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Bridgeway Church Statement of Faith for Covenant Membership

1. We believe that the Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are the inspired Word of God and the final authority for all Christian faith and life (Matthew 5:18; John 10:35; 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21).
2. We believe that the one true God exists eternally in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and that these, being one God, are equal in deity, power, and glory (Isaiah 40-48; Psalm 104; Psalm 139; Matthew 10:29-31; 28:19; Acts 17:24-28; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Ephesians 1:9-12; 4:4-6; Colossians 1:16-17; Hebrews 1:1-3; Revelation 1:4-6).
3. We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, that he was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, offered himself as a substitutionary sacrifice for sinners, and was physically raised from the dead on the third day (Isaiah 53:1-12; Matthew 1:18-25; John 1:1-18; Romans 8:34; 1 Corinthians 15:1-28; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 3:10-14; Ephesians 1:7; Philippians 2:6-11; Colossians 1:15-23; 2:15; Hebrews 7:25; 9:13-15; 10:19; 1 Peter 2:21-25; 1 John 2:1-2; 3:8).
4. We believe that the Holy Spirit is fully God, equal with the Father and Son, that he imparts spiritual life through regeneration (the new birth), and that he indwells, leads, illumines, and graciously empowers for godly living and service all who come to faith in Christ (Matthew 3:11; John 1:12-13; 3:1-15; 15:26-27; 16:7-15; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22; Ephesians 1:13-14; 5:18).
5. We believe that all humanity (with the exception of Jesus Christ) are born subject to sin and moral corruption, and are therefore by nature and choice the children of wrath, justly condemned in the sight of God, wholly unable to save themselves or to contribute in any way to their acceptance with God (Genesis 1-3; Psalm 51:5; Romans 3:9-18; 5:12-21; Ephesians 2:1-3).
6. We believe that we are justified by grace alone, through faith alone, in the redemptive work of Christ alone. No ordinance, ritual, work, or any other activity on the part of an individual is required in order to be saved (John 1:12-13; 6:37-44; 10:25-30; Acts 13:48; 16:30-31; Romans 3-4; 8:1-17,31-39; 9:1-23; 10:8-10; Ephesians 1:4-5; 2:8-10; Philippians 2:12-13; Titus 3:3-7; 1 John 1:7,9).
7. We believe that Christians will live for eternity in glorious fellowship with their great Triune God. Those who die without Christ will suffer eternal separation from the presence of God (Matthew 25:46; Luke 16:19-31; John 5:25-29; 1 Corinthians 15:35-58; 2 Corinthians 5:1-10; Philippians 1:19-26; 3:20-21; 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10; Revelation 20:11-15; 21:1-22:15).
8. We believe in the personal, physical appearing of Jesus Christ when he returns to the earth as King to consummate his kingdom and to reign with his people for eternity (1 Corinthians 15:20-28,50-58; Philippians 3:20-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11; 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12; Revelation 19:1-21).

[The longer and more detailed *Bridgeway Statement of Faith* articulates what our church Elders and Pastoral Staff believe and what will be taught as the official position of this body both publicly and privately. The shorter *Bridgeway Statement of Faith for Covenant Membership* articulates what one is required to believe to become a member of this local church. Our aim in this document is to be as broad and welcoming as possible while remaining true to the conservative, Protestant, evangelical tradition with which we identify ourselves. Thus, although you may not agree with all the doctrinal points in the longer statement, we ask that all covenant members of the church agree not to teach contrary to them.]