

# Congregation Shema Yisrael

## Statement of Faith

### Bible

We believe that the Bible, composed of both the Tenach and the New Covenant, is the only infallible and authoritative Word of God. - *Second Timothy 3:16, Romans 15:4, Second Peter 1:20-21, Hebrews 4:12, Ephesians 6:17*

### God is Echad

We believe that God is echad, as declared in the Shema, a "united one" or "compound unity", eternally existent in the Father, Son and Ruakh Ha Kodesh. - *Deuteronomy 6:4, Isaiah 48:16-17, First John 5:7-11*

### Divinity and Virgin Birth

We believe in the divinity of Yeshua HaMashiach, that he is the "seed of the woman" as God promised, and that his virgin birth was to be a sign to Israel of his messiahship. - *Genesis 3:15, Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 9:6-7, Matthew 1:22-23*

### Messiah's Life

We believe in the Messiah Yeshua's life, his miracles yesterday and today, his vicarious and sacrificial death as our atonement, his bodily resurrection, his appearance thereafter in Jerusalem, his ascension, his personal future return for his followers (both living and dead), and his future establishment of his kingdom on earth. - *Isaiah 9:6-7, Isaiah 53:8-11, Second Corinthians 5:21*

### Cleansed by Grace

We believe that the only means of being saved from sin and iniquity is by God's grace, through faith in the shed sacrificial blood of Yeshua HaMashiach, and that regeneration by the Spirit of God is absolutely essential for personal salvation. - *Leviticus 17:11, Ephesians 2:8, Romans 1:17*

### Ruach HaKodesh

We believe in the present ministry of the Ruach HaKodesh (Holy Spirit) by whose indwelling the believer is enabled to live a godly life. - *Jeremiah 31:31-34, John 14:15-17, Galatians 3:13-25*

### Resurrection

We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to eternal separation from God, the latter being a state of everlasting punishment. - *Daniel 12:2, Matthew 25:46, Genesis 15:6*

### Sons and Daughters of Israel

We believe that the Jews (descendants of Jacob, whether through the blood line of mothers or fathers) who place their faith in Israel's Messiah have not disowned or separated themselves from their race and Judaic heritage, but remain sons and daughters of Israel. Gentiles who place their faith in Israel's Messiah are also, spiritually, sons and daughters of Israel. - *Galatians 3:28-29, Romans 2:28-29*

### Middle Wall of Partition

We believe that the middle wall of partition which in times past separated Jews and Gentiles has been broken down, the enmity between them eradicated by the Messiah Yeshua. - *Ephesians 2:12-24, Acts 10:34*

### New Covenant Body

We believe that the New Covenant body of the Lord is composed of both Jews and Gentiles who have accepted Yeshua as the promised Redeemer, and that now they are to worship together in the House of God. - *First Corinthians 12:13, Hebrews 10:25*

### Jewish Followers of Yeshua

We believe that as Jewish followers of Yeshua, we are called to maintain our Jewish Biblical heritage and remain a part of our people, Israel, and the universal body of believers. This is part of our identity and a witness to the faithfulness of God. - *Romans 3:1-4, First Corinthians 7:17-18, Acts 21:20-24*

### Marriage

We believe that marriage is a holy estate, ordained by God to be entered into by one man and one woman. - *Genesis 2:20-24*

### Homosexuality

We believe that homosexuality is an abomination to God. God loves all people, including those who practice homosexuality, and we seek to demonstrate His love to them and plead with them to turn from this abomination and receive His forgiveness. But none who continue in their practice of this abomination can be members, employees or hold positions of leadership in this congregation. - *Leviticus 18:22, 20:13*