

# *Arann Reformed Baptist Church*

## **The Church's Statement of Faith**

We believe in:

- 1 The full and verbal inspiration of all the Old Testament and New Testament Scriptures as originally given, and of these alone:<sup>1</sup> their being in themselves the Word of God, without error, and wholly reliable in both fact and doctrine;<sup>2</sup> their final authority and perpetual sufficiency in all matters of faith and practice.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Exod 24:4 2 Sam 23:1,2 Jer 1:9 30:1-4 36:1,2 Jn 8:26-28, 31, 32, 46, 47 1 Cor 2:12,13 2 Cor 13:3 2 Tim 3:15-17 Heb 1:1,2 2 Pet 1:19-21 <sup>2</sup> Ps 19:7-11 119:140,160 Dan 10:21 Matt 5:17,18 Jn 10:35 17:17 Rom 3:1,2 1 Thess 2:13 <sup>3</sup> Is 8:20 Lk 16:29-31 1 Cor 14:37 Rev 22:18,19

- 2 The unity of the Godhead and the divine co-equality of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit;<sup>1</sup> the sovereignty of God in creation,<sup>2</sup> providence,<sup>3</sup> and redemption.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Deut 6:4 Num 6:24-27 Matt 28:19 2 Cor 13:14 1 Jn 5:7 Rev 1:4,5 <sup>2</sup> Gen 1:1-31 Ps 33:9 Acts 17:24,25 Rom 1:20 Rev 4:11 <sup>3</sup> Ps 103:19 Prov 19:21 Is 46:9,10 Dan 4:35 Matt 10:29-31 Eph 1:11 <sup>4</sup> Lk 1:68-75 Eph 1:4-14 Titus 2:11-14 Heb 9:11,12 1 Pet 1:18-20 Rev 5:9

- 3 The total depravity of human nature in consequence of the fall,<sup>1</sup> and the necessity for regeneration.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Gen 3:1-7 6:5 8:21 Ps 51:5 Jer 17:9 Mk 7:21-23 Rom 3:10-19 5:12-19 8:7 Eph 2:1-3 <sup>2</sup> Jn 1:12,13 3:3-7 2 Cor 5: 17 Gal 6:15 Eph 2:1,5,10 Titus 3:5 James 1:18 1 Pet 1:23

- 4 The true and proper deity of our Lord Jesus Christ,<sup>1</sup> his virgin birth;<sup>2</sup> his real and perfect manhood;<sup>3</sup> the authority of his teaching, and the infallibility of all his utterances;<sup>4</sup> his work of atonement for sinners of mankind by his substitutionary sufferings and death;<sup>5</sup> his bodily resurrection<sup>6</sup> and his ascension into Heaven;<sup>7</sup> and his present priestly intercession for his people at the right hand of the Father.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Is 9:6 Jn 1:1 5:18 14:9-11 16:15 20:28 Rom 9:5 Phil 2:6

Col 2:9 Heb 1:3,8 1 Jn 5:20 <sup>2</sup> Is 7: 14 Matt 1:18-23 Lk 1:26-35  
<sup>3</sup> Jn 1:14 Phil 2:7 1 Tim 2:5 Heb 4:15 7:26 1 Pet 2:22  
<sup>4</sup> Matt 7:29 Jn 7:15-17, 46 12:47-50 <sup>5</sup> Is 53:4-6 Matt 20:28  
Rom 5:6-11 2 Cor 5:21 Gal 3:13 1 Pet 3:18 <sup>6</sup> Matt 28:1-6  
Lk 24:36-43 Jn 20:24-29 1 Cor 15:4 <sup>7</sup> Mk 16:19 Acts 1:9-11  
Eph 1:20-23 1 Pet 3:22 <sup>8</sup> Rom 8:34 Heb 7:25 9:24 1 Jn 2:1

- 5 The justification of the sinner solely by faith in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Is 45:25 53:11 Jn 3:16-18,36 Acts 13:38,39 16:31  
Rom 1:16,17 3:24-28 4:1-5 5:1 8:33,34 9:30-33 10:1-4  
1 Cor 6:11 Gal 2:16 3:8,11,24 Eph 2:8,9 Phil 3:8,9 1 Jn 5:10

- 6 The work of the Holy Spirit as essential for a true and spiritual understanding of the Scriptures:<sup>1</sup> for regeneration,<sup>2</sup> conversion,<sup>3</sup> and sanctification,<sup>4</sup> and for ministry<sup>5</sup> and worship.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Prov 1:23 Jn 6:45 14:26 16:13,14 1 Cor 2:9-12 Eph 1:17,18  
1 Jn 2:20,27 <sup>2</sup> Jn 3:5-8 6:63 Acts 11:15-18 Titus 3:5  
<sup>3</sup> Jn 16:7-14 Acts 3:19 1 Cor 12:3 <sup>4</sup> 2 Cor 3:18 Gal 5:16,22-25  
Eph 3:16 <sup>5</sup> Acts 4:31 1 Cor 2:4,5 2 Cor 3:6-8 <sup>6</sup> Jn 4:24 Rom 8:26  
Eph 2:18 5:18-20 Phil 3:3

