

The Church Covenant

OF THE

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

We do solemnly covenant and agree:

That we will take the Only Living and True God: One God in Three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, to be our God.

We unreservedly and solemnly give up ourselves, both soul and body, and all we possess, to Almighty God; to be ordered, directed, and disposed of by Him, according to the counsel of His holy will: And this we do, in an humble dependence on the grace of the Holy Spirit to aid and support us in these sacred engagements; and hoping for acceptance and salvation, through the merit and mediation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We take the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, to be our rule of faith and practice, both in the great concerns of religion, and the general affairs of life; and particularly for transacting the business of the Church.

We promise to maintain communion and fellowship with each other, in the public worship of God, according to the various ordinances of the Gospel; "not forsaking the assembling ourselves together, as the manner of some is;" but embracing all regular, convenient seasons for this purpose, as the providence of God shall permit. And that we will exercise Christian forbearance and love, one towards another: Praying for and sympathizing with each other in the various circumstances of life, and using every laudable endeavor to provoke to love and good works.

We promise individually, to pay a respectful regard to the advice and admonitions of the church, and to be subject to its discipline, as directed by the Word of God, and conducted in the Spirit of the Gospel.

We promise to contribute in a reasonable manner, according to our ability, For the support of public worship, and the relief of the poor in the Church; and to use our influence, to forward and to promote the interests of the Redeemer's Kingdom in the world. That we will be careful to conduct ourselves with uprightness and integrity, and in a peaceful and friendly manner, toward mankind, in general, and towards Christians of all descriptions, in particular. That we will also pay a conscientious regard to civil government, and give it our support, as an ordinance of God.

And this covenant we make, with the free and full consent of our souls, hoping through rich, free and boundless grace, we shall therein be accepted of God, unto Eternal Life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. To whom be glory and majesty, power and dominion, everlasting. Amen.

Originally adopted by the Church, August 21st, 1791.
Revised by the Church, May 12th, 1852.