

We believe that reconciliation between God and man takes place when God, who has chosen who will be His before the foundation of the world was laid, draws the guilty sinner to Himself.  
We believe that this drawing is irresistible and therefore once drawn the guilty sinner commits his faith and life to God through Jesus Christ, thereby becoming justified before God and eternally secure in His right standing before God almighty.

We believe that when a guilty sinner is regenerated and justified by God at least two holy actions have taken place. First, the justified sinner is given the Holy Spirit who lives in him and seals him until the day of Christ Jesus our Lord. Second, we believe that when one is justified before God they are eternally added to the universal church of Jesus Christ being grafted in as a member of the body of Christ.

As a member of the body of Christ we believe that the born again Christian is to become an active part of a local community of believers where they can be of benefit to others in the community using their gifts, talents, money and time. We believe that we are to serve each other with such selfless love that the lost world around us would notice and give God glory.

As a local community, we believe that we are to practice two sacraments, the Lord's supper and baptism.

We believe that we are God's agents of declaring the gospel of Jesus Christ to this world. We believe that we are to be involved both personally and as a community in serving the lost, making disciples and being internationally oriented in our outreach.

Finally, we believe that the world as we know it will come to an end. We believe that the consummation of all things includes the immanent, visible, personal and glorious return of Jesus Christ, the resurrection of the dead and the translation of those alive in Christ, the judgment of the just and the unjust, and the fulfillment of Christ's kingdom in the new heavens and the new earth. In the consummation, Satan with his hosts and all those outside Christ are finally separated from the benevolent presence of God, enduring eternal punishment, but the righteous, in glorious bodies, shall live and reign with him forever. We believe that the church will be in the presence of God forever.

## Overview

The sole basis of our belief is the Bible, which is uniquely God-inspired, without error, and the final authority on all matters on which it bears. As the Bible teaches, there is one God, eternally existing in three persons — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — each possessing all the attributes of Deity.

God created humans to have fellowship with Him, but they defied God by sinfully going their own way. As a result, we need God's saving grace to end our alienation from Him. Salvation comes only through God's saving grace — not human effort — and must be received personally by repentance and faith.

Jesus Christ, second Person of the Trinity, lived a sinless life on earth and voluntarily paid for our sin by dying on the cross as our substitute. This accomplishes salvation for all who receive grace by trusting in Him alone. He rose from the dead and is the only mediator between us and God. He will return to earth to consummate history.

The Holy Spirit draws sinners to Christ and equips believers for personal growth and service to the church. The church's role is to glorify God and serve those in need. At the end, everyone will experience bodily resurrection and the judgment.  
Those forgiven through Christ will enjoy eternal fellowship with God.

We believe that all of God's children should find a welcoming home in the church and this includes people that look different than us, those whose life is messy and broken, those who prefer to worship with their infant on their lap or in a nursery, those who are single by choice, by divorce or by death, are welcome here. We welcome all families; blended families, extended families and nuclear families to become ONE family in the household of Faith. We believe we are all missionaries called and separated out for the work of God in our community and beyond. We believe that we are all sinners in need of Grace and that nothing in all this world can separate us from the love that is in Christ Jesus, and thus all are welcome here.

If you have questions about our theology, please contact our Senior Pastor, Eric Ruoff

## We Are Missional

We believe that the church is not an institution unto itself – but the Body of Christ sent into the world to bring the hope of Jesus. We are committed to reaching beyond ourselves – following in the way of Jesus. We believe that all of us are called to practice compassion (Matthew 25) and to live out the Great Commission (Matthew 28). Our vision as a church is to glorify God as a disciple-making outpost of Kingdom Life – making disciples who are sent to glorify God wherever they go.

## We are Presbyterian

Our church members (and staff) come from many different denominational (or non-denominational) backgrounds. The word “Presbyterian” refers to the fact that we are led by elders (presbyters). Our church is locally governed by a group of elders (the Session) who are elected by the church members. There are many differences among Presbyterian churches, both in the style of worship and beliefs. Our worship honors many deeply cherished traditions while also celebrating newer expressions of worship and church music. The beliefs we affirm and teach reflect our evangelical belief in the unique Lordship of Jesus Christ and our high view of Scripture. For example, the leadership of Venice Presbyterian Church affirms the sanctity of life – from our conception to the natural end of our God-given life on earth. We also believe and teach that God created us male and female, and that God designs sexual intimacy for the marriage covenant between a man and a woman.

n Church

KINGDOM LIFE  
PODCAST



## We Believe in the Church

We believe in the autonomy of the local church. Jesus Christ is the Head of this church, and we, as believers, are His body (Ephesians 1:20-23). This local church (the people) is free from external control. We make our own decisions concerning buildings, property, senior pastor, etc., as we submit to our Head, Jesus Christ (Colossians 2:4-7, 9-10, 18-19, Ephesians 3:16-21, 4:15-16). We are an independent, self-governed, Bible-teaching church.

# Baptism



## Have you trusted, placed your faith in, Jesus Christ?

Do you believe in your heart and declare with your mouth that He is the Messiah, the Son of God, who became human, lived a sinless life, died as an atoning sacrifice to pay the penalty for sinners like you and me, and rose again three days later to offer us victory over sin and death, forgiveness for our sins, and, most importantly, eternal life in His presence?

If you said yes, then you have been baptized into the family of God through the giving of the Holy Spirit. Your first step in response to God's grace then is to reenact that spiritual reality through water baptism, or what we refer to as "believer's baptism." Would you like to be baptized? Fill out the form below to get started!

LEARN MORE ABOUT BAPTISM →  
([HTTPS://CENTERPOINTECC.CHURCCENTER.COM/PEOPLE/FO](https://centerpointecc.churccenter.com/people/fo)



## What is Baptism?

### → **Baptism is a sign of faith.**

It is a public declaration of our faith in and allegiance to Jesus Christ. Jesus commands us to be baptized. It is our first act of obedience to Him as disciples. Baptism is not required for salvation, but it is incredibly important for a believer to do.

### → **Baptism is an outward expression or symbol of an internal reality.**

It is a picture to us of what Christ has done for us and in us, including:

- His death and resurrection
- Our union with Christ in His death and resurrection
- The washing away of sin
- Being raised to new life in Christ

# Next Steps

We believe your walk with Jesus is a series of  
Next Steps!



## I Have Decided

We believe making the decision to follow Jesus is the most important moment in your life. We are celebrating with you! Our team can't wait to connect with you and resource you on your journey with Christ.

I DECIDED!

## Baptism

Water Baptism is how we tell the world we are a Christian and our identity is established in Jesus. The Bible teaches that we should be baptized in water in the name of the Father, the Son and of the Holy Spirit. In the book of Luke it says, "When all the people were baptized, Jesus was baptized too. As he was praying, heaven was opened." Luke 3:21

REGISTER FOR BAPTISMS

