



**CHRIST COMMUNITY**  
CHURCH

## Our Vision and Mission Statements

The vision of Christ Community Church is to bring glory and praise to God, to proclaim the hope of salvation in Christ to Eastern Idaho and beyond, and to lead disciples into the joy of Christ-centered community.

The mission of Christ Community Church is to make disciples of Jesus who gather to worship in Spirit and in truth (Jn 4:23), who grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ (2 Pet. 3:18), and who go into the world proclaiming the Gospel (Mt. 28:19-20).

**Trademark Expression:** Exalting Christ together

## Our Vision Statement (Long Version)

In the power of the Holy Spirit through prayer, Christ Community Church will strive to be . . .

1. A church that brings glory and honor to the Triune God. Led by God's Spirit, we will cultivate an inspiring and an attractive community of wholehearted worship and praise to Him.
2. A church that is transformed by the life of Christ through accurate biblical teaching. A church that relentlessly and persistently proclaims the Gospel message.
3. A church that matures in Christ. We will create small groups, classes, seminars, and training environments that promote the spiritual growth and health of all believers.
4. A church that experiences healthy growth by making new disciples who become disciple-makers of their friends, family, and neighbors.

5. A church where children, youth, individuals and families can experience God's salvation, restoration, and purpose for their lives.
6. A church that experiences an ever-increasing burden for local and foreign missions: To go where Christ has called us; To send and support long and short-term missionaries; To train each member of CCC to think and live "missionally" in the world.
7. A church that is led by qualified and trained leaders. We will raise up new leaders and volunteers through a recognition of God's gifting and calling, through leadership mentoring and training, and strategic placement in ministry.
8. A church that promotes belonging as we relationally invite the residents of Idaho Falls and the surrounding area to gather and worship the one true God.
9. A church that regularly calls the congregation to corporate prayer for our people and our nation.
10. A church that strategically partners with other area Christian churches in order to seek unity in Christ and cooperation in the true Gospel.
11. A church that serves Christ by meeting the spiritual and material needs of those in our community.
12. A church that regularly gives visible and public witness to the life of God's people.

## **Essentials of Faith and Teaching**

### **The Bible**

The sole basis of our beliefs is the Bible—God's infallible written Word, the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments. We believe that it was verbally and fully inspired by the Holy Spirit and that it was written without error in the original manuscripts (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21). We hold that God has providentially preserved the biblical texts, thus, we affirm the Bible to be

God's word (Matthew 5:18; Mark 13:31; John 17:17). It is the supreme and final authority in all matters on which it speaks, and there are no other writings similarly inspired by God. It is eternal and relevant for all time (Matthew 5:18). The writings of the Bible are united in a single purpose – to declare the person and the redemptive work of Jesus Christ (Luke 24:27; John 5:39).

Scripture, in its entirety, originated with God and was given through the agency of chosen men. Therefore, Scripture speaks with the authority of God through the backgrounds, styles, and vocabularies of its human writers. Some statements of Scripture may be difficult to understand because of our lack of knowledge of the original language, historical context, and culture of the writers. Nevertheless, the things which are necessary to be known, believed, and observed for salvation are so clear in Scripture that all who are aided by God's Spirit may understand them (2 Peter 3:15-18; 1 John 2:27 [For more information on our beliefs, see "The Bible is God's Word" position paper.](#)

## **God**

There is one true God (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 44:6; 46:9), infinite in being and perfection (Job 11:7-9), eternally existing in three persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – each of whom possesses equally all the attributes of deity and the characteristics of personality (Psalm 90:2; Matthew 3:16-17; 28:19). God is Spirit (John 4:24; 1 Timothy 1:17) and unchanging in His attributes (James 1:17). He is holy (Isaiah 6:3), all-powerful (Genesis 17:1; Job 42:2), ever-present (Psalm 139:7-10), and all-knowing (Psalm 147:5). God is love (1 John 4:8, 16)—mercifully forgiving sin (Exodus 34:6-7) and rewarding those who diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6)—and yet perfectly just, hating all sin (Psalm 5:5).

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth and all things in them out of nothing, thus manifesting the glory of His power, wisdom, and goodness (Genesis 1:1ff;

Proverbs 16:4; Romans 1:20; Revelation 4:11). By His sovereign power, He sustains His creation (Romans 11:36; Colossians 1:16-17). By His providence He operates throughout history to fulfill His redemptive purposes (Daniel 4:35; Ephesians 1:11).

## **Jesus Christ**

Jesus Christ is the eternal second person of the Godhead, who took on flesh through His miraculous conception by the Holy Spirit and His virgin birth (Luke 1:26-35; John 1:1-14; Philippians 2:6-8). Thus, He became perfect man without ceasing to be God – two complete natures, divine and human, existing in one person (Colossians 1:19).

Jesus Christ lived a sinless life and voluntarily died on the cross for the sins of mankind as their substitute, according to the eternal plan of God, thus satisfying divine justice and accomplishing salvation for all who trust in Him alone (1 Peter 2:21-25; John 10:17-18; Acts 2:23; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Matthew 20:28; 1 John 2:1-2). He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, was buried, and rose from the dead in His physical body (1 Corinthians 15:1-8). He ascended into heaven, where He is in the presence of God the Father (Acts 1:9-11). He is the only mediator between God and man and continually intercedes on behalf of believers (1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 7:24-25).

