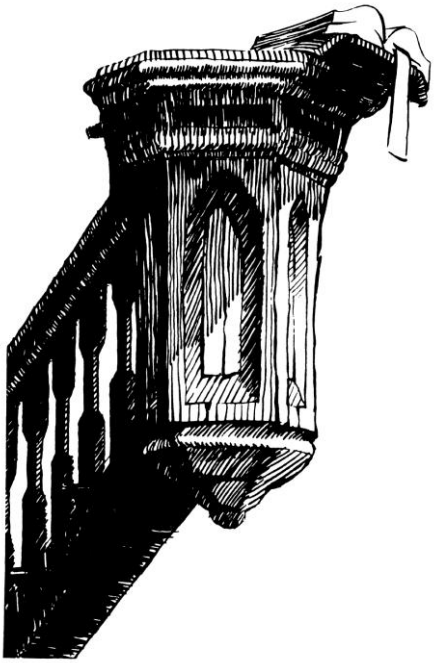
Christ Presbyterian Church

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



Covenant Renewal Service

14 December 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.

Wine is 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). **Grape juice** is provided in the center of the tray for those who, for reasons of conscience, are not able to participate using wine.
Gluten-free crackers are available for those who cannot eat bread.

Hearing Assistance is available at the audio desk in the sanctuary.

Nursery today:	Lauren Alexander
	David Kirkland, Emma Rooney
Next Sunday:	Susan Miller
	Shaz Beal, Elisabeth Miller

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

Reflection

He was created of a mother whom he created. He was carried by hands that he formed. He cried in the manger in wordless infancy, he the Word, without whom all human eloquence is mute.

— Augustine of Hippo

The Only Begotten Word of God has saved us by putting on our likeness. Suffering in the flesh, and rising from the dead, he revealed our nature as greater than death or corruption. What he achieved was beyond the ability of our condition, and what seemed to have been worked out in human weakness and by suffering was really stronger than men and a demonstration of the power that pertains to God.

— Cyril of Alexandria

The Word introduced Himself into that which He was not, in order that the nature of man also might become what it was not, resplendent, by its union, with the grandeur of divine majesty, which has been raised beyond nature rather than that it has cast the unchangeable God beneath its nature.

— Cyril of Alexandria

Immanuel, God with us in our nature, and our sorrow, and our lifework, in our punishment, in our grave, and now with us, or rather we with Him, in resurrection, ascension, triumph, and Second Advent splendor.

— Charles Spurgeon

We Prepare to Meet with God

Prelude

He is the image of the invisible God,
The firstborn over all creation.
For all things were created by him,
Created by him and for him.

He is before all things,
And in him all things hold together.
And he is the head of the body, the church,
The beginning, the firstborn from the dead.

For God was pleased to have all his goodness dwell in him,
And through him to reconcile to himself all things
My making peace through his blood
Shed on the cross.

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 Psalm 98

Minister: The Word was made flesh,
People: Alleluia, Alleluia!
Minister: and dwelt among us,
People: Alleluia, Alleluia!
Minister: Jesus, Son of the living God, splendor of the Father, Light eternal:
People: Glory to you, O Lord!
Minister: Jesus, King of glory, Sun of righteousness, born of the virgin Mary:
People: Glory to you, O Lord!
Minister: Jesus, Wonderful Counselor, mighty God, everlasting Lord:
People: Glory to you, O Lord!
Minister: Jesus, Prince of Peace, Shepherd of souls, perfect in holiness:
People: Glory to you, O Lord!
Minister: Jesus, Friend of all, Protector of the poor, Treasure of the faithful:
People: Glory to you, O Lord!
Minister: Jesus, Good Shepherd, inexhaustible Wisdom, our Way, our Truth, and our Life:
People: Glory to you, O Lord!
Minister: Jesus, joy of the angels, and crown of all the saints:
People: Glory to you, O Lord!

Minister: Christ is born! Give him glory!
Christ has come down from heaven! Receive him!
Christ is now on earth! Exalt him!
O earth, sing to the Lord!
O you nations, praise him in joy,
for he has been glorified! **Amen.**

↑ **Hymn 218** Angels, From the Realms of Glory *Trinity Hymnal*

↑ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession of Sin 1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, [God] is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

God of love,
all year long we pursue power and money,
yet you come in weakness.
All season long we covet great material gifts,
when you alone offer what is lasting.
Through the work of this Lord Jesus,
who comes among us full of grace and truth,
forgive us,
heal us,
correct us.
Then open our lips,
that we may sing your praise with the angels,
and remake our lives,
that we may witness to your transforming love.
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness 1 John 4:9–10

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

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

God Consecrates Us

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture 1 John 5:1–12

[1] Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of
God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been
born of him. [2] By this we know that we love the children of God,
when we love God and obey his commandments. [3] For this is the
love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his
commandments are not burdensome. [4] For everyone who has
been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory
that has overcome the world—our faith. [5] Who is it that
overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is
the Son of God?

[6] This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by
the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is
the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. [7] For there
are three that testify: [8] the Spirit and the water and the blood; and
these three agree. [9] If we receive the testimony of men, the
testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that
he has borne concerning his Son. [10] Whoever believes in the Son
of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe
God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the
testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. [11] And this is
the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his
Son. [12] Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the
Son of God does not have life.

↑ **Hymn 208** O Come, All Ye Faithful *Trinity Hymnal*

Preaching of the Word Rev. John Canales

Sermon Text: John 1:1–14 *The Word Became Flesh*

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with
God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with
God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him
was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life, and
the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it.

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

7 He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all
might believe through him. 8 He was not the light, but came
to bear witness about the light.

9 The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into
the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made
through him, yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to
his own, and his own people did not receive him. 12 But to all
who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the
right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of
blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but
of God.

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we
have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father,
full of grace and truth.

Prayer of Intercession

↑ **Hymn 217** All My Heart This Night Rejoices *Trinity Hymnal*

God Communes with Us

↑ **Affirmation of Faith: Nicene Creed** p. 846, *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

Hymn — During the bread From Heaven High I Come to You

From heaven high I come to you,
I bring you tidings good and new;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
Whereof I now will say and sing:

To you this night is born a child
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child, of lowly birth,
Shall be the joy of all the earth.

This is the Christ, our God and Lord,
Who in all need shall aid afford;
He will himself your Saviour be
From all your sins to set you free.

These are the tokens ye shall mark:
The swaddling-clothes and manger dark:
There ye shall find the Infant laid
By whom the heav'ns and earth were made.

Now let us all with gladsome cheer
Go with the shepherds and draw near
To see the precious gift of God,
Who hath his own dear Son bestowed.

Welcome to earth, thou noble Guest,
Through whom the sinful world is blest!
In my distress thou com'st to me;
What thanks shall I return to thee?

Scripture Reading — During the cup Isaiah 9:1–12

But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.
You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.
For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

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 195	Joy to the World	*Trinity Hymnal*

↑ The Benediction

↑ Congregation stands as able

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

Sermon Notes

The Word Became Flesh

John 1:1–14

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 – Christopher Oglesby
Office Manager – Dawn O'Banion

Elders: Daniel Beal, Ray White, Stephen Dubberly (on sabbatical)
Deacons: Leng Ea, Rod Miller