OUR VISION 我們的異象宣言

Our vision is to be a Christ-centered community where people from every background encounter Christ, grow in faith, and experience transformation.

我們要成為一間活潑喜樂、不斷成長、與時並進、進入社群的教會。

OUR MISSION 我們的使命

Our congregation is dedicated to loving the living God and others by embodying the life of Jesus through worship, prayer, care, witness, service, and learning. We are committed to sharing the good news of God's love for the world.

西北溫基督教頌恩堂成立的宗旨,是要透過敬拜、關懷、見證、服事及學習去實踐基督耶 穌在聖經吩咐我們愛神愛人的命令,及與人分享神愛世人這好消息的使命。

OUR HISTORY & BACKGROUND 我們的歷史及背景

The history of NSPGMBC is a powerful testament to God's faithfulness and provision. The vision for the church began with pastors and deacons of Pacific Grace MB Church and South Vancouver Pacific Grace MB Church who, after much prayer, felt led to explore opportunities in North Vancouver. This journey started with an evangelistic meeting held on Christmas Day in 1996, followed by regular gatherings beginning in January 1997. By June of that year, the mission campaign "Preaching to North Shore" was launched.

Initially, the congregation met in rented community centers and schools. In 1999, they began holding services at Delbrook Baptist Church/Bridge Community Church, eventually purchasing the property in March 2014 in partnership with NSPG Mandarin Church.

The English Ministry (EM) began in 1998 as a youth group under the Cantonese Ministry. Over time, it grew and held its first dedicated Sunday service in 2006. Today, EM has evolved from a small group of teens into a vibrant and thriving congregation.

西北溫基督教頌恩堂的建立,見證神如何讓人體驗池的信實和能力,神首先賜人異象,亦感動南北頌恩堂的教牧及執事,經禱告後採取行動,探討在這區植堂的可行性。1996年聖誕舉辦福音午餐佈道會,1997年1月開始定期聚會,1997年6月推動「遍傳西北溫」宣教大行動,起初租借社區中心及學校聚會,自1999年起租借西人教會 Bridge Community Church 直至2014年3月,本會及西北溫國語頌恩堂合資向西人教會購下目前之會堂。

OUR BELIEFS 門諾弟兄會之信仰

We believe in God as eternal Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God created and sustains the universe. The eternal purpose of God the Father is to create a people who will bring glory to God forever. God alone is worthy of worship.

We believe that God became human in Jesus Christ. Jesus came to restore the world because humans have rejected God in disobedience. Jesus taught and modeled the way of God's kingdom. He died on the cross, making it possible for us to accept a renewed relationship with God. He rose from the dead, broke the power of sin and death, and freed us to live in obedience to God's will.

We believe that God the Holy Spirit invites all people to be reconciled with God and to join the global family of faith. Believers confess their faith, are baptized, and join in the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Through the power of the Holy Spirit and guided by the Bible, members of the church seek to live as followers of Christ and invite others to experience this new life.

As Christians, we look forward to the day when God will once again send Jesus to bring all things under God's eternal rule.

BCMB CONFESSION OF FAITH

門諾弟兄會之信仰

本文轉載自門諾弟兄會之信仰與生命小冊子系列,簡單扼要地介紹門諾弟兄會的信條:

1.God

We believe in the one, true, living God, Creator of heaven and earth. God is almighty in power, perfect in wisdom, righteous in judgment, overflowing in steadfast love. God is the Sovereign who rules over all things visible and invisible, the Shepherd who rescues the lost and helpless. God is a refuge and fortress for those in need. God is a consuming fire, perfect in holiness, yet slow to anger and abounding in tender mercy. God comforts like a loving mother, trains and disciplines like a caring father, and persists in covenant love like a faithful husband. We confess God as eternal Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

God the Father

God the Father is the source of all life. In Him we live and move and have our being. The Father seeks those who will worship Him in spirit and in truth, and hears the prayers of all who call on Him. In the fullness of time, the Father sent the Son for the salvation of the world. Through Jesus Christ, the Father adopts all who respond in faith to the gospel, forgiving those who repent of their sin and entering into a new covenant with them. God gives the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, to all His children. God's creative and redemptive love sustains this world until the end of the age.

