

Statement of Faith

Christ Life Bible Church · Roseville, Michigan

The purpose of this church is to proclaim the gospel of the grace of God, to see souls saved, and to preach the word of God to see them come to the knowledge of the truth. We preach Christ crucified, salvation by grace through faith in the shed blood and finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ on Calvary. We teach Christ according to the revelation of the mystery committed unto the Apostle Paul. We promote the gathering of the saints and their serving one another in love, and the denying of ungodliness through the teaching of the grace of God.

What follows is a summary of the major doctrinal beliefs held by Christ Life Bible Church, presented section by section with supporting Scripture references. All Scripture citations and quotations used in the life and services of this church are from the King James Version.

1. The Bible

The Bible (all 66 books) in its original writings is inerrant, verbally inspired of God, and is of plenary authority, being the enduring Word of God. It is the one and only authority on matters of Christian faith and practice. It is a progressive revelation and must be studied in that light to correctly understand and apply it. God has promised to preserve His Word, and has designed to preserve it through the existence of multiple copies and languages of the original texts. We believe the King James Version is the proper translation of the proper source text and is God's preserved Word for English-speaking people. The King James Version is our text for all services.

II Timothy 3:16–17; II Peter 1:21; Matthew 24:35; I Peter 1:23; II Timothy 2:15

2. The Godhead

There is one God, eternally existing in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 4:4–6; John 10:30; Philippians 2:6; Deuteronomy 6:4; John 14:16; Acts 5:3–4; II Corinthians 13:14; Acts 17:29; Romans 1:20; Colossians 2:9

3. Jesus Christ

He is fully God and fully man in one Person. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and was, is, and always will be without sin.

Philippians 2:6–9; John 8:58; Matthew 1:20–25; Luke 1:32, 35; II Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 4:15, 7:26; I Peter 2:22; Romans 1:3–4; Colossians 2:9

4. The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is a Person of the Godhead. He convicts the world of sin. He regenerates, baptizes, indwells, enlightens, seals, and empowers all believers.

I Corinthians 2:13; John 16:8; Titus 3:5; I Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 4:30, 1:17–18; I Corinthians 6:19

5. Man and His Nature

Because of the fall of Adam, every person inherits a nature inclined toward sin, and every person capable of moral action has and will sin. Before salvation, a person's sin makes them spiritually dead, in need of reconciliation and life, under the wrath of a holy God, and under condemnation to an eternity in hell. No sinner is capable of achieving salvation through any work of their own effort; salvation comes only through a free response to the Holy Spirit's drawing through the Gospel.

Genesis 3:15–22, 6:5; Isaiah 6:5, 53:6; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 1:18–32, 3:9–18, 3:23, 5:12, 6:23, 8:7–8; I Corinthians 6:9–10, 15:22; Ephesians 2:1–4; I John 2:15–16; Revelation 20:11–14

6. The Gospel

The Gospel is the good news that God has made a way of salvation through the life, death, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ for any person, in keeping with God's desire for every person to be saved. All are capable of responding to the Gospel. Any person who responds with faith is a new creation in Christ and enters, at the moment he believes, into eternal life through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 1:16, 3:21–28, 4:4–5, 5:8, 6:4–11, 8:32; I Corinthians 15:1–4; II Corinthians 5:17–21; Colossians 1:20–22, 2:13; I Timothy 1:15, 2:3–4; Ephesians 1:13–14, 21

7. Election

Election speaks of God's gracious and purposed plan to have a people who are His by faith — those who are in Christ. In this dispensation of grace, election refers to those who respond by faith to the Gospel and are placed into Christ; it refers to God's purpose, not to a pre-determining of certain individuals for salvation or condemnation apart from any decision of the will to believe the Gospel.

Romans 8:28–33; Ephesians 1:4–6, 10, 2:11–22, 3:1–11, 11:7; II Timothy 1:9; II Thessalonians 2:13

8. Security of the Believer

All the saved are eternally secure in Christ. Being saved by faith in the Gospel, the believer is sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession. This sealing will not be broken by God, and cannot be broken by death, man, nor any other creature.

Romans 3:21–26, 8:29–30, 35–39; II Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 1:4, 13–14; Philippians 1:6; Colossians 3:1–4; II Timothy 1:12

9. Resurrection

Jesus Christ was resurrected bodily from the dead. Believers will be raised from death to everlasting glory; unbelievers will be raised in a separate resurrection unto everlasting condemnation.

