

# CENTRAL VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF FAITH

As a body of believers we affirm the following truths to be central to the Christian faith as laid down in scripture.

### **The Bible**

We believe the 66 books of the Bible, 39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament are God's Infallible Word, without error in the original manuscripts, communicated by the Holy Spirit and faithfully recorded by chosen men. It is the only sufficient and supreme authority in all matters of Christian faith, teaching and living; given to the world that God may be known and glorified.

II Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:19-20; Romans 10:17; I Corinthians 2:10-12; Hebrews 1:1-2

### **God**

We believe that there is one living, holy and true God who works all things according to the counsel of his own unchangeable and righteous will for his own glory; eternally existing in three distinct but not separate 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, justice, and redemption.

Deuteronomy 6:4; I Corinthians 8:4-6; Jeremiah 10:10; Isaiah 48:12; Exodus 3:14; I Timothy 1:17; Malachi 3:6; Isaiah 6:3; Isaiah 46:10; Proverbs 16:4; Romans 11:36; Exodus 34:6-7; Ephesians 1:4-12

### **The Father**

We believe in God the Father, an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. We believe that he actively 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.

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

### **The Son**

We believe Jesus Christ possesses two distinct natures yet is one person, fully God and fully man. We believe Jesus 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, ascension into heaven, everlasting intercession for His people, and personal visible return to earth.

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

### **The 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. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ, and that He is an abiding helper, teacher and guide.

John 14:16-17,26; 15:26-27; John 16:8-14; Romans 8:9; I Corinthians 3:16; 6:19; Galatians 5:22-26

### **Man**

We believe that God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. God made male and female to be equal in value and distinct in role. The man is to be the head of his own wife just as Christ is the head of the church. He is to love his wife as Christ loves the church. This involves sacrificial love. It involves a commitment to nourish and cherish her. The woman is to respect and submit to her own husband just as the church does to her head Christ. Together from the beginning mankind was to be fruitful and fill the earth with image bearers of God and exercise dominion over the earth as representatives of God in order that we might worship Him, as well as proclaim and enjoy His glory forever. We believe therefore, that man's deepest fulfillment and joy is found in communion with God. In Adam's sin, all mankind fell from this communion, leading to spiritual and physical death, and is now born sinful by nature, and by choice seeks fulfillment and joy outside of communion with God. We believe Jesus Christ, as the perfect mediator between God and mankind, redeems and forgives all those who repent and put their trust in Him alone, that we may now and forever proclaim and enjoy His glory in perfect communion with Him.

Genesis. 1:26-28; 5:2; Genesis 3; Genesis 2:17; 3:19; Eccl. 2:11; John 3:14; 5:24; John 5:24-30; 7:10-13; 8:12; 10:26-27; Romans 9:22; II Thessalonians 1:9; Rev. 19:3-20; 20:10;14-15; 21:18; Psalm 51:7; Jeremiah 17:9; James 1:14; Romans 3:19; 5:19; Proverbs 28:13; I John 1:9; John 3:16; John 1:13; II Corinthians 5:17; Romans 8:1; Ephesians 5:22-33; Colossians 3:18-19; 1 Corinthians 11:3; 1 Peter 3:1-7

### **Salvation**

Salvation belongs to the LORD! It is by the grace of God alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, to the glory of God alone. Salvation includes: Election, Calling, Regeneration, Repentance, Faith, Justification, Conversion, Adoption, Sanctification, Perseverance, and Glorification all by Union with Jesus Christ! It is the work of God whereby sinners are restored back to communion with God as it was in the beginning. All Sinners everywhere are commanded by God to repent of their sins and trust in Jesus Christ alone and His finished work for the forgiveness of their sins and to be made right

with God. Although salvation is a work of God, He not only acts on the sinner in a saving way but also works through the believer yielding fruit in accordance to salvation.

Psalm 3:8, 62:1; Revelation 7:10; Ephesians 2:8-10; Titus 3:5-8; Romans 1:17, 3:21-28, 4:1-14, 5:1-2; 8:1-2, 8:28-30; 9:11; 10:9-10; John 3:3-8, 3:16-18; Galatians 2:16; 3:1-9; 22-29; Philippians 2:12-13, 3:7-11; 1 Corinthians 15:1-2; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; Romans 6:1-5)

### **Church**

We believe in the universal church, a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head and that all those who trust in Christ are members. We believe the local church is a visible expression of the universal church, consisting of baptized believers united to Jesus Christ, who have repented of their sin and continue to do so, who meet regularly for the teaching of God's Word, prayer, fellowship, and celebrating the two ordinances: baptism and the Lord's Supper under the oversight of ordained elders who care for the flock of God entrusted to them. We believe that the church is called to be a faithful witness of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 2:19-22; Acts 1:8; Ephesians 5:19-21; Acts 2:42; Hebrews 10:23-25; I Corinthians 10:31; Romans 12:1-3; Hebrews 12:1-2; John 14:15,23-24; I John 2:3-6; II Corinthians 9:6-9; I Corinthians 4:2; Col. 1:9-10; Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 6:1-5; I Corinthians 11:23-26; 1 Peter 5:1-5; Hebrew 13:17; Acts 20:17-32.

### **Last Things**

We believe in the personal, visible, and bodily return of the Lord Jesus Christ, the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the eternal enjoyment of the righteous and the eternal punishment of the wicked.

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