God the Son

The Son, through whom all things were created and who holds all things together, is the image of the invisible God. Conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, Jesus took on human nature to redeem this fallen world. He revealed the fullness of God through His obedient and sinless life. Through word and deed, Jesus proclaimed the reign of God, bringing good news to the poor, release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind. Christ triumphed over sin through His death and resurrection, and was exalted as Lord of creation and the church. The Saviour of the world invites all to be reconciled to God, offering peace to those far and near, and calling them to follow Him in the way of the cross. Until the Lord Jesus returns in glory, He intercedes for believers, acts as their advocate, and calls them to be His witnesses.

God the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit, the Counsellor, is the creative power, presence, and wisdom of God. The Spirit convicts people of sin, gives them new life, and guides them into all truth. By the Spirit, believers are baptized into one body. The indwelling Spirit testifies that they are God's children, distributes gifts for ministry,

empowers for witness, and produces the fruit of righteousness. As Comforter, the Holy Spirit helps God's children in their weakness, intercedes for them according to God's will, and assures them of eternal life.

一、神(God)

- 1. 我們相信獨一的真神,是所有生命的源頭。祂作為聖父、聖子及聖靈統管萬有,並以慈愛照顧所有被造物。
- 2. 聖父定下了人類的救贖計劃, 並差派聖子耶穌基督成為世界的救主。
- 3. 耶穌宣揚神的王權,將福音帶給心靈貧乏者,並藉池順服的生命,受死及復活向罪惡誇勝。
- 4. 聖靈使相信的人得著新生命,住在他們裏面並將他們連成一體。

2.Revelation of God

God's Self-Revelation

We believe that God has made Himself known to all people. God's power and nature have always been evident in creation. The Old Testament reveals God as the One who established a covenant relationship with Israel to make known to all people the eternal plan of salvation. God revealed Himself supremely in Jesus Christ, as recorded in the New Testament. The Holy Spirit continues to make God known to individuals and the church; this revelation is always consistent with the Scriptures.

The Written Word of God

We believe that the entire Bible was inspired by God through the Holy Spirit. The same Spirit guides the community of faith in the interpretation of Scripture. The person, teaching, and life of Jesus Christ bring continuity and clarity to both the Old and New Testaments. The Old Testament bears witness to Christ, and Christ is the One whom the New Testament proclaims. We accept the Bible as the infallible Word of God and the authoritative guide for faith and practice.

二、神的啟示(Revelation of God)

- 1. 我們相信神曾向全人類顯示祂自己,神藉新舊約聖經,從創世開始啟示祂自己,並以耶穌基督為啟示的巔峰。
- 2. 聖經都是神所默示的,是信仰及行為的權威指引。作為教會整體,我們應按著聖靈的引導,對聖經作解釋。

3. Creation and Humanity

Creation

We believe that in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, and they were very good. All of creation expresses God's sovereign will and design, but remains distinct from the Creator. The universe belongs to God, who takes care and delight in sustaining it. Creation declares God's wisdom and power, calling all to worship Him.

Humanity

Humans, the crowning act of creation, were designed to live in fellowship with God and in mutually helpful relationships with each other. God created them male and female in the image of God. The Creator gave them the mandate to rule and care for creation as a sacred trust, and the freedom to obey or disobey Him. Through the willful disobedience of Adam and Eve, sin entered the world. As a result, human nature is distorted and people are alienated from God and creation. Creation is under the bondage of decay. Humans and all creation long to be set free.

The New Creation

Sin, guilt, and death will not prevail. God will create a new heaven and a new earth in which there will be no evil, suffering, and death. The first signs of this new creation are already present in those who accept God's forgiveness through Christ. In Christ, all things are being reconciled and created anew.

三、創造及人類(Creation and Humanity)

- 1. 我們相信神創造了天和地,它們原都是美善的。
- 2. 人類是神創造物中的傑作. 是按著神的形像被造。
- 3. 罪惡使人類與神及被造物隔離, 但神藉耶穌基督提供了救贖及復和的途徑。

4.Sin and Evil

Sin and Its Consequences

We believe that the first humans yielded to the tempter and fell into sin. Since then, all people disobey God and choose to sin, falling short of the glory of God. As a result, sin and evil have gained a hold in the world, disrupting God's purposes for the created order and alienating humans from God and thus from creation, each other, and themselves. Human sinfulness results in physical and spiritual death. Because all have sinned, all face eternal separation from God.

