

## **Mercy Hill Church Statement of Faith**



### ***The Word of God***

We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error in the original manuscripts, written by men under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that it has supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct. The Bible, including all the books of the Old Testament and New Testament, is Holy Scripture and the inspired true word of God. It is fully authoritative and our only absolutely trustworthy guide for life and faith. Furthermore, we affirm the general counsel of the Chicago Statement of Biblical Inerrancy (1978)

### ***The Sovereign and Triune God***

God exists eternally in three persons as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, yet is nonetheless one God. God is sovereign in creation, in history, and in salvation, ruling over all things in perfect faithfulness, righteousness and absolute goodness. He infallibly knows all that will happen, ordering and ordaining all things according to the good purpose of his own will. He deserves the worship and obedience of all people.

### ***The Supremacy of Christ***

God the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, is the eternal Word of God and the only Savior of mankind, fully God and fully man. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, and died for our sins. He rose in victory from the grave and personally appeared to his disciples. He ascended to heaven, where he is now seated at the right hand of God the Father, and will come again a second time at the close of history.

### ***The Empowering of the Holy Spirit***

God the Holy Spirit unites the church, dwells within believers, and empowers them to accomplish God's will. He convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. He brings people to repentance through the proclamation of the gospel and leads them to faith in Christ. He begins and completes the work of transformation into the likeness of Christ in the lives of believers, and is himself the seal and security of our salvation.

The Holy Spirit gives believers supernatural gifts to build up his church and for works of ministry in the world. The gifts of the Holy Spirit described in Scripture are still available and vital today, and all believers should actively seek the filling of God's Spirit and the godly practice of these gifts.

### ***The Centrality of the Cross***

All people are born sinners, and our salvation is by grace alone, through repentance and faith in the finished work of Christ on the cross. This is the only means by which God removes the guilt and penalty of sin, bringing eternal life to those who believe. The good news of Jesus Christ is for all peoples everywhere, in every nation.

### ***The Ministry of The Church***

All believers have received gifts from the Holy Spirit and are qualified by grace as ministers of Christ. We are joined together into a family of believers, the church, where we share fellowship and experience life together. The church is God's agent for global transformation, a community that demonstrates heaven's society on earth. Each believer should be a committed member of a local church, and actively participate and contribute towards the extension of God's kingdom on earth.

### ***The Sanctity of the Sacraments***

Baptism is for all who profess faith in Christ Jesus, and is done by immersion in water as an act of obedience and public confession of the lordship of Christ. Holy Communion, the Lord's Supper, is to be shared only by believers in Christ who are abiding in grace, and is an important expression of our covenant with God and one another.