

## **Beacon Church Statement of Faith**

**God:** We believe that there is one and only one living and true God. God is eternal, all present, all powerful, all knowing, unchanging, holy, just, loving and merciful. God is an intelligent, spiritual and personal Being. God is the almighty Creator who sustains and governs all things according to His sovereign will for His own glory and is worthy of all praise and worship.

**Trinity:** We believe God exists eternally in three distinct but equally divine persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. and that they execute distinct but harmonious roles in the work of creation, providence and redemption.

**Jesus Christ:** We believe that Jesus Christ is God in the flesh, fully God and fully man. He is God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles and teachings. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection and ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and His future personal visible return to earth.

**The Holy Spirit:** We believe that the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Triune God and is fully divine. We believe that the Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, righteousness and judgment, and regenerates, sanctifies and empowers all who believe and place their faith in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ and that He is the giver of spiritual gifts to every Christian to be used for the edification of one another, to glorify God and to minister to the needs of the world.

**The Word of God:** We believe that the Bible, the 66 books of the Old and New Testament, 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.

**Redemption:** We believe that all people are sinners and are, therefore, under condemnation. We believe that those who repent of their sins and trust in Jesus Christ as personal Savior are redeemed, regenerated and forever sealed by the Holy Spirit. God's acceptance of an individual is not on the basis of their righteous deeds but by the grace extended to them by a loving God.

**Christian Conduct:** We believe that Christians should be faithful stewards, living for the glory of God and the well-being of others. They are to make disciples among all people, in obedience to Christ's commission, stimulating one another to love and good deeds and always bearing witness to the gospel in word and deed. A Christian's conduct should strive to be blameless before the world and they should seek through individual and corporate habits to realize for themselves and others the full stature of maturity in Christ. All should be treated with grace and truth; encouraged with God's love, acceptance and forgiveness but also called up towards righteousness.

**The Church:** We believe that the universal church is the body of which Christ is the head and to which all who are redeemed belong. It is made visible in local churches, which are congregations of believers who are committed to each other for the worship of God, the preaching of the Word, the administering of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, for pastoral care and discipline, and for evangelism. The unity of the body of Christ is expressed within and between gospel believing churches by mutual love, care and encouragement.

**The Ordinances:** We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local church: Believers' Baptism, and the Lord's Supper. We affirm the practice of Christian baptism as a rite recognizing one's entry into the New Covenant. Baptism is best represented by the immersion of a believer in water. We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by Jesus Christ as a remembrance of His atoning death and is a celebration of our ongoing and unending participation in the New Covenant. We believe that these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**The Last Things:** We believe in the coming personal and visible triumphal 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 joy of the righteous and the eternal suffering of the non-believer.