

God

There is one God, eternally existing in three distinct persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. All three were present in creation. God is the Creator and Sustainer of the universe and everything in it.

Genesis 1:1, 26-27; Psalms 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14

Jesus

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is one with God the Father and the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ is our Savior, who was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died on a cross for all sin, and was raised from the grave after three days demonstrating His defeat of sin and death. He ascended into heaven and will return to reign as our powerful King.

Matthew 1:22-23; John 1:1-5, 14; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Ephesians 2:8-9; Colossians 2:9-10; Hebrews 1:4-5; 1 Timothy 6:13-15; 1 Peter 1:20-21

Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is one with God the Father and Jesus Christ. Those who accept and obey Christ as their Savior will receive the Holy Spirit to live inside them. The Holy Spirit serves as our comforter, guide and advocate. The Holy Spirit is given to Christians and provides guidance in living, understanding of the Bible, and prayerful intercession.

John 14:16-18, 16:7-15; Acts 1:8, 2:38; Galatians 5:22-26; 1 Peter 1:1-2; 1 Corinthians 2:6-16, 3:16; Ephesians 1:13

Bible

The Bible is the authoritative and infallible Word of God; it is God's revelation about Himself to man. It is internally accurate and consistent, telling one story of redemption pointing to Jesus Christ. God used over 40 different authors to write the 66 books of the Bible, all being divinely directed by the Holy Spirit. The Bible is the living Word of God, applicable to all time, and is our measure and standard of truth.

Psalms 1:1-2, Psalm 12:6; Proverbs 30:5; John 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 Peter 1:20-21; Hebrews 4:12

Humanity

Human beings are the pinnacle of God's creation — created in the likeness and image of God (Imago Dei). However, we have all rebelled against God through sin and separated ourselves from the glory of God; we all are in need of redemption and restoration to the intended likeness we were created in that has been distorted by sin.

Genesis 1:27, 3:22-23, Genesis 5:1-2; Romans 3:21-26; Romans 5:12; 1 Corinthians 15:49; Colossians 3:1-4

Salvation

Salvation is not something that can be purchased or earned. It is a free gift from God provided by Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, and is received through obedient faith. It is available to everyone who accepts Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. That faith is initially accompanied by repentance of sin and baptism by immersion.

John 3:16; Acts 4:12; Romans 5:10, 6:23, 10:10; Ephesians 2:8-10

Baptism

The Bible teaches that we are saved by grace through faith. Baptism is an integral part of responding in faith to Christ and the Gospel. Following our understanding of Scripture, we practice baptism by immersion for the remission of sins. The Greek word used throughout the New Testament for baptism is "baptizo," which means to plunge, dip, or immerse. Jesus modeled this form of baptism and commanded it, making baptism an act of obedience and faith. Baptism by immersion represents the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus, symbolizing our old self dying, being buried in the water, and raised as a new creation in Christ Jesus. Anyone who has professed faith in Jesus Christ should be baptized immediately or as soon as it can be arranged.

Matthew 3:13-17; Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 2:38; Acts 8:12-13; Acts 8:36-38; Acts 10:44-48; Romans 6:3-4; 2 Corinthians 5:17

Communion

Also known as the Lord's Supper, communion is an ordinance given to all believers by Jesus Christ that symbolizes our new covenant. The elements of bread and wine (or juice) are symbols of Christ's body and blood and are a reminder of Jesus' ultimate sacrifice to pay the debt of our sins. Communion is a testament of a believer's faith in the atoning work of the cross. When we partake we remember Christ, we examine ourselves, we consider each other, and we proclaim His death until He returns. As a body of believers, we take communion weekly during our worship services.

Matthew 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:19-20; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 11:23-29

Marriage, Sexuality, and Gender

We believe in the Biblical view of marriage and sexual expression; namely, that marriage is a one-flesh covenant union between two sexually different persons (male and female) from different families, and that all sexual relationships outside the marriage covenant are sin. God has given His people two best ways to enjoy connection in His Kingdom and church family: celibate singleness for the sake of kingdom work with undivided attention, or lifelong marriage between one woman and one man. Scripture teaches that God made male and female. Biological sex is an essential part of human identity. All forms of abuse, slander, dehumanization, or oppression toward fellow humans is an affront against God's sacred image, which has been stamped upon all people.

Genesis 1:26-27, 2:18-25; Matthew 19:4-6; Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:18-20; 1 Corinthians 7:2-5; Hebrews 13:4

Complementarian View of Gender Roles

Men and women are absolutely equal in essence, dignity and value but are distinct by divine design. As part of God's good created order, men and women are to have different yet complementary roles and responsibilities in the home and church. As it relates to the church, men and women are both qualified to do and lead ministry; however, the roles of Elder and Senior Minister are reserved for qualified men.

Genesis 2:18-25; Galatians 3:27-28; 1 Corinthians 11:1-3; 1 Timothy 3:1-2; Titus 1:5-16; 1 Peter 5:1-4



Helping people become lifelong disciples of Jesus

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MEMBERSHIP Expectations

We are thrilled that you desire to be part of the Mt. Gilead family! There is so much that God wants to do in your life as you seek to become a lifelong disciple of Jesus. There are several significant expectations that we have of members of Mt. Gilead Church, which we believe will help you grow as a disciple of Jesus. Please give these careful consideration and affirm below on the bottom of this page that you will do your best to pursue Jesus and His power as you fulfill these expectations, as a member at Mt. Gilead

Personal Spiritual Growth

As a member, I am committed to lifelong transformation in my individual spiritual growth as I pursue a holy life through regular personal time of prayer and study of Scripture. I'm committed to my spiritual family members and our mission and doctrine as a church.

Baptism by Immersion

Baptism by immersion represents the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus, symbolizing our old self dying, being buried in the water, and raised as a new creation in Christ Jesus. Anyone who has professed faith in Jesus Christ should be baptized immediately or as soon as it can be arranged. *(Baptism does not need to have occurred at Mt. Gilead.)*

Regular Church Attendance

It's vital for the family of God to stay connected to one another. We believe it is important to participate with the church body in fellowship, prayer, communion, and teaching from Scripture. *(Acts 2:42)*

Serving

God isn't interested in your ability as much as He's interested in your availability. Paul writes to the Corinthian church that there is one body, but that body has many parts. *(1 Corinthians 12:12-26)* The same could be said for Mt. Gilead. Our church family needs what you have to offer as you serve in one of the ministries within the church as well as at local outreach initiatives.

Involved in Life-Giving Relationships

The discipleship pathway provides environments for individuals to continue growing as lifelong disciples of Jesus. Members are expected to be either leading or participating in one of these environments.

Consistent Financial Generosity

We expect God to do great things *here, near, and far* because of the generosity of the members of Mt. Gilead Church.



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