

Hikari Gospel Church Covenant

As a member, I commit to the body of Christ, the church.

"Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it." 1 Corinthians 12:27

"For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another." Romans 12:4-5

As a member of Hikari Gospel Church (HGC), I enter into covenant with my church family to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of the church in grace, knowledge of God and godly living. To grow spiritually by sustaining its worship, sacraments, discipline and the maintenance of Biblical norms and standards of conduct; to contribute to the support of the Ministry, to the expenses of the church, to serve through talents to the expanding of God's kingdom through mission work; which Covenant is made in the name of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

1. Worship

- I will worship the one true God with HGC family as long as I am physically able.

"And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." Hebrews 10:24-25

"I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." Romans 12:1.

- The goal of my regular weekly worship is to honor God and to give God glory.

"For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen." Romans 11:36

"Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name." Hebrews 13:15

2. Spiritual Growth

- I will grow spiritually through regular involvement in groups and trainings at HGC. I understand the purpose of this groups and this trainings for building community with other believers and holding each other accountable.

"And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved." Acts 2:44-47

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17

- I will grow spiritually through personal devotional times.

"But he answered, "It is written, " 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Matthew 4:4

3. Prayer

- I will pray for and follow the leadership of HGC.

"Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you". Hebrews 13:17-18

- I will pray Privately and with the church Corporately. I will pray for people to accept Christ, and I will pray for more disciples to grow.

4. Giving

- I will give to God abundantly and joyfully, recognizing God as the Owner of all things.

"Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce"

Proverbs 3:9

"The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein"

Psalms 24:1

- Giving my tithe and time to God brings me closer to Him and my faith being strengthen.

"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need." Malachi 3:10

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust⁵ destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money." Matthew 6:19-24

5. Honoring

- I will give God all the glory by honoring His name and abiding in His word as long as I live.
- I will honor my house HGC and my leadership by submission.
- I will seek unity with other church members, recognizing God's design for the church unity in diversity, and I will put the interests of others above my personal preferences.

"from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love." Ephesians 4:16

"Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing." 1 Peter 3:8-9

- I will guard the reputation of the church and submit to disciplinary for any sin problems in my life.

"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed⁶ in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." Matthew 18:15-20

6. Serving

- I will surrender my life to God for His purpose and assignment by serving first, following the servant model of Jesus Christ.

"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Mark 10:45

- I will follow my Lord Jesus Christ and serve His church as long as I live. I will make my attitude that of Christ and through humility make the gospel my priority.

"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Philippians 1:21

"Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee

should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Philippians 2:5-11

- I will serve Christ through the mission work (locally and globally) of HGC. I am created to serve others through good works.

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:10

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace”
1 Peter 4:10

- I am commanded by God to make disciples of every nation, tribe, people, and language through the local church.

“Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.””
Matthew 28:16-20

“After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands” Revelation 7:9

- I will support the church's mission to go to the ends of the earth to share the gospel.

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Acts 1:8

“And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,” Matthew 28:18-19

7. Engagement

- I will engage to maintain family devotions; to educate my children in the Christian faith to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in all dealings, faithful in every engagement, exemplary, to avoid all gossiping, backbiting and excessive anger,
- abstaining from all drugs, alcohol and practices which bring unwarranted harm to the body or jeopardize our own or another's faith.
- I engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember one another in prayer; to aid one another in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure it without delay.
- I, moreover, engage that when I remove from this place, I will, if possible, unite with a like-minded church where I can carry out the spirit of this covenant.
“I can do all things through him who strengthens me.” Philippians 4:13
- I, moreover, engage that when I remove from this place, I will, if possible, unite with a like-minded church where I can carry out the spirit of this covenant.

About HGC Membership

What is Church Membership ?

Church membership is a covenant to formalize God's intention for every christian to live in Biblical community.

Is membership essential ?

Yes. Every christian should have one local body of believers wherein they find community, accountability, spiritual leadership, oversight, and even church discipline. He/ She is part of the global church as well. Every christian should commit to one body of believers to grow with and to be nurtured into maturity to the fulness of Christ. To serve according to their gifts, to give, to pray as part of the body which express in love. To accomplish his/ her divine calling as to fulfill Christ Great Commission.

Who can become a member ?

HGC Membership is widely open to every believer in Christ:

1. Confesses faith in the death and resurrection of God's divine Son, Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of sins.
2. Confesses Jesus as Lord and Savior of their life.
3. Has been baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
4. Agrees with HGC's Statement of Faith
5. Agrees to the "Membership Covenant"

Membership can be transferred to HGC from one's previous church with a "written approval" from the senior Pastor.

When is one considered a member ?

When someone repents of their sins, confesses Christ as their Lord and Savior, and is baptized should immediately become a member of a local church. Likewise, the one baptized at HGC will become a member in the family on the day of their baptism.

How old must a member be ?

Members who are under the care of their parents/ guardians before turning adulthood should have the approval of their parents/ guardians. Every child above 10 years old knowledgeable to answer the questions bellow will be accepted into the membership.

1. Do you acknowledge yourself His wrath and without hope save through His sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe on the Lord Jesus Christ as the son of God and savior of sinners?
3. Do you receive your salvation in Christ alone and rely in Him as He has offered in the gospel?
4. Do you now resolve and promise in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit that you will endeavor to live as the follower of the Lord Jesus Christ?
5. Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the church and promise to study its purity and peace?
6. Do you promise to support the church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?

How to become a member ?

1. Acknowledge the "Membership Covenant".
2. To fill out and sign the "Membership Registration Form".
3. Undergoing a membership interview.