



PROVIDENCE CHURCH

# CORE BELIEFS

## SCRIPTURE

*Matthew 5:18;*  
*2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21;*  
*John 1:1-18*

The Lord desires us to know and to love Him with all of our hearts. We cannot love Him without knowing Him. He has revealed Himself and His will primarily to us through the Bible so that we may know and walk with him intimately. We believe that the 66 books of the Bible are the verbally inspired and authoritative words of God, and therefore both infallible and inerrant. We affirm that the Bible was inspired by the Holy Spirit, written by man, and proves true in all that it affirms in practice and in history. The Scriptures inform all that we believe about God and direct all that we do by faith and practice for God. We believe that the Bible is the final authority in all we do and for the life of our church.

## GOD

*Genesis 1:26; Psalm 110:1;*  
*Isaiah 48:16; 63:10;*  
*John 1:1-2;*  
*2 Corinthians 13:14*

We believe in a Trinitarian God. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit is the most marvelous relationship that has ever existed. Their relationship has always existed and explains creation, relationship and abundant life. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are co-equal and co-eternal in their divinity, yet separate in person. They are submissive in role only and each person is to be worshipped as God. The Spirit reveals to us the Son, the Son glorifies the Father, and it is the Father whose will it is for us to know Him and His Son, and

## **THE FATHER**

*Genesis 1:1, 1:26;  
Deuteronomy 6:4;  
Matthew 28:19-20; John 4:24*

He is the sovereign Creator of all things. It is by His will and design that all things exist and are held together. He created everything out of nothing. Everything is made for His glory and for His glory alone. It was by His grace and His own desire that He sent the Son to make payment for our sins, providing the way into a restored relationship with Him. It has always been His desire that we might know Him and live in relationship with Him. He created man to live in this relationship with Him. He is Love. By Him we define what Love is.

## **JESUS**

*Matthew 1:23-25, 25:46;  
John 1:1, 1:14, 3:16, 5:24,  
5:28-29; Acts 2:24-27, 9:1-11;  
Hebrews 4:15, 9:27; Genesis  
1:26-27; Romans 1:25, 3:23-  
25, 5:12-14, 6:23, 10:18;  
Colossians 1:15-20; James  
3:9; Revelation 20:11-15*

We believe Jesus is the Son of God, fully man and fully God. He is the firstborn over all creation. By Him and through Him all things were created and are sustained by His word. He is the physical revelation of God to us, the visible image of an invisible God, who conceived supernaturally by the Holy Spirit, was born of a virgin, and both fully God and fully man. He lived before creation with the Father and lives now in physical form, reigning at the Father's right hand over all kingdoms, rulers and authorities. Through His life, death, and resurrection, the gift of salvation is offered to all who place their faith in Him. Jesus is the only mediator between God and man and will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, for believers unto eternal life and for unbelievers unto eternal death. His kingdom will have no end.

## **HOLY SPIRIT**

*Matthew 28:19; John 3:3-7;  
1 Corinthians 2:12; Ephesians  
1:13-14, 4:30*

We believe in the Person of the Holy Spirit, fully God and worshipped and adored as God. The Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin and reveals to us the person and work of the son, Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is a person and, therefore, has volition, emotion, and intellect. He guides, leads, directs, and teaches the believer in all things. He knows all things, and there is nothing hidden from His sight. It is by the power of the Holy Spirit that a believer is even able to live the life Jesus calls us to live. He is the seal and the guarantee of our salvation and sonship of God. We believe that while the Holy Spirit fills us fully at salvation, His influence in our lives can be hindered by sin. He never leaves us as a result of sin, but He desires us to yield ourselves to His power and His influence.

CONCEIVED IN HER IS FROM  
GIVE BIRTH TO A SON, AND  
ME JESUS, BECAUSE HE WILL  
FROM THEIR SINS."



## MAN & SIN

*Genesis 1:1, 1:26;  
Deuteronomy 6:4;  
Matthew 28:19-20; John 4:24*

We affirm that all humanity is made in the image of God and created to live in right relationship with Him. However, our choice to sin caused a breach in that perfect relationship with God, rendering us powerless to restore the relationship that has been broken. We believe that sin also distorts our view of God, self, and others, and that left to ourselves we are unable to remedy our lost condition.

## SALVATION

*Luke 4:18-19; John 1:12, 29,  
3:16-17, 3:36, 10:10,  
Romans 3:21-26, 5:1-2, 8, 11;  
Acts 2:36-38; I Peter 2:9-10,  
24-25; II Corinthians 5:17-  
21, 6:2; Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7;  
Galatians 3:13-14, 4:3-5;  
Ephesians 2:4-9; I Corinthians  
15:3-4; I John 3:16; Hebrews  
2:14-15, 9:12, 14, 22, 24, 26-  
28, Colossians 1:19-22, 2:13-  
15; Revelation 5:9-10*

We believe that God pursues all who are lost and that the gift of salvation, while offered to all by grace, must be received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, whose blood was shed on the Cross for the forgiveness of sins. He who has the Son has life, he who does not have the Son does not have life and the wrath of God remains on him (John 3:36)

We believe that salvation is a gift from God and inspired by love. In His substitutionary death, Jesus bore all of our sins, shame, and guilt, taking upon himself the full consequence of sin and death, satisfying the covenant justice of God, and thus removing the estrangement between God and those who place their faith in Jesus.

Jesus' sacrifice on the cross brought about forgiveness of sin and cleansed those that put their trust in Jesus from sin and death, making a way for the Holy Spirit to dwell with them. Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection broke the power of the evil one over those who put their faith in Jesus and restores their ability to rightly reflect the image of God in this world. This redemption calls us to live life in service, sacrifice, and love for one another and the world. The death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus marks the beginning of the restoration of this world to its original design and waits in hope for Jesus to bring it to completion at His personal and visible return.

## **THE CHURCH**

*Matthew 6:18, 28:19-20;*  
*Acts 2:41, Romans 12:4-9;*  
*Ephesians 1:22-23, 3:10,*  
*4:11-13;*  
*1 Thessalonians 1:1;*  
*1 Corinthians 12:7, 12:12-13;*  
*1 Peter 4:10, Colossians 1:18*

Jesus ascended in order to empower His church to help restore this broken world. They are living their mission through our surrendered lives and community. We believe the Church is the Body of Christ, the hope of the world. The one true Church is composed of all those who acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Wherever God's people meet regularly, there is the local expression of the church.

The church, under the watchful care of elders and other supportive leaders, are to work together in love and unity, intent on the ultimate purpose of bringing glory to God. Scripture commands all believers to be active in a local church body, devoting themselves to worship, prayer, and the teaching of God's Word. Participation in a local body also includes the observance and practice of believer's baptism, communion as the sacramental ordinances established by Jesus Christ, fellowship, spiritual gifts, service to the body, and outreach to the world, thereby glorifying Christ and furthering His purposes.

## **MARRIAGE, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY**

*Genesis 1:26-27, 2:18-25;*  
*Matthew 15:18-20;*  
*1 Corinthians 6:9-10, 7:2-5,*  
*18; Hebrews 13:14*

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture.