

# Statement of Faith

Heart of Worship Church

Est. January 2016

18065 Legonier Access Rd  
Lettsworth, LA 70753

- I. **The Holy Bible** - We believe the Holy Bible is truly the divinely inspired word of God to its entirety from Genesis to Revelation. It is comprised of theological instructions, institutions, and applications, as well as historical records of various peoples, nations, and supernatural beings. His word is also comprised of poetic adoration, proverbial wisdom, and finally prophetic revelations of God's plan involving individuals, and/or nations regarding current or end-time applications. Regarding the Holy Bible, we also believe that what God endorsed then, He endorses now. What He rejected then, He rejects today. (*Hebrews 13:8*) What He promised and fulfilled for prophets, kings, apostles, teachers, disciples, servants, leaders, laity, etc., He can also promise, and fulfill the same to anyone He chooses today. (*Romans 2:11*). We believe that to date, the purest opportunity for literal translation of the intended revelation from every author involved is the *King James Version*. We unapologetically teach, and preach from this version only. For administrations, leadership, deaconship, and board, the application of this version is required. For general attendees, and/or members, the *King James Version* is recommended.
- II. **One True God** - We believe that there is only one God (*Deuteronomy 6:4, Ephesians 4:6*) as revealed to us throughout scripture in three distinct persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. (*1 John 5:7*).
- III. **Jesus Christ** - We believe that Jesus Christ is God who was formed into flesh, (*John 1:1,14; 5:18; 8:24,58; 10:30-33; 20:28; Colossians 2:9; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 1:8*) who came, bled and died, resurrected and ascended to heaven to pay the penalty of our sin to restore relationship between God and mankind, as well as eternal position in heaven. (*Isaiah 53:5-6; John 14:6; Acts 26:18; Romans 5:6, 8-9; 6:10; 1 Peter 3:18; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; Hebrews 7:27; 9:28; 10:10-14*)
- IV. **Salvation** - We believe that all peoples kindred, and nations, are born into sin (*Romans 3:10, 23*) and need redemption only found in Jesus Christ alone! (*Luke 14:6*) We believe that salvation is only possible through faith (*Romans 5:1*) in confession (*Romans 10:9-10*), and repentance (*Luke 13:3*), spiritual baptism in Jesus name, (*Acts 2:38; 4:12; Galatians 3:27*), releasing grace, unto good works. (*Ephesians 2:8-10*) Faith is the root, grace is the means & empowerment, and good works are the byproduct of genuine salvation. While we do not adhere to a "works salvation" or salvation obtained by good works, we do recognize good works as the required evidence of true, genuine faith originally bringing salvation to an individual. (*James 5:17; Ephesians 2:10*) Crucially, we also reject its counter-part: a "faith only" salvation, which is a complete fallacy. (*James 2:19*).
- V. **Water Baptism** - We believe that baptism, in general, can be either a spiritual experience (*Holy Ghost fire, baptism in Jesus Name /The Word for Salvation*) or a

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physical/literal experience (*water baptism*). The Greek word used in scripture for the English word “Baptize” is “Baptizo” (*pronounced “Bap-tid-zo”*) which simply means to be dipped, immersed, or submerged into; not limited to water. The reference commonly used to appropriate “water” baptism to the salvation process is John 3:5, which in proper context of the entire passage speaks of Nicodemus asking how he can return to the mother’s womb (*John 3:4*) as a direct-undisputed misinterpretation of Jesus’ command to be “born again.” Now, understanding this vital pre-text, Jesus was saying that in order to be born AGAIN, you have first to be born from the womb “water,” then born of the “Spirit”; being born-again. Furthermore, we also see Acts 2:38 as a spiritual baptism of Jesus name, or submerged into Christ Jesus, (*Galatians 3:27*), due to the fact that “remission of sins” has only come through faith in Jesus Christ and His blood sacrifice, not from works, rituals, ceremonies or sacraments. (*Acts 10:43; Romans 3:25; Revelation 1:5*) Although we do not recognize water baptism as an essential condition for the process of salvation, that being a “work” lest we should boast in it (*Ephesians 2:9*), we do recognize the baptism of water to be a commandment of scripture as lined out in Matthew 28:19. Anyone who has already been saved by faith in Jesus Christ and His finished work of sacrifice on the cross, (*Acts 8:36-38, Romans 9:30; 10:9-10; 11:6; Galatians 2:16*) must be water baptized as an outward sign of an inward change.

