

**Creekside Community Church  
Pincher Creek, Alberta**

**Constitution**

**Date of Adoption: November 12, 2019**

**Version 1.1 – December 1, 2019**

## Article 1. Name and Affiliation

This fellowship of believers shall be known as Creekside Community Church.

This church shall be affiliated with the Canadian Baptists of Western Canada and shall support the programs of Canadian Baptist Ministries. In this inter-dependence, Creekside Community Church will maintain complete autonomy.

The title of all property of Creekside Community Church shall be held in trust by the Canadian Baptists of Western Canada for Creekside Community Church.

## Article 2. Purpose

In accordance with Colossians 3:12-17, we of Creekside Community Church have determined to covenant together as members of the body of Christ for the purposes of worshipping God, fellowshiping in Christ and being equipped<sup>1</sup> to share the gospel with all people.<sup>2</sup> The objectives of this church shall be carried out without purpose of gain for its members and any profits or other gains to the organization, Creekside Community Church, shall be used in promoting its purpose.

## Article 3. Statement of Faith

### 3.1. Preamble

We of Creekside Community Church adhere to the tenants of historical Christianity, building upon the foundation laid by the apostles and prophets with Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone.<sup>3</sup> We accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the living Word of God; therefore, the only infallible source of faith and life.<sup>4</sup>

### 3.2. Doctrine

**3.2.1 God:** We believe in the one eternal and changeless God, creator and sustainer of man and the universe,<sup>5</sup> perfect in all ways. God is love. God is holy. He has

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<sup>1</sup> Ephesians 4:12

<sup>2</sup> Matthew 28:19-20

<sup>3</sup> 1 Peter 2:4-5,7; Ephesians 2:20; 1 Corinthians 3:11

<sup>4</sup> 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21

<sup>5</sup> Genesis 1:1; 1 Corinthians 8:4, 6; 1 John 4:8, 14

always existed in three persons; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit uniquely identified, yet of one essence and equal in power and glory.<sup>6</sup>

**3.2.1.1 Father:** We believe in God the Father who rules and reigns as Sovereign Lord of all things in heaven and earth.<sup>7</sup> He abounds in grace and compassion and desires that all become his children and heirs through acceptance and salvation offered in his Son, Jesus Christ.<sup>8</sup>

**3.2.1.2 Son:** We believe Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God, fully God and fully man.<sup>9</sup> He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, lived a sinless life and was crucified, bearing the past, present and future sin of man on the cross.<sup>10</sup> He arose from the dead to reign with the Father in heaven where He is today.<sup>11</sup> We believe His to be the sole mediation between God and man and that eternal life is available and given to all who believe in Him, repenting of their sin, seeking and receiving His forgiveness and calling on His name as Savior and Lord.<sup>12</sup>

**3.2.1.3 Holy Spirit:** We believe the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Godhead, who goes out from the Father and the Son and is resident within all who have believed in Jesus Christ.<sup>13</sup> The Holy Spirit glorifies Jesus Christ,<sup>14</sup> intercedes on behalf of believers through Jesus to the Father, is a giver of gifts, convicts of sin, comforts, teaches and guides.<sup>15</sup> We believe that through the enabling power of the Holy Spirit, man will be sanctified.<sup>16</sup>

**3.2.2 Holy Scripture:** We believe the Bible not only contains, but in the original writing is the complete and inerrant record of God's intervention with and revelation to man and that God spoke through the writers of His Word. We believe the Bible is the believers' only infallible written guide for Christian

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<sup>6</sup> Matthew 3:16-17; Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14

<sup>7</sup> Isaiah 37:16; 1 Chronicles 29:11

<sup>8</sup> Isaiah 43:1; Ephesians 2:4-6; 2 Peter 3:9

<sup>9</sup> John 1:1,14; Colossians 1:19; Colossians 2:9

<sup>10</sup> Luke 1:26-35; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:22; Hebrews 4:15; Romans 5:6,8; 1 Corinthians 15:3

<sup>11</sup> Matthew 28:6; 1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:51; Hebrews 8:1

<sup>12</sup> 1 Timothy 2:5; John 1:12; Acts 2:38; Romans 10:9-13

<sup>13</sup> John 15:26; John 14:15-17; Ephesians 1:13

<sup>14</sup> John 16:14

<sup>15</sup> Romans 8:26-27; John 16:7-15

<sup>16</sup> 2 Peter 1:3-4; Galatians 5:22-23

commitment and mature faith, and is to be understood within its historical and cultural framework interpreted by the Holy Spirit.<sup>17</sup>

### 3.2.3 Sin and Salvation

**3.2.3.1 Man's Sin:** We believe man was created in God's own image to worship and fellowship with God.<sup>18</sup> Man exercised his God given freewill to rebel against God and as a result of this willful disobedience fell from this position of grace.<sup>19</sup> Further, we believe that through man's estrangement from God, man's sinfulness continues until the time appointed by God for final judgment.<sup>20</sup>

**3.2.3.2 Salvation:** We believe God in His infinite mercy and grace provides a means whereby man's sin may be forgiven,<sup>21</sup> and that redemption is possible only because God sent His only begotten Son to bear the full penalty of man's sin by the shedding of His blood on the cross.<sup>22</sup> Salvation is available to all who acknowledge, confess and repent of their sin and believing that only in Christ is forgiveness, freedom from guilt and eternal life.<sup>23</sup>

