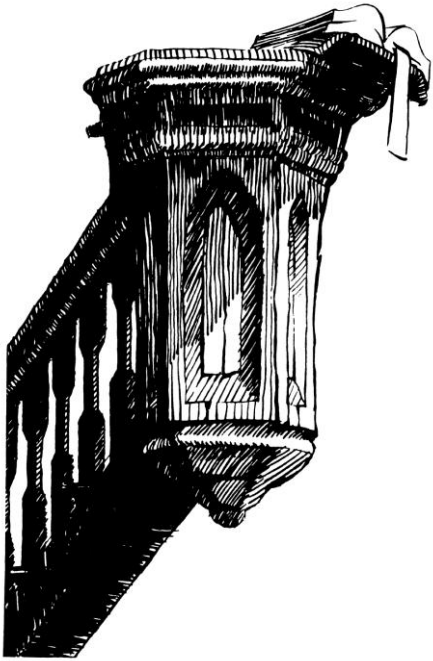
Christ Presbyterian Church

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



Covenant Renewal Service

28 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:	Lauri Boswell
	Sumner Munson, Alyssa Sands
Next Sunday:	Wendy Powell
	Amanda Rooney, Nick Kirkland

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

Reflection

The nativity and the passion of Christ are inseparably bound together in the story of the incarnation of our God in Jesus Christ. To look upon the manger without seeing the cross is Christmas sentimentality, not faith. The story of the one who was born and died as the King of the Jews, is the story of how much God loves us. And knowing this - like the Magi, we cannot go back the same way we came.

— Dr. David Wrinkle

We Prepare to Meet with God

Prelude

Our God, heaven cannot hold him,
Nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away
When he comes to reign;
In the bleak midwinter
A stable place sufficed
The Lord God incarnate,
Jesus Christ.

What can I give him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man,
I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him—
Give my heart.

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 311** Hail to the Lord's Anointed *Trinity Hymnal*

↑ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession of Sin Ezekiel 20:39

As for you, O house of Israel, thus says the Lord GOD: Go serve every one of you his idols, now and hereafter, if you will not listen to me; but my holy name you shall no more profane with your gifts and your idols.

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

Great Triune God, we confess that we have sinned against you. We are guilty of idolatry. The gifts, the offerings, the worship we have brought you are tainted and negated by our corrupt motives, by our persistent self-righteousness, by our disobedient hearts and ears that refuse to listen to you. Grant us repentance, dear Father. Holy Spirit, convict and cleanse us through your word. May we see our Lord Jesus Christ as our only King, God, and Savior. May we see his sacrifice on our behalf as all-sufficient for our redemption and for our sanctification. May we adore him, and him alone, with our lips and with our lives. We pray these things in his holy name, Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness Ezekiel 20:40–41, 44

For on my holy mountain, the mountain height of Israel, declares the Lord GOD, there all the house of Israel, all of them, shall serve me in the land. There I will accept them, and there I will require your contributions and the choicest of your gifts, with all your sacred offerings. As a pleasing aroma I will accept you, when I bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you have been scattered. And I will manifest my holiness among you in the sight of the nations. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I deal with you for my name's sake, not according to your evil ways, nor according to your corrupt deeds, O house of Israel, declares the Lord GOD.

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

God Consecrates Us

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture Isaiah 60

1 Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
2 For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.
3 And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

4 Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.
5 Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
6 A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.
7 All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you;
the rams of Nebaioth shall minister to you;
they shall come up with acceptance on my altar,
and I will beautify my beautiful house.

8 Who are these that fly like a cloud,
and like doves to their windows?
9 For the coastlands shall hope for me,
the ships of Tarshish first,
to bring your children from afar,
their silver and gold with them,
for the name of the LORD your God,

and for the Holy One of Israel,
because he has made you beautiful.

10 Foreigners shall build up your walls,
and their kings shall minister to you;
for in my wrath I struck you,
but in my favor I have had mercy on you.
11 Your gates shall be open continually;
day and night they shall not be shut,
that people may bring to you the wealth of the nations,
with their kings led in procession.
12 For the nation and kingdom
that will not serve you shall perish;
those nations shall be utterly laid waste.
13 The glory of Lebanon shall come to you,
the cypress, the plane, and the pine,
to beautify the place of my sanctuary,
and I will make the place of my feet glorious.
14 The sons of those who afflicted you
shall come bending low to you,
and all who despised you
shall bow down at your feet;
they shall call you the City of the LORD,
the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

15 Whereas you have been forsaken and hated,
with no one passing through,
I will make you majestic forever,
a joy from age to age.
16 You shall suck the milk of nations;
you shall nurse at the breast of kings;
and you shall know that I, the LORD, am your Savior
and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.

17 Instead of bronze I will bring gold,
and instead of iron I will bring silver;
instead of wood, bronze,
instead of stones, iron.
I will make your overseers peace
and your taskmasters righteousness.

18 Violence shall no more be heard in your land,
devastation or destruction within your borders;
you shall call your walls Salvation,
and your gates Praise.

19 The sun shall be no more
your light by day,
nor for brightness shall the moon
give you light;
but the LORD will be your everlasting light,
and your God will be your glory.
20 Your sun shall no more go down,
nor your moon withdraw itself;
for the LORD will be your everlasting light,
and your days of mourning shall be ended.
21 Your people shall all be righteous;
they shall possess the land forever,
the branch of my planting, the work of my hands,
that I might be glorified.
22 The least one shall become a clan,
and the smallest one a mighty nation;
I am the LORD;
in its time I will hasten it.

↑ **Hymn 228** Saw You Never, in the Twilight *Trinity Hymnal*
(Tune: O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!)

Preaching of the Word Rev. John Canales

Sermon Text: Matthew 2:9–11 *Gifts of the Wise Men*

9 After listening to the king, they [the Magi] went on their way.
And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before
them until it came to rest over the place where the child was.
10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great
joy. 11 And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his
mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening
their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and
myrrh.

Prayer of Intercession

↑ **Hymn** We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain:
Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign.

Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, voices raising,
Worshipping God on high.

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone cold tomb.

Glorious now behold Him arise;
King and God and sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Sounds through the earth and skies.

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.

Invitation
Minister: According to his commandment:
People: We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory.

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

Distribution of the Bread and the Cup

Communion Hymn Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
For with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
In the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful,
His own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth
From the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish
As the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six winged seraph,
Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry:
Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Lord Most High!

Here, O Lord, your grateful people
Join the saints' and angels' cry,
Singing to the Son of David,
Lord of life who came to die:
"Worthy is the Lamb who saves us;
Alleluia, Lord Most High."

Scripture Reading — During the cup John 1:1–18

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 gives light to 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. 15 (John bore witness about him, and cried out,
"This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks
before me, because he was before me.'") 16 For from his fullness we
have all received, grace upon grace. 17 For the law was given
through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No
one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side,
he has made him known.

Colossians 1:15–23

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.
16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible
and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or
authorities—all things were created through him and for him.
17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
18 And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning,
the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be
preeminent. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to

dwell, [20] and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

[21] And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, [22] he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, [23] if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

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 226 As with Gladness Men of Old *Trinity Hymnal*

↑ **The Benediction**

↑ Congregation stands as able

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

Sermon Notes

Gifts of the Wise Men

Matthew 2:9–11

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