

Dear Park Street Church Member,

Greetings in Jesus' name! I am encouraged by the work that God is doing in our midst as we seek to exalt Jesus above all and make disciples who become like Jesus together. In the coming months, we'll be building on that foundation and clarifying some strategic objectives for our community as we move into the next stage of life and ministry together.

As we move forward together, we are asking all our members to **reaffirm their membership status**. This is an important step (intended to be completed annually) for two reasons:

- 1. *Personally*, it serves as a meaningful reminder of the commitments we have made to one another before the Lord (see below). What a privilege it is to grow and flourish in a dynamic and diverse community in the heart of Boston as we seek to exalt Jesus through our words, deeds, and life together so that others might come to the fullness of life in him.
- 2. *Corporately,* it is an important practical step that helps us—amid the dynamic and everchanging context of Boston—to keep our membership roll up to date. Knowing who are active members is critical for understanding our shepherding needs and relevant for decision-making in many areas.

Please take a few minutes to fill out this form and to reaffirm your membership. If you do not want to reaffirm your membership, you can use this form to change your membership status to inactive, to withdraw your membership altogether, or to transfer your membership. Inactive membership means that you are not currently involved in or committed to the ministry and mission of the church, but you are not yet ready to withdraw or transfer your membership.

Even if you've been distant from Park Street Church for some time, I warmly invite each of you to reaffirm your membership and to join us afresh as we follow Jesus together. We would love to welcome you back. A reaffirmation of membership implies ongoing agreement with Park Street Church's Confession of Faith and a re-commitment to our Covenant of Faith and Government. These are included below for your review.

As you reaffirm your membership, I encourage you to prayerfully consider the following commitment that you made to the Lord and this community and that this community made to you. These commitments date back to the origin of Park Street Church, and they were used in the service in which you were welcomed as a member.

- **Minister**: In the presence of God and this congregation, do you acknowledge your faith in the Triune God: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit? Do you pledge yourself in a covenant of love and obedience to allow Christ to control your life,



to commune with him in prayer, to worship him faithfully in his sanctuary, and to support the work of the church so that the Gospel may be known throughout Boston and the world?

- New Members: I do.
- **Minister**: Do you, the members of this church, affectionately receive these candidates into this communion of believers? Do you welcome them to join you in all the blessings of the Gospel, and on your part, engage to watch over them, bear their burdens, and seek their edification, as long as they shall continue among us? Do you covenant to hold their peace and welfare dear to you, and to help them, as the Lord may enable you, by your sympathy, Godly counsel, practical acts of love, and your prayers?
- Existing Members: We do.

We are a family committed to the Lord and to one another. We don't embody this perfectly, by any means, and there is much room to grow. But we will press on, guided and empowered by the Spirit to love God, love one another, love our neighbors, and love God's word more and more.

Thank you for your faithful love for Jesus and your love for this community. It's a joy to share in this life together.

Grace and peace in Jesus,

Mark

Fill out the form

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; and in the Holy Spirit; and that these three are one God.

I reverently receive the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, and believe them to be the inspired Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice.

I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, who, in the beginning "was with God," and "was God," and who "himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness." 1 Peter 2:24 NIV



I believe the Holy Spirit has led me to repent of all my sins, and to turn from them, and to obey Christ where He says, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Mark 8:34 NIV

I believe in the resurrection of the dead, and in the final judgment of all people. "Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him." John 3:36, NIV

I believe that we are saved "by grace through faith" in the Lord Jesus Christ, and that good works are the certain fruit of such faith. I therefore offer myself for Christian service as a means of expressing my gratitude to Him, and to extend His cause.

I cheerfully submit myself to the instruction and government of this church, and I promise to promote its purity, peace, and welfare by all means within my power, so long as I shall continue to be a member.

## **COVENANT OF FAITH AND GOVERNMENT**

WE PROFESS our decided attachment to that system of the Christian religion which is designated evangelical and includes the following professions:

WE BELIEVE that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God and the all-sufficient rule of faith and practice.

WE BELIEVE that there is one and but one living and true God, subsisting in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, equal in power and glory; that this triune God created all, upholds all, and governs all.

WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the Savior of the world, and that through His life, death, and resurrection an atonement was made for sin and redemption was provided for all people.

WE BELIEVE that repentance for sin and the acceptance of Jesus Christ as personal Savior is the one and only way whereby sinners can inherit eternal life.

WE BELIEVE the Holy Spirit regenerates the soul of the believer and brings people into saved relations with God, and that He is the Comforter and Guide of all who receive Jesus Christ as their Savior.



WE BELIEVE in what is termed "The Apostles' Creed" as embodying fundamental facts of Christian faith.

WE COVENANT to continue the same ecclesiastical and legal entity created on February 27, 1809, incorporated by Chapter 252 of the Special Acts of the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on April 13, 1916, as amended, and to continue in the congregational form of church government then adopted and provided in Bylaws duly adopted by the congregation.