



Congregational Affirmation of Faith

The following beliefs represent the core of central orthodox beliefs from a biblical and historical perspective. While a full understanding and the ability to adequately articulate these beliefs is not required, the explicit rejection of any one of these particular beliefs disqualifies one from membership at Redeemed South Bay.¹

1. The Word of God

We believe that the Bible, consisting of the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments, is the Word of God, which is fully inspired and without error in the original manuscripts, written by godly men under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that it has supreme authority in all matters of life and Christian belief.

(2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20, 21; Mark 13:31; John 8:31, 32; John 20:31; Acts 20:32)

2. The Trinity

We believe that there is one true and living God, eternally existing in three persons; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit-- who are equal in every divine perfection, and that they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence, and redemption.

(Genesis 1:1, 26; John 1:1, 3; Matthew 28:19; John 4:24; Romans 1:19, 20; Ephesians 4:5, 6)

3. God the Father

We believe in God the Father, Creator of Heaven and Earth. He is infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. We believe that He infallibly foreknows all that shall come to pass, that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

(Genesis 1:1; Luke 10:21,22; Matthew 23:9; John 3:16; 6:27; Romans 1:7; 1 Timothy 1:1, 2; 2:5, 6; 1 Peter 1:3; Revelation 1:6)

4. God the Son, Jesus Christ

We believe in Jesus Christ, 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 personal visible return to earth.

¹ This congregational affirmation of faith is originally from Bethlehem Baptist Church. It was adopted and modified for our use in 2013. BBC's statement has since been slightly updated. Their current affirmation can be found at <https://bethlehem.church/congregational-affirmation-of-faith/>

(Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38; John 1:1; 20:28; Romans 9:5; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:21-23; John 20:30, 31; Matthew 20:28; Ephesians 1:4-5; Acts 1:11; Romans 5:6-8; 6:9, 10; Hebrews 7:25; Hebrews 9:28; 1 Timothy 3:16)

5. God the Holy Spirit

We believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ, and that He is an abiding helper, teacher and guide and gives gifts for the building up of the body of Christ.

(John 14:16, 17, 26; 15:26, 27; John 16:9-14; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19; Galatians 5:22-26; 1 Corinthians 12; Acts 1:8)

6. Sin

We believe that man was created by God, male and female, in His own image; that man sinned and thereby incurred physical, spiritual, and eternal death, which is separation from God; that as a consequence, all human beings are born with a sinful nature, choose to sin, and are therefore under condemnation. Sin affects every aspect of our being: mind, will, and affections. Apart from God's grace, fallen man is utterly incapable of reconciliation to God.

(Genesis 1:26; 5:2; Genesis 3; Genesis 6:5; Genesis 2:17; Eccl. 2:11; John 10:26; Romans 9:22; 2 Thessalonians 1:9; Rev. 19:3, 20; 20:10; 14, 15; Jeremiah 17:9; James 1:14; Romans 3:19; 5:19; Proverbs 28:13)

7. Salvation

We believe all who are regenerated by the Holy Spirit through the power of the Gospel, repent from their sin and trust Jesus Christ as Savior; have become new creatures, delivered from condemnation, and recipients of eternal life.

(John 3:14; 5:24; John 5:30; 8:12; Rev. 21:18; Psalm 51:7; Romans 5:19; Proverbs 28:13; 1 John 1:9; John 3:16; John 1:13; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 8:1)

8. The Church

We believe in the universal Church; a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head and all regenerated persons are members. It exists to worship, serve and glorify God. We believe in the local church, consisting of a company of believers in Jesus Christ, baptized on a credible profession of faith, and associated for worship, work, and fellowship. We believe that God has laid upon the members of the local church the primary task of delivering the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost world through the Great Commission. This commission is to proclaim the Gospel to all people groups, baptizing them and teaching them to follow the words and ways of the Lord Jesus Christ.

(Ephesians 2:19-22; Acts 1:8; Ephesians 5:19-21; Acts 2:42; Hebrews 10:23-25; Matthew 28:18-20)

9. Christian Conduct

We believe that a Christian should live for the glory of God and the well-being of his fellow men; that his conduct should be blameless before the world; that he should be a faithful steward of his possessions, gifts and talents; and that he should seek to realize for himself and others the full stature of maturity in Christ. We believe that we are to hold each other accountable in the obedience of faith through biblical discipline.

(1 Corinthians 10:31; Romans 12:1-3; Hebrews 12:1-2; John 14:15, 23-24; 1 John 2:3-6; 2 Corinthians 9:6-9; 1 Corinthians 4:2; Colossians 1:9-10; Matthew 18:15-17; James 5:19-20)

10. The Ordinances

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local church, baptism and the Lord's Supper. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of the believer into water in the name of the triune God. We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by Christ for commemoration of His death. We believe that these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

(Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

11. The Last Things

We believe in the personal, physical and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to earth and the establishment of His kingdom, a new heaven and a new earth. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the eternal blessedness of the righteous in Heaven and the endless suffering of the wicked in Hell.

(Matthew 16:27; Mark 14:62; John 14:3; Acts 1:11; Phil. 3:20; 1 Thessalonians 4:15; 2 Timothy 4:1; Titus 2:13; 1 Corinthians 4:5; 1 Corinthians 15; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10; Revelation 20:4-6, 11-15)