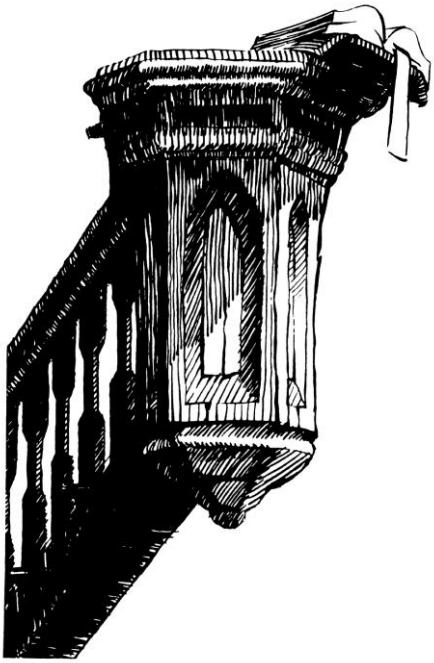
Christ Presbyterian Church

I have kept back nothing, but have declared to you
the whole counsel of God. —Acts 20:27



Covenant Renewal Service

13 April 2014

Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent;
for here we meet with a holy God.

Before the service, speak to the Lord;
during the service, let the Lord speak to you;
after the service, speak to one another.

About Receiving Communion

All who trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, are baptized members in good standing of congregations that proclaim the gospel, are repentant of their sin and are at peace with their brothers and sisters in Christ are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper, feeding on the grace of God by faith. If you have not put your trust in Christ, please allow the elements to pass you by and take this opportunity to meditate on the meaning of the Gospel.

A Word to Parents: Baptized children are invited to the table after they have made a profession of faith and have been received as communing members by the church to which their parents belong.

As instituted by our Lord, wine is the element used in the Lord's Supper to show forth his blood, shed on our behalf (Mark 14:23–25; 1 Cor 10:16; 11:20–21, 25; 1 Tim 4:3–4). If, however, for reasons of conscience, you are not able to participate using wine, grape juice is provided in the center of the tray. Also, gluten-free crackers are available for those who cannot eat bread.

Nursery today:	Susan Miller
	Barbara Moore, Curtis Moore
Next Sunday:	Lauren Alexander
	Terry Shiell, Max Miller

Helpers, please be in the nursery by 10:20 to receive children.

Reflection

God has cast our confessed sins into the depths of the sea, and He's even put a "No Fishing" sign over the spot.

— Dwight L. Moody

There is only one person God cannot forgive: the person who refuses to come to him for forgiveness.

— Author unknown

"I can forgive but I cannot forget," is only another way of saying, "I cannot forgive."

— Henry Ward Beecher

We Prepare to Meet with God

Prelude

Hail, you once despised Jesus! Hail, you Galilean King!
You did suffer to release us; you did free salvation bring.
Hail, you agonizing Savior, bearer of our sin and shame!
By your merits we find favor; life is given through your name.

Paschal Lamb, by God appointed, all our sins on you were laid;
By almighty love anointed, you have full atonement made.
All your people are forgiven through the virtue of your blood;
Opened is the gate of heaven; we are reconciled to God.

Jesus, hail! enthroned in glory, there forever to abide;
All the heavenly hosts adore you, seated at your Father's side.
There for sinners you are pleading; there you do our place prepare;
Ever for us interceding till in glory we appear.

God Calls Us

Trinitarian Confession and Salutation

Minister: We are gathered in the Name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19*

People: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth! *Psalm 124:8*

Minister: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father
and Christ Jesus our Lord! *1 Timothy 1:2b*

People: Amen.

Call to Worship Isaiah 55:1–7

Come, everyone who thirsts,
    come to the waters;
and he who has no money,
    come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
    without money and without price.
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
    and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,
    and delight yourselves in rich food.
Incline your ear, and come to me;
    hear, that your soul may live;
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
    my steadfast, sure love for David.
Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,
    a leader and commander for the peoples.
Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know,
    and a nation that did not know you shall run to you,
because of the Lord your God, and of the Holy One of Israel,
    for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found;
    call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake his way,
    and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him,
    and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

↑ **Psalm 103** *Trinity Psalter*

↑ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession of Sin Exodus 34:1–9

The Lord said to Moses, "Cut for yourself two tablets of stone like the first, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke. Be ready by the morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself there to me on the top of the mountain. No one shall come up with you, and let no one be seen throughout all the mountain. Let no flocks or herds graze opposite that mountain." So Moses cut two tablets of stone like the first. And he rose early in the morning and went up on Mount Sinai, as the Lord had commanded him, and took in his hand two tablets of stone. The Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation." And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped. And he said, "If now I have found favor in your sight, O Lord, please let the Lord go in the midst of us, for it is a stiff–necked people, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your inheritance."

Corporate Confession of Sin and Supplication for Mercy *(unison)*

LORD, LORD, merciful and gracious God, we bow before you confessing that we are sinners and that we have sinned. We have broken our covenant with you, forsaking you in favor of false idols, following our own lusts and feeding our own pride. We are truly a stiff–necked people, and we prove it every day by our refusal to obey you and by our refusal to forgive each other as you have forgiven us. Now we come to you in repentance and humility. Forgive us, we pray, for the sake and through the merits of your beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Give us tender hearts and renewed minds as we worship and work in his precious name. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness Micah 7:18–20

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity
and passing over transgression
for the remnant of his inheritance?
He does not retain his anger forever,
because he delights in steadfast love.
He will again have compassion on us;
he will tread our iniquities underfoot.
You will cast all our sins
into the depths of the sea.
You will show faithfulness to Jacob
and steadfast love to Abraham,
as you have sworn to our fathers
from the days of old.

