

# **Evangelical Labor Institute**

## Statement of Faith

### **God**

We believe one God, the Holy Trinity revealed as the three persons of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in the Scriptures.

### **Humanity**

Human beings were made according to God's image and tasked with being his co-rulers and caretakers of all creation. But humanity rebelled by choosing to rule on our own terms, thereby colluding with and falling prey to sin, iniquity, injustice, and corruption.

### **Salvation**

God called apart a family called Israel in order to establish the renewed humanity and to rescue human beings from the power of sin. Even God's salvation people, however, continually failed by choosing to rule on their own terms and worshipping other than God.

### **Jesus**

Jesus the Christ, at once a human from the family of Israel and the incarnation of God, was born of the Virgin Mary and proclaimed the arrival of God's kingdom. By his death, bodily resurrection, and ascension to God's right hand, he fulfilled the promise of God to save the world through his chosen people and fulfilled the human vocation as he now reigns in heaven over all the earth.

### **Faith**

To put our faith in Jesus is to confess our allegiance to his rule and reign over all the earth, to be put right in advance by his death on the cross for our sin, and to commit ourselves to live according to his rule, reign, and commandments.

### **The Church**

The church is the gathering of God's people, grafted into God's chosen family of Israel by faith in Jesus and the work of the Holy Spirit. It is to be the advance sign, instrument, and foretaste of God's kingdom in life and worship.

### **The Bible**

The Bible is the collection of writings inspired by God's Holy Spirit and bearing God's authority, containing "all things necessary for salvation." It is the norming norm for all Christian theology, life, and ethics.

### **The Return of Christ**

One day Jesus will return with the bodily resurrection of the dead to establish his final reign on earth, condemn and destroy all evil and death, and renew and restore heaven and earth so that "God's dwelling place will be among the people."