Principalities and Powers

Sin is a power that enslaves humanity. Satan, the adversary, seeks to rule creation and uses sin to corrupt human nature with pride and selfishness. In sin, people turn from God, exchanging the truth about God for a lie, worshipping and serving the creature rather than the Creator. Sin opens individuals and groups to the bondage of demonic principalities and powers. These powers also work through political, economic, social, and even religious systems to turn people away from holiness, justice, and righteousness. Whether in word, deed, thought, or attitude, all humans are under the domination of sin and, on their own, are unable to overcome its power.

四、罪惡(Sin and Evil):

我們相信罪就是個人及整體對神美善旨意的背離,並因而引致肉身及靈性的死亡。

5.Salvation

God's Initiative

We believe that God is at work to accomplish deliverance and healing, redemption and restoration in a world dominated by sin. From the beginning, God's purpose has been to create for Himself a people, to dwell among them and to bless them. Creation and all of humanity are without hope of salvation except through God's love and grace. God's love is fully demonstrated in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

God's Plan

Throughout history, God has acted mightily to deliver people from bondage and draw them into a covenant relationship. Through the prophets, God prepared the way of salvation until finally God reconciled the world to Himself by the atoning blood of Jesus. As people place their trust in Christ, they are saved by grace through faith, not of their own doing, but as a gift of God. God forgives them, delivers them from sin's bondage, makes them new creatures in Christ, empowers them by the Holy Spirit, and seals them for eternal life. When sin and death are finally abolished and the redeemed are gathered in the new heaven and the new earth, God will have completed the plan of salvation.

Humanity's Response

Though Jesus entered a world ruled by sin, He chose not to submit to its allure and broke its domination. Through His obedient life, His death on the cross, and His glorious resurrection, Christ triumphed over Satan and the powers of sin and death, opening the way for all people to follow. Convicted by the Holy

Spirit, people turn from sin, entrust their lives to God, confess Jesus Christ as Lord, and join the family of God. All who receive Christ are born again, and have peace with God, and are called to love one another and live at peace with their neighbour. Those whom God is saving no longer live for themselves, for they have been set free from sin and called to newness of life.

五、救恩(Salvation)

- 1. 我們相信神拯救所有相信耶穌的人,基督透過祂順服的生命、犧牲的死亡及得勝的復活,將人從罪惡及死亡的極權統治釋放出來,在將來要得著永遠的生命。
- 2. 所有被造物均熱切期待著從綑綁中獲釋, 進到神兒女的榮耀自由裏。

6. Nature of the Church

Called by God

We believe the church is the people called by God through Jesus Christ. People who respond in faith are united with the local congregation by the public confession of baptism. Church members commit themselves to follow Christ in a life of discipleship and witness as empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Body of Christ

The church is one body of believers, male and female, from every nation, race, and class. The head of this body is Christ. The church, united by the one Spirit, makes Christ visible in the world. The church exists as local bodies of believers and as a worldwide community of faith.

Worship

The church is nourished and renewed as God's people gather regularly to glorify God. The early church gathered on the first day of the week to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. The worshipping community celebrates God's faithfulness and grace, reaffirms its faithfulness to God, builds up the members of the body, and seeks God's will for its life and mission. As the church observes baptism and the Lord's Supper, it proclaims the good news of salvation.*

Fellowship and Accountability

The church is a covenant community in which members are mutually accountable in matters of faith and life. They love, care, and pray for each other, share each other's joys and burdens, admonish and correct one another. They share material resources as there is need. Local congregations follow the New Testament example by seeking the counsel of the wider church on matters that affect its common witness and mission. Congregations work together in a spirit of love, mutual submission, and interdependence.

The New Testament guides the practice of redemptive church discipline. The church is responsible to correct members who continue to sin. Congregations forgive and restore those who repent, but formally exclude those who disregard discipline.

Gifts for Ministry

Through the Holy Spirit, God gives gifts to each member for the well-being of the whole body. These gifts are to be exercised in God's service to build up the church and to minister in the world.