**VI. Holy Spirit Baptism** - We believe that the baptism of the Holy Spirit, spiritual baptism, is a second work of grace available for believers after salvation (*Acts 19:2*) to anyone who would seek after it (*1 Corinthians 12:31*). The baptism of the Holy Spirit, as described in scripture, is God’s divine plan for the saint to receive power, and to be a witness (*Acts 1:8*), as well as to “profit” the body of Christ (*1 Corinthians 12:7*) Though we firmly believe in the gift of tongues, we believe that speaking in tongues is “an” evidence of the Holy Spirit baptism, not strictly “the” evidence of it. “...To *some* diverse kinds of tongues...” (*1 Corinthians 12:10*) In this spiritual baptism, it is to be understood that other gift(s) can also be evident with or without the gift of tongues (*1 Corinthians 12:4, 7-11, 30*). We also take this into consideration knowing that not every time this fire baptism took place, tongues was a recorded evidence at all: Converts in Samaria (*Acts 8:14-17*), Saul’s conversion who later became “Paul” (*Acts 9:17-18*), or when he first preached in Asia (*Acts 13:44-52*). This glorious baptism available to all believers, is not a requirement for salvation. (*Refer to article four on our scriptural backing of the requirements for salvation.*)

**VII. Gifts & Offices** - We believe that all nine gifts of the Holy Spirit (*1 Corinthians 12:7-11*), and the divine calling to any of the five-fold ministerial offices (*Ephesians 4:11*) are applicable for the believer today. Related very closely to article six, we are a body of believers who strongly preach and teach the modern relevance for all nine gifts and offices of the five fold ministry. God’s ordained purpose for these gifts and

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offices have been, and will continue to be a part of His plan for His body until He, not men, women, or denominations, decide it has “ceased.” Addressing a common objection derived from 1 Corinthians 13:8, we do recognize there shall come a time of “expiration,” (which we see it to be during our eternal stay in our heavenly home), but considering *that time* has not been stated, nor will we ever assume it to anytime, until God Himself ceases it; not man or his opinionated-presumptions advances to stifle the resources of the body of Christ.

**VIII. Holy Matrimony** - We believe that holy matrimony is a divinely ordained institution strictly between one man and one woman designed to build a family authored by God himself. (Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:5; Mark 10:7; Ephesians 5:31)

**IX. Holiness** - We believe that as Christians, though saved by grace through faith, living a holy life as evidence of that faith and His grace’s empowerment to live it, set apart unto God, separated from worldly lusts and actions, is not only expected as a believer, but required. (*Romans 6:1-2, 6-8, 12-15; 12:1-3; Luke 13:3, 5; 1 John 1:6-7; 2:1-6, 15-17; 3:5-10; 5:18; 3 John 1:11; 2 Peter 2:20-22; Ezekiel 3:20; 18:26; 1 Peter 1:16; 1 Thessalonians 4:7; Psalms 34:13-14; 1 Corinthians 5:11-13; 6:9-11; Isaiah 1:16-20; Hebrews 3:12-14; Ephesians 5:3-5, 11-13; James 4:4; Galatians 5:16-17; Titus 2:11-15; 2 Corinthians 5:15-19; 6:17-18*) ...Many, many, and many more references to list in scripture, but this should be enough to lay a foundation as to holiness in the life of a believer. Our works do not save us, no, but our faith without genuine works empowered by God’s grace to prove its validity is dead. (*James 5:17*)