

What We Believe

Below is a statement of faith built around three facts; that Penrallt is a Baptist Church, that it is part of the community of Bangor, Gwynedd, and that it is an Evangelical Church. The statements are not ours but are well honed statements which are understood and accepted by thousands of other Christians in the UK and beyond.

This statement was adopted by the Penrallt members' meeting on 7th October 2019.

Penrallt Baptist Church

What We Believe

Penrallt is a Baptist Church. It is an autonomous church and a registered charity (UK Charity No: 1131224) with its own constitution and, together with some two thousand other Baptist churches, forms the Baptist Union of Great Britain. We assert their common Declaration of Principle, namely that we believe that:

Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, is the sole and absolute authority in all matters pertaining to faith and practice, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures, and that each church has liberty, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to interpret and administer His laws.

That Christian Baptism is the immersion in water into the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, of those who have professed repentance towards God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ who died for our sins according to the Scriptures; was buried, and rose again on the third day.

That it is the duty of every disciple to bear personal witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to take part in the evangelization of the world.

Penrallt is a *Bangor* Church. Its members come from a wide variety of backgrounds, experiences, traditions and denominations. We believe that there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all. As individuals and as a church we work alongside Christians from other churches who accept the founding principles of our faith as stated over 1000 years ago in the Apostles' Creed.

We believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Penrallt is an *Evangelical* Church. Along with over three thousand churches in Britain we belong to the Evangelical Alliance and we join them in affirming that we believe in:

The one true God who lives eternally in three persons - the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

The love, grace and sovereignty of God in creating, sustaining, ruling, redeeming and judging the world.

The divine inspiration and supreme authority of the Old and New Testament Scriptures, which are the written Word of God - fully trustworthy for faith and conduct.

The dignity of all people, made male and female in God's image to love, be holy and care for creation, yet corrupted by sin, which incurs divine wrath and judgement.

The incarnation of God's eternal Son, the Lord Jesus Christ - born of the virgin Mary; truly divine and truly human, yet without sin.

The atoning sacrifice of Christ on the cross: dying in our place, paying the price of sin and defeating evil, so reconciling us with God.

The bodily resurrection of Christ, the first fruits of our resurrection; his ascension to the Father, and his reign and mediation as the only Saviour of the world.

The justification of sinners solely by the grace of God through faith in Christ.

The ministry of God the Holy Spirit, who leads us to repentance, unites us with Christ through new birth, empowers our discipleship and enables our witness.

The Church, the body of Christ both local and universal, the priesthood of all believers - given life by the Spirit and endowed with the Spirit's gifts to worship God and proclaim the gospel, promoting justice and love.

The personal and visible return of Jesus Christ to fulfil the purposes of God, who will raise all people to judgement, bring eternal life to the redeemed and eternal condemnation to the lost, and establish a new heaven and new earth.