God calls people to equip the church for ministry. Leaders are to model Christ in their personal, family, and church life. The church is to discern leaders prayerfully, and to affirm, support, and correct them in a spirit of love.

六、教會的本質(Nature of the Church)

- 1. 我們相信教會是神透過耶穌基督呼召出來的一個立約群體,從聖靈得著能力,過門徒生活並成為見證。
- 2. 地方教會經常聚集,進行敬拜、團契及彼此問責,並辨明、建立及運用各人服事的恩賜。

7. Mission of the Church

The Great Commission and the Great Commandment

We believe the good news of God's salvation in Jesus Christ is for all people. Christ commands the church to make disciples of all nations by calling people to repent, and by baptizing and teaching them to obey Jesus. Jesus teaches that disciples are to love God and neighbour by telling the good news and by doing acts of love and compassion.

The Witness

The Holy Spirit empowers every Christian to witness to God's salvation. The church as a body witnesses to God's reign in the world. By its life as a redeemed and separated community, the church reveals God's saving purposes to the world.

七、教會的使命(Mission of the Church):

我們相信教會的使命是使萬民作門徒, 呼召人悔改、受浸, 並以分享福音及愛心行動具體 地實踐對神及鄰舍的愛。

8. Christian Baptism

God's Invitation

We believe that when people respond in faith to God's invitation to repentance, new life, and discipleship, God calls each of them to receive water baptism in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Meaning

Baptism is an act of obedience which testifies that God in Christ has forgiven and cleansed a person from sin, freed them from the power of sin and death, given them the Holy Spirit, and united them with the body of Christ. Baptism by immersion is a powerful testimony that a believer has been washed by the Spirit, has died with Christ to sin and has been raised to newness of life.

In baptism the believer publicly bears witness to their own commitment to follow Jesus as Lord, serving Jesus as a covenant member of the local congregation in God's Kingdom mission.

Baptism is the God-given means by which the local church family incorporates followers of Jesus.

Who

Baptism is for all those who repent and confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, have received the Holy Spirit, and pledge to live as disciples who obey Jesus in all of life. Baptism is for those who understand its basic meaning, are able to be accountable to Christ and the church, and request it voluntarily.

Practice

The local church baptizes believers by immersion and joyfully welcomes and disciples them into full participation as members of the congregation. The local church also joyfully welcomes Christian disciples baptized elsewhere, regardless of mode, if they were baptized upon their own confession of faith. The local church invites those who claim baptism prior to their own confession of faith and who desire to be members of a Mennonite Brethren congregation to receive baptism as a testimony to their own faith.

八、洗禮(Christian Baptism)

- 1.我們相信以水施洗是公開顯示一個人悔罪、得著赦免、與基督同死、並藉聖靈的能力得著新生命。
- 2. 洗禮亦是信徒公開宣稱加入基督身體的表示,而地方教會乃基督身體的具體表現。

9.Lord's Supper

Meaning

The church observes the Lord's Supper, as instituted by Christ. The Supper points to Christ, whose body was broken for us and whose blood was shed to assure salvation for believers and to establish the new covenant. In the Supper, the church identifies with the life of Christ given for the redemption of humanity and proclaims the Lord's death until He comes. The Supper expresses the fellowship and unity of all believers with Christ. It is a supper of remembrance, celebration, and praise which strengthens believers for true discipleship and service.

Practice

In preparation for the fellowship of the Lord's Supper, all believers examine themselves. All those who understand its meaning, confess Jesus Christ as Lord in word and life, are accountable to their congregation, and are living in right relationship with God and others are invited to participate in the Lord's Supper. The normal pattern in the New Testament was that baptism preceded participation in the Lord's Supper.

九、聖餐(Lord's Supper):

我們相信教會應按照基督的吩咐遵守主餐,藉此記念池受死代贖,慶祝獲得赦免、新生命並與全體信徒的團契及合一。

10.Discipleship

Following Jesus

We believe that Jesus calls people who have experienced the joy of new birth to follow Him as disciples. By calling His followers to take up the cross, Christ invites them to reject the godless values of the world and offer themselves to God in a life of service. The Holy Spirit, who lives in every Christian, empowers believers to overcome the acts and attitudes of the sinful nature. Filled with love and gratitude, disciples delight to obey God.

