

Statement of Faith

A. We affirm the doctrines of the Nicene Creed:

We believe in one God,
The Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
Of all things, visible and invisible;
And in one Lord,
Jesus Christ, the Son of God,
The Only-begotten,
Begotten of the Father before all ages,
Light from light,
True God from true God,
Begotten not created,
Of the same essence as the Father,
Through Whom all things were created.
For us mortals and our salvation
He came down from the heavens
And became flesh from the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
And became man.
He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate,
Suffered and was buried.
On the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures;
He ascended into the heavens,
And sits at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead,
And of His kingdom there will be no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
The Lord and the giver of life,
Who proceeds from the Father,
Who with the Father and the Son
Is together worshipped and together glorified.
Who spoke through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
And the life of the age to come.
Amen.

B. Summary of beliefs

Trinity Baptist Church is a 'Reformed Baptist' church. As such we adhere to the historical doctrinal standards of Calvinistic Baptist churches such as the London Confession of 1689. Our core beliefs may be summarised as follows:

1. Scripture

- We believe that the 66 canonical books of the Old and New Testaments are the inspired, infallible, and inerrant Word of God, and the supreme rule of faith and practice.
Ps 119:160; 2Tim 3:16; 2Pet 1:21

2. God

- We believe in the Triune God, the only living and true God, Who is infinitely great, wise, powerful, holy, and loving.
Duet 6:4; Jn 17:3; Ps 145:3; Ex 34:6-7
- We believe that the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are three distinct persons who have one and the same divine nature, power, and glory.
Matt 28:19; Jn 1:1; Eph 4:4-6

3. Christ

- We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is both God and man in one person. Col 2:9; 1Jn 4:2
- We affirm
 - ~ His conception by the Holy Spirit; Lk 1:35
 - ~ His virgin birth; Matt 1:23
 - ~ His sinless humanity; Heb 4:15, 7:26
 - ~ His substitutionary atoning death; 2Cor 5:21; 1Jn 4:10
 - ~ His resurrection from the dead on the third day in the same body that had lain in the tomb; 1Cor 15:3-4
 - ~ His ascension into heaven; Acts 1:9
 - ~ His coming again in power and glory. 1Thess 4:16

4. Holy Spirit

- We believe in the personhood and deity of the Holy Spirit, through Whom the soul is born again to saving repentance and faith and by Whom the saints are sanctified through the truth. Is 63:10; Eph 4:30; Jn 3:5, 16:13; 1Pet 1:2

5. Creation

- We believe that God made the world and all things in it, in the space of six days, and all very good. Gen 1:31
- We believe that God created in His image and likeness the first man, Adam, the representative head of the human race. God created him upright, innocent and holy, and capable of serving and glorifying Him. Gen 1:26-27; 1Cor 15:45

6. Original Sin

- We believe that when Adam sinned he brought divine condemnation upon himself and all his descendants. All people are therefore born in a state of guilt and condemnation before God, having neither desire nor power to turn to Him. Rom 5:12,19; Ps 51:5; Eph 2:1-3

7. Unconditional Election

- We believe that God has eternally and unconditionally chosen those who will be saved, out of His pure grace and love, and not because of any foresight of faith or good works in them. Jn 6:37, 44, 65; Eph 1:4-5, 2:8

8. Particular Redemption

- We believe that the sacrifice of Christ was offered in the place only of those particular people whom God had eternally chosen to salvation. Jn 10:11, 17:9

9. Justification

- We believe that the justification of God's chosen people is on the basis only of the righteousness of Christ imputed to them, and does not depend in any way upon their own good works. Rom 4:1-5; Eph 2:8-9
- We believe that sinners are justified only through faith that receives and rests on Christ and His righteousness. Rom 5:1; Phil 3:9

10. Regeneration

- We believe that regeneration is the gracious, effective and invincible work of God the Holy Spirit, in which spiritual life and a holy nature are imparted to the redeemed sinner. Ps 110:3; Phil 1:6; Jn 1:12-13; Rom 8:10; Tit 3:5

11. Final Perseverance

- We believe that all those who are chosen by the Father, redeemed by the Son, and sanctified by the Spirit, will certainly be preserved through all temptations and trials, so that not one of them shall ever perish, but all shall have everlasting life. Jn 3:16, 6:39, 10:28; Rom 8:30

12. The Final Judgement

- We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead, of both the just and the unjust, and that Christ will come a second time to judge both the living and the dead.
Jn 5:29; 2Tim 4:1
- We believe in the resurrection of the body, the everlasting blessedness of the saved and the everlasting conscious punishment of the lost.
1Cor 15:42-44; 1Jn 3:2; Matt 25:46; Lk 16:23; Rev 20:15

13. Baptism

- We believe that baptism was instituted by the Lord Jesus Christ as a sign and seal of the believer's union with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection.
Rom 6:4; Col 2:12
- We believe that only those who actually profess repentance towards God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ should be baptised.
Acts 2:38, 8:36-37
- We believe that it is the duty of every believer to be baptised in water upon the profession of faith in Christ.
Matt 28:19; Acts 2:41, 22:16

14. The Lord's Supper

- We believe that the Lord's supper was instituted by the Lord Jesus Christ to be observed by the local church until His return as a memorial of His sufferings for His people, as a means of spiritual nourishment, and as a pledge of fellowship with Christ and with each other.
Lk 22:14-23; 1Cor 11:23-26

15. Church Membership

- We believe that it is the duty of every believer to join a local church, when it is possible to do so.
Heb 10:25
- We believe that the membership of the church should consist only of those who have been baptised as believers.
Acts 2:41
- We believe that Jesus Christ is the Head of each local church, and that each local church is self-governing under God.
Eph 4:15-16; Rev 1:20
- We also believe that each local church should help and work with other churches as opportunity offers.
Col 4:15-16

16. Christian Morality

- We believe that a genuine profession of faith expresses itself in living a life of holiness according to the Word of God.
Ex 20:1-17; Matt 7:17; 2Cor 7:1; 2Tim 1:9; Heb 12:14
- We believe that Christian morality and sexuality are clearly defined by the Bible, and are not altered by changing cultures or prevailing consensus.
Ps 119:142, 160; Mal 3:6; Lev 18:6-23; 1Cor 6:9-11; Rev 21:8
- We believe that marriage is defined as a life-long, exclusive, monogamous relationship between a man and a woman, and that this is the only lawful context for sexual activity.
Matt 19:4-6; 1Cor 7:2; Heb 13:4

17. Evangelism

- We believe it is the responsibility of every church and Christian to be engaged in the work of proclaiming the gospel and making disciples.
Matt 28:18-20; Mk 16:15