

FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH of Northern Kentucky

What We Believe

- **Jesus is Lord.** The singularity, the exclusivity, the divinity of the one Lord Jesus is central to who we are. He is the Bread of Life. The Water of Life. The Lamb of God. The Way, the Truth, and the Life. The one Mediator between God and humankind. The Lord of lords, the King of kings. The Son of Man. The Son of God. The Word become Flesh. The Name at which every knee shall bow. (Acts 2:36).
- **Holiness.** The Person, the work, and the power of the Holy Spirit is fundamental to who we are as a people. We unabashedly own the truth that the Spirit can transform us, possess us, equip us, and empower us. It is the work of the Holy Spirit that sanctifies us, makes us holy, sets us apart for sacred service, and seals us for eternity's sake. It is the Spirit that convicts us of sin and enables us to overcome sin. It is the Holy Spirit that can breathe supernatural gifts into us, for Jesus' sake. He is the Comforter promised by Jesus and the witness of our redemption (Gal 5:22–23).
- **Unity.** We are a people uniquely called by God to be a catalyst for Christian unity, believing that the division of the body of Christ is hell's greatest weapon to thwart heaven's ends in this world. We are convinced that the splintering of the body is not the Lord's work, but the enemy's; we believe that hell trembles at the prospect of a people united, redeemed by the blood, and possessed by the Spirit (John 17:21).
- **The Great Commandments.** Love God with your whole self. And, love your neighbors as yourself. The Scripture tells us this is the sum of the Law and the Prophets. When a teacher of the Law sought to test Jesus (Luke 10), asking, "What must I do to have eternal life?" Jesus asked him what he read in the Scripture. When the man replied with the Great Commandments, Jesus approved, saying, "You have answered well; do this and you will live." It was this exchange that birthed the parable of the Good Samaritan. As a people in the pursuit of holiness, the Great Commandments direct us.
- **The Supremacy of Scripture.** We are a people of the Bible—the Old and New Testaments, supernaturally inspired, preserved across time, cultures, and continents, delivered to us, useful for reproof and instruction, for righteousness. The Scripture is our backstop, the ultimate field of inquiry and judgment, the measure of conduct, faith, and practice. Whatever the question, whatever the test, whatever comes before us, in the end, it is the Scripture, above all other disciplines, that informs and defines us. All other sources of knowledge fall beneath its shadow (2 Tim 3:14–17).
- **Great Commission.** To go and make disciples is the divine privilege and responsibility given to each of us. We champion the work of evangelism and discipleship in our own neighborhood, as well as the sending of international and home missionaries to places beyond our individual reach (Matt 28:19–20).
- **Kingdom of God.** The rule and reign of God is a present reality to be embraced and experienced today. His kingdom is not of this world, and will therefore never be about earthly politics. As children of God, the spiritual riches of the King of kings are ours to claim and steward as we preach the good news of the kingdom to the world (Luke 17:20–21)
- **The Trinity.** Though difficult for the human mind to fully comprehend, our one God expresses himself in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Each person of the Trinity serves a unique role to bring God glory and accomplish his purposes in the world (Gen 1:26; 2 Cor 13:14)
- **Salvation.** We believe salvation is a free gift that comes only by God's grace, through faith in Jesus Christ. Man can never make up for his sin by self-improvement or good works – only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can man be saved from sin's penalty. All people are born with a free will and must

choose to accept or reject the gift of salvation. At the moment, a person makes the choice to sincerely repent (turn away) from their sin and accept Christ by faith, according to God's Word they will receive forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Their names are then written in the Lamb's Book of Life and they are eternally secure in that fact. (Jn 3:16; Jn 5:24; Jn 14:6; Titus 3:3-7; Rom 6:23; Eph 2:8-9)

- **Baptism.** We believe that scriptural water baptism is an ordinance of the church, commissioned by the Lord Jesus. Baptism by immersion, pouring, or sprinkling symbolizes the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus and is your public declaration that you have accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. Baptism does not save you but shows the world that you have already been saved. While baptism is not required for salvation, it is a Biblical command and demonstrates your love and obedience to Christ. (Rom 6:4; Matt. 28:19).

Since children are born into the world with natures inclined to sin, and yet the prevenient grace of God provides for their redemption during that time before the age of accountability, parents are encouraged to testify to their faith in God's provision by presenting their infant children, according to their conscience, for either dedication or baptism.

- **Communion.** We believe Communion (Lord's Supper) is an ordinance given to all believers by Jesus Christ to remember His sacrifice for us and to symbolize the new covenant. The bread and wine are symbols of Christ's broken body and shed blood. Communion is not a means of salvation. Rather, it is a testament of a believer's faith in the atoning work of the cross and will be practiced in the church. (Matt 26:26-30; 1 Cor 11:23-29)

- **The Family.** God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption. Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church and to provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards, and the means for procreation of the human race. (Genesis 1:27-28, 2:24)

The husband and wife are of equal worth before God, since both are created in God's image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people.

Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents. (Ephesians 6:1-4)

- **Christ's Return.** We believe in the personal and bodily return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service and energetic mission. (Matthew 24:36-44, Luke 21:25-28, 1 Thes. 4:16-17, Revelation 1:7)

- **Eternal Destiny.** We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation. We believe that when Christians die, they pass immediately into the blessed presence of Christ, there to enjoy conscious fellowship with the Savior until the day of the resurrection and the glorious transformation of their bodies. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord in the new heaven and the new earth, to the praise of His glorious grace. (Luke 16:19-31, John 5:25-29, 1 Corinthians 15:35-58, 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10, Revelation 20:11-15, Revelation 21:1-22:15)