

# Hope in Christ Church: *Statement of Faith*

Scripture

God

Man

Grace

Church

## We Believe:

**GRACE:** Grace is the unmerited, undeserved love of God manifested in Jesus Christ. Jesus, who is fully God and fully man, was sent by God the Father to save mankind from slavery to sin. Jesus was born of a virgin, lived a perfect life, suffered and died as an atoning sacrifice for all sins, physically rose from the dead and will one day return to deliver His followers and judge the world. Faith in Jesus Christ is the only means by which mankind can escape judgement, separation from God and eternal damnation.

## Key Verses Supporting the Doctrinal Statement concerning *Grace*:

### *Unmerited Love:*

Salvation is by His Grace through faith [Romans 3:20-24](#), [Ephesians 2:8-9](#)

Grace is from God's love, mercy & purpose [2 Timothy 1:8-10](#), [Titus 3:3-8](#)

### *Fully God, Fully Man:*

Jesus is God, who became a man [John 1:1,14a](#), [Romans 1:1-4](#), 9:5, [Hebrews 2:17](#)

He had a Godly nature, human appearance [Romans 8:1-4](#), [Philippians 2:5-8](#)

### *Sent by the Father:*

God, the plan architect, sent His Son [John 3:16-17](#), 11:41-42, [Galatians 4:4-5](#)

### *Slavery to Sin:*

Who is a slave to sin? -- "everyone who sins" [John 8:34](#)

All humans are either a slave to sin or to obedience [Romans 6:16-18](#)

### *Child of a Virgin:*

Isaiah prophesied the virgin birth in c. 1900 B.C. [Isaiah 7:14](#)

The virgin Mary had a miracle conception [Matthew 1:18-23](#), [Luke 1:26-38](#)

### *Perfect Life:*

Jesus lived life without sinning [Isaiah 53:9](#), [2 Corinthians 5:21](#), [Hebrews 4:15](#)

Sacrificial lamb without blemish [Exodus 12:1-11](#), [John 1:29](#), [1 Peter 1:18-19](#)

### *Died for Sins:*

The death of Jesus paid the debt for all sins [Romans 6:10](#), [1 Peter 3:18a](#)

No one took the life of Jesus, He gave it freely [John 10:7-18](#) [17-18]

The death of Jesus was in God's plan [Isaiah 53:1-12](#), [Acts 2:22-24](#), 4:27-28

### *Physically Raised:*

Christ died, was buried and was resurrected [1 Corinthians 15:3-8](#)

Prophesied both in the OT and in the NT [Psalm 16:8-10](#), [John 2:18-22](#)

### *Return for Followers:*

The Second Coming is a comforting promise [Jeremiah 23:5-6](#), [John 14:1-3](#)

Jesus will rapture His Church [Matthew 24:30-31](#), [1 Thessalonians 4:16-17](#)

Later He will come as Warrior, King and Judge [Revelation 19:11-16](#)

### *Judge of All:*

The Father has entrusted all judgement to His Son [John 5:19-23](#), 9:39

All humans will be judged [Hebrews 9:27](#), [2 Corinthians 5:10](#), [Revelation 20:11-14](#)

### *Only Way to Salvation:*

The Narrow Way is through Jesus Christ [Matthew 7:13-14](#), [John 14:6](#)

The Book of Life is the Heavenly roster [Revelation 20:15](#), 21:22-27

**Psalm 16:8-10** I have set the LORD always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

**Isaiah 7:14** Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

**Luke 1:26-38** In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel said to her, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ... For nothing is impossible with God." "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

**John 2:18-22** Then the Jews demanded of him, "What miraculous sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?" Jesus answered them, "**Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.**" The Jews replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" But the temple he had spoken of was his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

**John 5:19-23** "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, to your amazement he will show him even greater things than these. For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it. Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him."

**John 8:34** Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin."

**John 10:17-18** [Jesus said:] "The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life – only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."

**John 14:1-3** Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

**John 14:6** "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

**Acts 2:22-24** "Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him."

**Romans 1:1-4** Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God – the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Romans 6:16-18** Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey – whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

- 1 Corinthians 15:3-8** For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me...
- 2 Corinthians 5:10** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.
- Galatians 4:4-5** But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.
- Ephesians 2:8-9** For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.
- Philippians 2:5-8** Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross!
- 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17** For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.
- 2 Timothy 1:8-10** So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God, who has saved us and called us to a holy life – not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.
- Hebrews 4:15** For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet was without sin.
- Hebrews 9:27** Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment,
- 1 Peter 1:18-19** For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.
- 1 Peter 3:18a** For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.
- Revelation 19:11-16** I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. ... He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.
- Revelation 20:11-15** Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.
- Revelation 21:22-27** I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. ... On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it. Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.