Jesus Christ will return to earth literally, personally, and visibly. He will return to meet all believers in the air—the dead first and then those who are alive (Titus 2:13-15; 1 Thessalonians 4:17; 2 Peter 3). The imminence of His coming should motivate believers to live godly lives.

## **The Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit has come into the world to reveal and glorify Christ (John 16:12-15). He convicts and draws people to Christ, imparts new life to them, continually indwells them from the moment of spiritual birth, and seals them until the day of redemption (Titus 3:5; Romans 8:2-4; Ephesians

1:13-14). He baptizes believers into the Body of Christ, the church (1 Corinthians 12:13). Every believer is to yield to the control of the Holy Spirit and, so, be filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18). In this way, believers experience the power to “put to death the deeds of the body,” to bear spiritual fruit, to please God, and to glorify God (Romans 8:1-17; Galatians 5:16, 22-23).

## **Man**

Mankind (male and female) was created in the image of God and blessed with communion with God (Genesis 1:26-27; 2:7). Our first parents (Adam and Eve), however, disobeyed God’s command and fell from their original blessed state (Genesis 3:1-24). Because of their sin, they and all of their descendants (all mankind) were alienated from their Creator and incurred God’s just condemnation. Moreover, this historic fall brought about the corruption of man’s nature, so that of himself, man is totally unable to please God or accomplish anything that pertains to salvation (Romans 3:9-20; 3:23; Ephesians 2:1-3). Thus, every person is in need of forgiveness, regeneration, and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

## **Salvation**

The salvation of man is the work of God’s free grace and is not earned through human works or religious ceremony (Mark 10:17-21; Isaiah 64:6). God gives His righteousness to those who repent of their sin and trust in Christ alone for salvation. He justifies them in His sight on the basis of Christ’s death in their place, for their sins (John 3:16-18, 36; Romans 3:21-26; Ephesians 2:1-10; Titus 3:4-7). God gives assurance in His Word that, when He has begun a saving work in the heart of any person, He will continue performing it until the day of its completion (Philippians 1:6; 1 John 5:13; Ephesians 1:14; 4:30).

The Bible affirms the bodily resurrection of all people: those who have received Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and

Savior to everlasting life, and those who have rejected the Lord Jesus Christ to everlasting punishment (1 Corinthians 15:22-24; Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 20:4-6, 11-15).

## **The Church**

There is one true universal church comprised of all those who acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Jesus Christ is the head of the church. All those who come into union with Jesus Christ become part of His body, the church (Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 1:22-23).

God has provided His commands and His direction for the church in His Word, the Bible. The Holy Spirit is the source of the church's power. The Holy Spirit leads and guides the church through God's Word in a way which is consistent with God's Word. The Holy Spirit's role is to indwell, guide, and empower believers in order to conform them to the character of Christ (Psalm 119; John 16:13; Acts 1:8; Romans 8:10-11; Ephesians 1:13; 5:18; Galatians 5:16-25; 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:16-17; Titus 1:1-3).

Scripture commands believers to gather together to devote themselves to worship, prayer, teaching of the Word of God, fellowship, service to the congregation, outreach to the world, and observance of baptism and communion. The local expression of the church occurs wherever God's people meet together regularly in obedience to these commands. The members are to work together in love and unity, intent on the ultimate purpose of glorifying Christ under the leadership and watchful care of elders and the supportive leadership of deacons (Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Ephesians 4:11-16; Philippians 2:1-2; 1 Thessalonians 5:14-21; Galatians 6:2,10; Titus 1:5; Hebrews 10:24-25).

The church is commanded to make disciples of all nations by the proclamation of the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8).

Baptism and the Lord's Supper (communion) are commanded by Christ. These sacraments, or ordinances, are to be practiced by the church. They are not to be regarded as a means of salvation but as a means to bring glory to Him (Matthew 26:19-29; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34; Acts 2:41).

### **Faith and Practice**

Scripture is the final authority in all matters of faith and practice (2 Timothy 3:16-17). We recognize that we should not and cannot bind the conscience of individual members in areas where Scripture is silent. Rather, each believer is to be led in those areas by the Lord, to whom he or she alone is ultimately responsible (Romans 14:1-23; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13).

### **Statement on Marriage**

Because God has ordained marriage and the Bible defines marriage as the covenant relationship between a man, a woman, and God, Christ Community Church will only recognize marriages between a biological man and a biological woman (Genesis 2:20-25; Matthew 19:3-10). Further, the pastors and staff of Christ Community Church shall only participate in weddings and solemnize marriages between one man and one woman. Finally, the facilities and property of Christ Community Church shall not be used for weddings other than those between one man and one woman.

### **Sanctity of Life**

We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image (Genesis 1:26-30). This includes human life in all its dimensions: pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through physical death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life (Psalm 139).

We believe this “Essentials of Faith and Teaching” to be an accurate summary of what Scripture teaches. All members shall refrain from advocating doctrines that are contradictory to this statement and from advocating any doctrine not included in it in such a way as to cause dissension (Ephesians 4:1-6; Titus 3:9-11).