United in a Distinct Community

Christians enjoy fellowship with God and other believers. At baptism, believers are joined to the local church, commit themselves to build up the body of Christ, and witness to the good news of the Christian hope. In community, members grow in maturity as they demonstrate the fruit of the Spirit, use their spiritual gifts, and practice mutual accountability in the disciplines of the Christian life. Christians confess sin, repent, and experience God's grace in the life of the Christian community.

Demonstrating True Faith

Jesus teaches that discipleship is the way of self-denial and promises blessing for those who suffer for righteousness. Disciples are to resist worldly values and systems, the sinful nature, and the devil. Disciples give generously and reject materialism, which makes a god out of wealth. Disciples treat others with compassion and gentleness and reject violence as a response to injustice. Disciples speak honestly to build others up and reject dishonest, vulgar, and careless talk; they seek to avoid lawsuits to resolve personal grievances, especially with other believers. Disciples maintain sexual purity and marital faithfulness and reject immoral premarital and extramarital relationships and all homosexual practices. To be a disciple means to be true to Jesus in everyday life.

十、門徒生活(Discipleship)

- 1. 我們相信耶穌呼召所有經歷重生的人, 跟隨祂過一個付代價及服事神的生命。
- 2. 聖靈的能力使信徒脫離當代不義的生活模式, 改變成與神子民共享的喜樂順服之生命。

11.Marriage, Singleness, and Family

We believe that marriage and the family are instituted by God. The church blesses both marriage and singleness and encourages families to grow in love.

Marriage

Marriage is a covenant relationship intended to unite a man and a woman for life. At creation, God designed marriage for companionship, sexual union, and the birth and nurture of children. Sexual intimacy rightfully takes place only within marriage. Marriage is to be characterized by mutual love, faithfulness, and submission. A believer should not marry an unbeliever.

The community of faith blesses and nurtures marriage relationships, and makes every effort to bring reconciliation to troubled marriages. Human sinfulness, however, may sometimes lead to divorce, a violation of God's intention for marriage. With truth and compassion, the family of God offers hope and healing while continually upholding the biblical ideal of marital faithfulness.

Singleness

Singleness is honoured equally with marriage, sometimes even preferred. The church is to bless, respect, and fully include those who are single. Those who remain single may find unique opportunities to advance the kingdom of God. God calls all people, single and married, to live sexually pure lives.

Family

God intends family relationships at all stages of life to be characterized by love. Children are a gift from God. Godly parents instruct and nurture their children in the faith. Parents are to discipline their children wisely and lovingly, not provoking them to anger. Children are to honour and obey their parents.

十一、婚姻、獨身及家庭(Marriage, Singleness & Family)

- 1. 我們相信獨身及婚姻均為神所尊崇, 並應蒙教會祝福。
- 2. 神設立婚姻作為一男一女終身的信約,目的是互相作伴、彼此鼓勵、性親密及生育下一代。
- 3. 兒女是從神而來的恩賜, 須由父母按照神的方式教養。

12. Society and State

The State as Instituted by God

We believe that God instituted the state to promote the well-being of all people. Christians cooperate with others in society to defend the weak, care for the poor, and promote justice, righteousness, and truth. Believers witness against corruption, discrimination, and injustice, exercise social responsibility, pay taxes, and obey all laws that do not conflict with the Word of God.

God has given governments authority to maintain law and order and to punish wrongdoers. Followers of Christ respect and pray for those in authority so that peaceful order may prevail. We deplore the loss of life in the exercise of state-sanctioned violence.

Christian Allegiance in Society

The primary allegiance of all Christians is to Christ's kingdom, not the state or society. Because their citizenship is in heaven, Christians are called to resist the idolatrous temptation to give to the state the devotion that is owed to God. As ambassadors for Christ, Christians act as agents of reconciliation and seek the well-being of all peoples.

Because Christ forbids the swearing of oaths, we simply affirm the truth in legal transactions. Believers do not participate in secret societies which demand the swearing of oaths or which otherwise conflict with a Christian's allegiance to Christ and the church. At all times, believers are called to live as faithful witnesses in the world, rejecting pressures which threaten to compromise Christian integrity.

