



Statement of Faith

God's Word—The Bible

- We believe and teach that the Bible is the true word of God. It is inspired by the Holy Spirit, which means that God breathed into the writers the exact thoughts and words they were to write. As a result every statement in the Bible is the truth. One part of the Bible explains another part. It is the only guideline for the faith and life of Christians. We are to read and study it diligently. It clearly teaches all we need to know to obtain our eternal salvation.

One True God

- We believe and teach that there is only one true God. This God is invisible, holy, eternal, and has all power and wisdom. In the Bible God reveals himself as three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Therefore he is called “Triune.” These three persons in one God are all God. They are equal in power, glory, and in every other quality. To deny or ignore one person is to deny all of them. It is God who created, redeemed, and sanctified us.

Creation

- We believe and teach that at the beginning of time God created heaven and earth and all creatures. He did this in six twenty-four-hour days. He spoke his almighty word to create all things. He made everything out of nothing. But man and woman are God's special creation, created as male and female. These two genders reflect what God teaches in his Word. When the Lord brought the man and the woman together in creation, he established marriage as the lifelong union of one man and one woman.

Original Sin

- We believe and teach that even though the Lord created man and woman in his own image as holy and perfect beings, they lost the image of God when they gave in to the temptation of Satan and disobeyed God's command. This brought on them the judgment of God. Since that time all people are conceived and born in sin, desire to do what is evil, and are dead spiritually. Therefore, we are unable to reconcile ourselves to God by our own efforts and deeds.

Salvation

- We believe and teach that Jesus is the eternal Son of God who lived a perfect life and then died on the cross to pay for the sins of all people; on the third day He rose from the dead to prove that He conquered sin and death and earned God's forgiveness for all people. Through faith in him, created in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, we have the sure and certain promise of eternal life.

Sanctification and Good Works

- We believe and teach that faith in Jesus Christ is living and active. Therefore faith produces good deeds that are pleasing to God. True faith, nourished by God's Word, delights to do the holy will of God. In this sinful world, however, even the best works of a Christian are still dirtied with sin. We will never be perfect in this life. For Jesus' sake, the imperfect efforts of a Christian are graciously considered acceptable by our Father in heaven.