**3.2.3.3 Justification:** We believe that when man is saved, the penalty for sin is paid and the righteousness of Christ is attributed to man by faith and God not only forgives our sins but forgets them.<sup>24</sup>

**3.2.3.4 Sanctification:** We believe that when we have been regenerated we enter into a relationship with God in which He, with the participation of the believer, begins a process of change whereby we are enabled to fulfill the purpose God has for each of our lives. This process continues throughout our earthly life.<sup>25</sup>

**3.2.3.5 Spiritual Gifts:** We believe that in receiving the Holy Spirit and walking with God, all Christians receive gifts that are for the edification and strengthening of the church, and thus becoming a witness to the world.<sup>26</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Psalms 119:160

<sup>18</sup> Genesis 1:26; Genesis 2:7

<sup>19</sup> Romans 5:12; Romans 3:10-12

<sup>20</sup> Romans 8:19-23; 2 Peter 3:10-14; Revelation 21:1

<sup>21</sup> Hebrews 9:22

<sup>22</sup> John 3:16; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:24; Isaiah 53:5; Hebrews 9:11-12

<sup>23</sup> Acts 17:30; 1 John 1:7-9; Ephesians 2:8; Hebrews 9:15

<sup>24</sup> Romans 5:1,9; Hebrews 8:12; Romans 3:28; Ephesians 2:8-10; Psalms 103:11-12; Isaiah 1:18

<sup>25</sup> 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Hebrews 10:10; 1 Peter 1:14-16; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Romans 8:29; Romans 12:2

<sup>26</sup> 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 11, 28; 1 Corinthians 14:12; Romans 12:6-8

**3.2.4 Church:** We believe in the universal church which consists of all who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. We also believe Christ builds the local church by placing believers together to worship, fellowship, love one another and to fulfill the great commission to which all Christians are called.<sup>27</sup>

**3.2.4.1 Ordinances:**

**3.2.4.1.1 The Lord's Supper:** We believe that commemorating the Lord's Supper is to remember the sacrificial love, death and resurrection of Jesus, and an opportunity to anticipate His joyous return.<sup>28</sup>

**3.2.4.1.2 Baptism:** We believe that salvation should be followed by water baptism as an outward symbol of our death to sin through Jesus Christ and our new life in His resurrection. Baptism shall be by immersion when possible.<sup>29</sup>

**3.2.4.2 Ministry:** We believe in the priesthood of all believers<sup>30</sup> where every believer can come directly before God and can have a variety of ministries for His Kingdom. We also believe that those called to be elders/overseers are to be recognized by prayer and the laying on of hands.<sup>31</sup> We follow a governing structure of elders and deacons as observed in scripture.<sup>32</sup>

**3.2.4.3 Christian Life and Duty:** We believe that in order to experience the fullness of salvation and God's supreme purpose for our lives, it is necessary to regularly study God's Word, spend time in prayer, worship and fellowship within the body of believers.<sup>33</sup> We believe it is our duty to lead a life that is pleasing to God and to strive to keep peace and unity within the body, love our neighbors as ourselves and to support the Kingdom of God with our time, talents and money in the measure that God blesses us.<sup>34</sup>

**3.2.5 Consummation/End of Time:** We believe in the second coming of Christ and that Jesus will return to earth in glory. There will be a final judgement after which all will reside forever in heaven or hell.<sup>35</sup>

<sup>27</sup> 1 Corinthians 12:24-31; Ephesians 4:11-16; Hebrews 10:23-25; Acts 2:42; Matthew 28:18-20

<sup>28</sup> 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Matthew 26:26-28; John 15:13

<sup>29</sup> Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38, 41; Romans 6:3-5; Acts 8:36-39; John 3:23

<sup>30</sup> 1 Peter 2:5,9; Revelation 1:6

<sup>31</sup> Hebrews 5:4; Ephesians 4:8,11-13; Acts 13:2-3

<sup>32</sup> Acts 20:28; Acts 6:1-6; Titus 1:5-9, 1 Timothy 3:1-13

<sup>33</sup> 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Philippians 2:12-15; Acts. 2:42; Colossians 1:10; Colossians 3:12-17

<sup>34</sup> Colossians 3:12-17; Acts 1:8; Matthew 22:36-40; John 14:15

<sup>35</sup> Revelation 1:7; John 14:1-3; Matthew 24:29-30; Acts 1:10-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12; Colossians 3:4; John 12:48; Romans 2:2,6,11,16; Revelation 20:11-15; Revelation 21:8

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## **Article 4. Revision of the Constitution**

### **4.1. Review**

The constitution will be reviewed every five years.

### **4.2. Amendments**

Amendments to the constitution will be conducted at a regular or special congregational meeting requiring announcement at the weekly service and posting in the bulletin for two Sundays prior to the meeting date.

Amendments will require a minimum of one-half of total members to be in attendance with two thirds majority of those members present for approval.

## **Article 5. Adoption**

The amended constitution shall be in effect immediately upon adoption.

This Constitution was adopted on November 12, 2019 and amended to reflect the name change on December 1, 2019.