十二、社會及國家(Society & State)

- 1. 我們相信神設立國家, 目的是要申張公義、維持法律及秩序。
- 2. 基督徒首要是忠於基督的國度,信徒奉召是要指證不公正的事、履行社會責任、並且遵守一切不與神的道相違背之法律。

13.Love and Nonresistance

God's Community of Peace

Believers believe that God in Christ reconciles people to Himself and to one another, making peace through the cross. The church is a fellowship of redeemed people living by love. Our bond with other believers of Jesus transcends all racial, social, and national barriers.

Christian Peacemaking

Believers seek to be agents of reconciliation in all relationships, to practice love of enemies as taught by Christ, to be peacemakers in all situations. We view violence in its many different forms as contradictory to the new nature of the Christian. We believe that the evil and inhumane nature of violence is contrary to the gospel of love and peace. In times of national conscription or war, we believe we are called to give alternative service where possible. Alleviating suffering, reducing strife, and promoting justice are ways of demonstrating Christ's love.

十三、愛及不抗爭(Love & Nonresistance)

- 1. 我們相信神藉著十字架建立和平, 在基督裏使人與祂自己和好, 也使人類彼此相和。
- 2. 我們應尋求成為和平使者,實踐愛敵人的教導,以消弭痛苦、減少紛爭及申張正義來 彰顯基督的愛。
- 3. 由於暴力及戰爭與基督的福音相違背,我們相信在戰爭期間,我們的召命是提供其他服務。

14. The Sanctity of Human Life

We believe that all human life belongs to God. Each person is created in the image of God and ought to be celebrated and nurtured. Because God is Creator, the author and giver of life, we oppose all actions and attitudes which devalue human life. The unborn, disabled, poor, aging, and dying are particularly vulnerable to such injustices. Christ calls the people of all nations to care for the defenseless.

God values human life highly. Ultimate decisions regarding life and death belong to God. Therefore, we hold that procedures designed to take life, including abortion, euthanasia, and assisted suicide, are an affront to God's sovereignty. We esteem the life-sustaining findings of medical science, but recognize that there are limits to the value of seeking to sustain life indefinitely. In all complex ethical decisions regarding life and death, we seek to offer hope and healing, support and counsel in the context of the Christian community.

十四、生命的神聖(The Sanctity of Human Life)

- 1. 我們相信神是生命的創立者及施與者,並高度珍惜每一個人,任何設立用予奪取生命的制度均屬錯誤。
- 2. 我們反對貶低人類生命價值的態度,特別是對毫無抵抗能力的未出生胎兒、殘障人士、貧窮者及垂死者。

15.Stewardship

God's Creation Mandate

We believe the universe and everything in it belong to God the Creator. God has entrusted the care of the earth to all people, who are responsible for managing its resources. Good stewardship uses the earth's abundance to meet human need, but resists the unjust exploitation of the earth and its peoples. All God's gifts are to be received with thanksgiving and used responsibly.

Responsible Living

To confess Jesus as Lord transforms values. Jesus warns that we cannot serve both God and wealth. Preoccupation with money and possessions, self-indulgent living, and eagerness to accumulate wealth for personal advantage are not in keeping with the teaching of Scripture.

Generous Giving

The Bible teaches cheerful, sacrificial, and proportional giving through the church in grateful response to God's goodness. Christians do not claim any of their possessions as their own, but manage all their resources, including money, time, abilities, and influence, in generous ways that give glory to God. They do not despise the poor but practice mutual aid within the church and share what they have with others in need. God's people seek to embrace a lifestyle of simplicity and contentment.

十五、管家職事 (Stewardship)

- 1. 我們相信宇宙及其中所有事物均屬於神這一位創造主,我們蒙神交託負責管理其中的資源。
- 2. 所有神的賜予,包括金錢、時間、才幹及影響均應以感謝的心領受、忠誠地運用、無私地與人分享。

16. The Lord's Day, Work and Rest

We believe that God's act of creation is the model for human activity. While sin has corrupted work and rest, redeemed people are called to restore labour and rest to their proper place.