Luke 24:39; Romans 4:24–25; I Corinthians 6:14, 15:5–8, 22–24; Revelation 20:11–15

10. The Catching Up of the Church

The catching up of the church, which is His Body — also known as the rapture — will occur in the pre-tribulation return of Christ in the air, coming to receive the members of His Body to Himself.

I Thessalonians 4:13–18; Philippians 3:20–21; I Corinthians 15:51–53

11. The Second Coming

The second coming of Christ to the earth will be pre-millennial. In this coming He will set up His millennial kingdom, a literal, physical kingdom upon this earth, over which He will reign for one thousand years.

Zechariah 14:4, 9; Acts 1:10–11; Revelation 19:11–16, 20:4–6

12. The Church

In this present dispensation of grace there is only one true Church, called the Body of Christ, comprised of all individuals who have trusted the Gospel and are in Christ. Groups of believers who gather together in a location comprise a local church, a local manifestation of the Body of Christ. The local church assembles to do the work of the ministry: to evangelize, by preaching the gospel of the grace of God; to edify, by teaching Christ according to the revelation of the mystery; to manifest, as a visible expression of the spiritual Body of Christ; and to expand the gospel beyond the local community to the whole world.

Acts 11:26, 7:38, 2:46–47; Romans 1:5–6, 16:1, 12:3–10; Luke 1:16–17; Matthew 16:18; I Peter 2:9–10; Ephesians 1:22–23, 3:8–9, 4:1–6, 4:11–16; Colossians 1:18–25, 1:24–29; I Corinthians 1:2, 12:12–13, 27; Acts 20:7; I Timothy 2:4, 3:15; II Timothy 2:1–2; Titus 2:4; Galatians 6:2, 5:13–14; II Corinthians 5:14–21, 5:18–21; Philippians 1:5, 27–29

13. Ordinances

There are no ordinances or sacraments to be observed by the church during the dispensation of grace.

Colossians 2:14–17; Galatians 5:1

14. Communion

The communion revealed through the Apostle Paul in I Corinthians 11 is for members of the Body of Christ — the church coming together around a meal in fellowship around their common union in Christ. Communion is not partaking of the literal flesh and blood of Christ.

I Corinthians 11

15. Baptism

All saved persons have been made members of the Body of Christ by one divine baptism — baptism into the Body of Christ by the Holy Spirit — by which every member is identified with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection. In light of the one baptism described in Ephesians 4:5 and Christ's statement in I Corinthians 1:17 that He sent Paul not to baptize but to preach the Gospel, we affirm that water baptism has no place in God's spiritual program for the Body of Christ in this day of grace.

Ephesians 4:5; I Corinthians 1:17, 12:13

16. Giving

Before the dispensation of grace, Israel was instructed and required to tithe, in part to support the Levitical priesthood; in the age of grace, that priesthood and the tithe as outlined in the Old Testament are no longer in place. In the current dispensation, the believer is encouraged by God to give according to how they purpose in their own heart, as a cheerful giver, knowing that funds are sometimes necessary to accomplish the work of the ministry and the edification of the saints.

II Corinthians 9:6–8; I Timothy 5:18

17. Spiritual Gifts

The gifts necessary for the ministry of the Body of Christ are those enumerated in Ephesians 4:7–16. The sign gifts of the Acts period — such as tongues, prophecy, and miraculous healing — were temporary in nature, testifying to the revelation of God as Scripture was being written, and have ceased now that the Word of God has been completed. The Word remains our sufficient guide.

I Corinthians 12:1–31, 13:8–11, 14:19; II Timothy 3:16–17

18. The Believer's Walk and Service

All Christians are called with a holy calling and are to walk after the Spirit, not after the flesh, living in the power of the indwelling Spirit so as not to fulfill the lust of the flesh. The sin nature is never eradicated in this life but can be kept in subjection by the enabling power of the Lord in the life of the yielded believer. Heavenly rewards are promised for faithful service and holy living; all good works come from Christ's life being manifest in us.

Romans 6:12–13, 8:4, chapters 12–14; Galatians 2:20, 5:16, 25, 6:7–10; Ephesians 4, 6:10; Colossians 1:10, 2:6, 3:1–17