Church (Acts 1: 5, 8; 2:4).

#### **The Spirit-Filled Life**

We believe that it is the will of God that believers walk in the Spirit moment by moment, serving the Lord and living lives of patience, love, truth, sincerity, and prayer (Ephesians 4:30-32; Galatians 5:16, 25).

#### **The Gifts and Fruit of the Spirit**

We believe that the Holy Spirit bestows enabling ministry gifts upon believers, and that these gifts will build up the Body of Christ through edification and evangelism (1 Corinthians 12:1-11); as evidence of a Spirit-filled life, believers should show spiritual "fruit": love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance (Galatians 5:22-25).

#### **Moderation**

We believe a Christians' moderation should be obvious to others and that relationship with Jesus should never lead people into extremes of fanaticism; their lives should model that of Christ in uprightness, balance, humility, and self-discipline and sacrifice (Colossians 3:12, 13; Philippians 4:5).

#### **Divine Healing**

We believe that divine healing is the power of Jesus Christ to heal the sick in answer to the prayer of faith; He, who does not change, is still willing and able to heal the body, as well as the soul and spirit in answer to faith (Mark 16: 17, 18; James 5:14-16).

#### **The Second Coming of Christ**

We believe that the second coming of Christ is personal and imminent; the certainty of His coming and the fact that no man knows the hour of His coming prompt our evangelistic efforts; that the Lord Himself will descend from Heaven, the dead in Christ shall rise first, and the redeemed will be caught up together to meet the Lord in the air (Matthew 24:36, 42, 44; 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17).

#### **Church Relationship**

We believe that it is our sacred duty to identify ourselves with a congregation of believers with



whom we can worship God, observe the ordinances of Christ, exhort and support one another, labor for the salvation of others, and work together to advance the Lord's Kingdom (Acts 16:5; Hebrews 10:24).

### **Civil Government**

We believe that civil government is by divine appointment and that civil laws should be upheld at all times except in things opposed to the will of God (Acts 4: 18-20; Romans 13:1-5).

### **Judgment**

We believe that all shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ: the redeemed to be delivered unto everlasting life, and the unrepentant unto everlasting punishment and separation from God (Revelation 20:11, 12; 2 Corinthians 5:10).

### **Heaven**

We believe that heaven is the glorious habitation of the living God and the eternal home of born-again believers (John 14:2; Revelation 7:15-17).

### **Hell**

We believe that hell is a place of darkness, deepest sorrow, and unquenchable fire, which was not prepared for man but for the devil and his angels; yet it will become the place of eternal separation from God for all who reject Christ as Lord and Savior (Matthew 13: 41, 42; Revelation 10:10, 15).

### **Evangelism**

We believe that soul winning is the "one big business" of the Church on earth, and that every hindrance to worldwide evangelism should be removed (James 5:20; Mark 16:15).

### **Tithing and Offerings**

We believe that the paying of tithes and the giving of offerings are ordained of God to sustain His ministry, spread the Gospel, and release personal blessing (Malachi 3:10; 1 Corinthians 16: 1, 2).

### **Marriage**

We believe that marriage is sacred. It was God's idea and was originally designed for a man and a woman so they will live in God's blessings and fruitfulness (Gen. 1:26-28, 2:20-24)