Work

As creatures made in the image of God, Christians imitate the Creator by working faithfully as they are able. They are to use their abilities and resources to glorify God and to serve others. Because they bear the name of Christ, all believers are called to work honestly and diligently and to treat others with respect and dignity.

Rest

As God rested on the seventh day, people are called to observe regular times of rest. Rest is an act of thankfulness for what God has provided. It is an act of trust, reminding humans that it is not their work but God who sustains them. Rest is an act of hope, anticipating the future rest assured by the resurrection of Jesus.

The Lord's Day

Following the New Testament example, believers gather to commemorate the resurrection of Christ and the coming of the Holy Spirit on the first day of the week. On the Lord's day, believers joyfully devote themselves to worship, instruction in the Word, breaking of bread, prayer, fellowship, and service, limiting their labour to work of necessity and deeds of mercy.

十六、主日、工作及休息(Work, Rest & Lord's Day)

- 1. 我們相信神的創造提供了工作及休息的典範。在工作上,我們運用我們的才能來榮耀 神及服事人。
- 2. 休息時, 我們表達對神供應的感謝及信靠神維持的恩典。

3. 在崇拜內, 我們一同聚集以敬拜、教導、團契及服事來記念復活。

17. Christianity and Other Faiths

Jesus Is the Only Way

We believe that the saving grace of God in Jesus is the only means of reconciling humanity with God. Although salvation is available to all, only those who put their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ have the assurance of eternal life.

God's Universal Witness

God has not left anyone without a witness to the Creator's goodness and power. Due to human rebellion, people have chosen to suppress the truth. While elements of truth may be found in other religions, Scripture warns against false teaching. Christians treat people of other faiths and philosophies with respect, but lovingly and urgently proclaim Christ as the only way of salvation for all peoples.

Sovereignty of God

God loves the world and does not want anyone to perish. In sovereign grace, God may communicate with people in ways that are beyond human comprehension. The Bible teaches that those who reject the gospel are under divine judgment; the eternal destiny of those who have never heard the gospel is in God's hands. Our task is to proclaim Christ as the only way of salvation to all people in all cultures. The Judge of all the earth will do what is just.

十七、基督教與其他信仰(Christianity & Other Faiths)

- 1. 我們相信神在耶穌裏的救贖工作是唯一使人與神和好的方法,神並沒用遺下任何人,使他們無緣體驗創造主的美善及能力。
- 2. 基督徒應尊重持有其他信念的人, 但仍迫切宣揚基督是救恩的唯一途徑。

18. Christ's Final Triumph

We believe that our Lord Jesus Christ will return visibly and triumphantly at the end of the present age. The church must always be prepared to meet the Lord, living in expectation of His imminent return.

The Last Days

In these last days, between the first and second coming of Christ, the church carries out its mission in the world. Believers often endure suffering and persecution because of their witness to Christ. In spite of opposition by evil powers, the church is assured of the final victory of Christ's kingdom. These last days come to an end with Christ's return.

Death

Since Christ destroyed the power of death by His resurrection, believers need not be afraid of death, the last enemy. Christ's followers go to be with the Lord when they die. When Christ returns, they will be raised and receive new bodies. Believers who are alive at Christ's coming will be transformed and will also receive new and glorious bodies, fit for life in God's eternal kingdom.

Judgment

When Christ returns, He will destroy all evil powers, including the Antichrist. Satan and all those who have rejected Christ will be condemned to eternal punishment in hell, forever separated from the presence of God. Believers must appear before the judgment seat of Christ to have their lives examined and their labours rewarded. By God's grace, they will enter into the joy of God's eternal reign.

The New Creation

All God's children will be united with Christ when He appears, and they will reign with Him in glory. Pain, sorrow, and death will be abolished, and the redeemed will be gathered into the new heaven and new

earth, where together with the angels they will worship God forever. God will make all things new, and God will be all in all. This is the blessed hope of all believers.

十八、基督最終的勝利(Christ's Final Triumph):

我們相信主耶穌基督會在這世代的終結時凱旋再來, 粉碎所有邪惡勢力、判決所有拒絕基 督者受永遠的刑罰、使信徒與基督合一、與神在榮耀裏永遠作王。