- 7 The universal Church, the body of which Christ is the Head, embracing all the redeemed, called by God through the Gospel, born of the Spirit and justified by faith;<sup>1</sup> the local church, comprising such believers as the expression of the universal Church,<sup>2</sup> and fellowship between such churches, manifesting the unity of the body of Christ.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Matt 16:18 Acts 20:28 Eph 1:22 3:10,21 5:23-32 Col 1:18-24  
Heb 12:23 <sup>2</sup> Matt 18:17 Acts 11:22 13:1 15:41 16:5  
Rom 16:1,5,16 1 Cor 1:2 Gal 1:2 <sup>3</sup> Acts 15:1-4, 22-31  
1 Cor 16:1-3 2 Cor 8:19,23 Col 4:15,16

- 8 The ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper as being instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ,<sup>1</sup> but not in Baptism as conveying regenerating grace,<sup>2</sup> nor in the Lord's Supper as being a sacrifice for sin or involving any change in the substance of the bread and wine.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Matt 28:19 1 Cor 11:23-32 <sup>2</sup> Acts 8:13,20-23 8:36,37 10:44,47  
16:14,15 18:8 1 Cor 1:17,21 <sup>3</sup> Matt 26:29 1 Cor 11:26-28  
Heb 7:23,27,28 9:25-28 10:11-13

- 9 The personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ in glory.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Matt 16:27 25:31 Jn 14:3 Acts 1:11 3:20,21 1 Cor 1:7  
Phil 3:20 Col 3:4 1 Thess 1:10 2:19 3:13 4:16,17 5:23  
2 Thess 1:7-10 1 Tim 6:14 Titus 2:13 Heb 9:28 Jude 14  
Rev 22:7,12,20

- 10 The resurrection of the body;<sup>1</sup> the judgment of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,<sup>2</sup> with the eternal blessedness of the righteous<sup>3</sup> and the eternal punishment of the wicked.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Job 19:26 Is 26:19 Jn 5:28,29 6:39,40 Acts 4:2 24:15  
Rom 8:11 1 Cor 15:20-23, 42-45, 48-54 Phil 3:21 <sup>2</sup> Matt 25:31-34  
Jn 5:22 Acts 10:42 17:31 Rom 2:16 14:10-12 2 Cor 5:10  
2 Tim 4:1 Rev 20:11,12 <sup>3</sup> Matt 25:46 Jn 10:28 1 Cor 15:53  
1 Thess 4:17 2 Tim 2:10 1 Pet 1:4 2 Pet 1:11 Rev 22:3-5  
<sup>4</sup> Matt 25:41,46 Mk 9:44 2 Thess 1:9 Jude 13 Rev 14:9-11

This brief statement summarizes the doctrines that all church members believe. In the Baptist Confession of Faith of 1689 these truths are amplified and other important truths are set forth. The teaching of the church will reflect the theology of the 1689 Confession, to which the Pastor and all other Officers are required to give assent.

## *The Church Covenant*

*We acknowledge the Lord Jehovah, the one true and living God, to be our God in Jesus Christ; and we take hold of the Covenant of Grace, established between God the Father and God the Son for the redemption of lost sinners, and exhibited in the Gospel that they may believe in Christ and be brought out of a state of sin and misery into a state of salvation.*

*In the presence of the eternal God, the Searcher of all hearts, we solemnly give ourselves to the Lord and to one another in order that we may unite in one church, for the honour of his name and for the edification, holiness and comfort of our souls.*

*We promise and bind ourselves to make God's glory our end and God's Word our rule in all our worship, service, and conduct. We also promise to maintain biblical truth, attend the services for public worship, observe the instituted ordinances of God's house, respect and support church officers, persevere in true holiness of heart and life, advance the cause of the gospel of salvation, and cultivate the grace of brotherly love, not only avoiding causes of division but also promoting mutual peace and prosperity.*

*These and all other duties to be found in God's Word we desire to perform, relying upon God's free grace, the precious blood and righteousness of Christ, and the promised sanctifying ministry of the Holy Spirit.*

*We call both heaven and earth to witness our solemn covenant with God and each other; and while fervently praying for a divine blessing on the union formed, we give thanks to our merciful and gracious God who has given us a place and a name in his house better than of sons and daughters.*