↑ ***The Doxology*** (#731) *Trinity Hymnal*

God Consecrates Us

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture 1 John 1:5–2:6

[5] This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you,
that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. [6] If we say we
have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do
not practice the truth. [7] But if we walk in the light, as he is in the
light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus
his Son cleanses us from all sin. [8] If we say we have no sin, we
deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. [9] If we confess our
sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us
from all unrighteousness. [10] If we say we have not sinned, we make
him a liar, and his word is not in us.

2[1] My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you
may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the
Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. [2] He is the propitiation for our
sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.
[3] And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep
his commandments. [4] Whoever says "I know him" but does not
keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, [5] but
whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected.
By this we may know that we are in him: [6] whoever says he abides
in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

↑ **Hymn 551** How Blest Is He Whose Trespass *Trinity Hymnal*

Heidelberg Catechism: ***Lord's Day 21 (Question 56)***

Q. What do you believe
concerning "the forgiveness of sins"?

A. I believe that God,
because of Christ's atonement,
will never hold against me
any of my sins
nor my sinful nature
which I need to struggle against all my life.
Rather, in his grace
God grants me the righteousness of Christ
to free me forever from judgment.

Preaching of the Word Rev. John Canales

Sermon Text: Ephesians 1:1–14

[1] Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,

To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus:

[2] Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

[3] Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, [4] even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love [5] he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, [6] to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. [7] In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, [8] which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight [9] making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ [10] as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

[11] In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, [12] so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. [13] In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, [14] who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Prayer of Intercession

↑ **Hymn 82** Great God of Wonders! *Trinity Hymnal*

Sermon Notes

Ephesians 1:1–14

God Communes with Us

↑ **Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed** p. 845, *Trinity Hymnal*

↑ ***The Gloria Patri*** (#735) *Trinity Hymnal*

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Wine is used for the communion,
but grape juice is also available in the center of each tray.

Invitation and Supervision of the Table 1 Corinthians 11:23–29

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration
The minister will lead the congregation in prayer, concluding with the Lord's Prayer in unison:

People: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.

Words of Institution *Matt 26:26–28; Mk 14:22–24; Lk 22:17–20*

Distribution of the Bread and the Cup

I hear the Savior say,
"Your strength indeed is small;
Child of weakness, watch and pray:
Find in me your all in all."

Jesus paid it all,
All to him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain;
He washed it white as snow.

Lord, now indeed I find
Your power, and yours alone
Can change the leopard's spots
And melt the heart of stone.

For nothing good have I
Whereby your grace to claim;
I'll wash my garments white
In the blood of Calvary's Lamb.

Jesus paid it all,
All to him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain;
He washed it white as snow.

And when before the throne
I stand in him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save!"
My lips shall still repeat.

Jesus paid it all,
All to him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain;
He washed it white as snow.

Scripture Reading — During the cup Romans 3:9–26

What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, as it is written:

> "None is righteous, no, not one;
> no one understands;
> no one seeks for God.
> All have turned aside; together they have become worthless;
> no one does good,
> not even one."
> "Their throat is an open grave;
> they use their tongues to deceive."
> "The venom of asps is under their lips."
> "Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness."
> "Their feet are swift to shed blood;
> in their paths are ruin and misery,
> and the way of peace they have not known."
> "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Colossians 3:12–17

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Nunc Dimittis (Song of Simeon)

Now may your servant, Lord,
according to your word,
depart in exultation.
My rest shall be serene,
for now my eyes have seen
your wonderful salvation.

You did for all prepare
this Gift, so great, so rare,
fulfilling prophets' story;
A Light to show the way
to Gentiles gone astray,
and unto Israel's glory.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

God Commissions and Blesses Us

The Collection of Alms and Tithes

Hymn 455 And Can It Be *Trinity Hymnal*

↑ The Benediction

↑ Congregation stands as able

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture quotes are from the ESV Bible ©2001.

Welcome to Christ Presbyterian Church

We are delighted that you have chosen to join us for worship! It is our sincere hope and prayer that you will know and experience the love, power, and presence of our King and Savior Jesus Christ.

If you are visiting, please take a moment to fill out one of our visitor cards and place it in the collection plate. If you desire any additional information, or if there are ways in which we can pray for you or be of service to you, please let us know. We count it a privilege to serve our community in the name of Christ!

About our Church

Standing in the great biblical and evangelical tradition of the Protestant Reformation, Christ Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). We are committed to the Bible as the Word of God, the Reformed Faith, and the Great Commission of Jesus Christ.

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Staff
Pastor – Rev. John Canales
Associate Pastor – Rev. Jahaziel Cantú
Chief Musician – Dr. Stephen Dubberly
Office Manager – Dawn O'Banion

Elders: Daniel Beal, Stephen Dubberly,
Ray White, Joe Warren (on sabbatical)
Deacons: Leng Ea, Rod Miller,
Joe Piatt, Mark Powell