

Theological Statement of Faith.
Rev. Carl Kandel

God:

I believe in one God, who is creator and sustainer of all things. I believe God to be infinite in Love, perfect in judgment and unchanging in mercy. I believe that God exist eternally in three persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

Scripture:

I believe that Holy Bible is the divinely inspired word of God. I believe in the truthfulness and authoritativeness of both the Old and the New Testament. I believe this to be the only written Word of God without error in all that it affirms. The Scriptures are the only infallible rule of faith and practice. The Holy Spirit preserves God's Word in the church today and by it speaks God's truth to people of every age.

Humankind:

The human beings were created in the image of God. This image was marred in every part through the disobedience of Adam and Eve our first parents. Fellowship was then broken with God which caused the fall of Humankind. God, by His Prevenient grace, restores moral understanding to all humankind and enables all to respond to his love and to accept his saving grace if they will.

Jesus Christ:

I believe that Jesus Christ is the incarnate Son of God, born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered and died for the sins of all taking upon Himself, on behalf of sinful persons God's judgment upon sin. In his body he rose from the grave and ascended to the right hand of the Father where He intercedes for us today.

Holy Spirit:

I believe that the Holy Spirit is God present and active in the world. The Holy Spirit was given to the church at Pentecost. By the Spirit Christ lives in the church, the gospel is proclaimed, and the kingdom of God is manifested in the world.

Justification:

I believe that God graciously justifies and regenerates all who come to faith in Jesus. Believers become children of God and begin to live in holiness through faith in Christ and the sanctifying Spirit.

Sanctification:

I believe that God calls all believers to a sanctifying moment of full surrender and faith subsequent to their new birth in Christ. Through sanctifying grace, the Holy Spirit delivers them from all rebellion toward God and makes possible wholehearted love for God and others. This grace does not make believers faultless nor prevents the possibility of their falling into sin but it allows for them to walk in the fullness of Christ.

Assurance of Believers:

I believe that Christians are assured that they are children of God by the inward witness of God's Spirit with their spirits, by faith in the gracious promise of God's Word, and by the fruit of the Spirit in their lives.

The Church:

I believe that the church is the people of God composed of all those who believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The church is Christ's body and is to be visible to the world. It is where believers are to hear the Word of God, receive the Sacrament's of Baptism and Holy Communion and live as disciples of Jesus Christ. Christ's Church exists for all to meet, preach and live Christ. The Scripture specifically tells us that it is the church where Christians are equipped to do ministry

Return of Christ:

I believe in the personal return of Jesus Christ, in a bodily resurrection of all persons in final judgment, and eternal reward and punishment.

God's Ultimate Victory:

I believe in Christ's ultimate victory over Satan and all evil. I believe in the establishment of His perfect kingdom in a new heaven and a new earth. I believe in the Lordship of Jesus Christ and in the victory that we gain by faith in Jesus Christ.