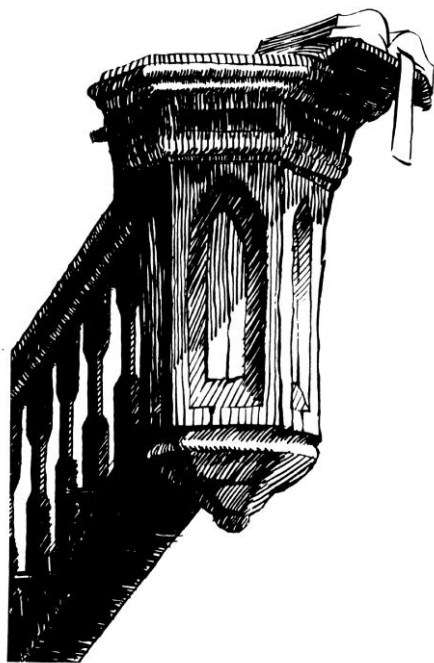


# Christ Presbyterian Church

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



Covenant Renewal Service

18 September 2016



*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:** Sarah Abuhl  
Lucia Abuhl

**Next Sunday:** Amanda Grimes  
Rhea Abuhl

# Reflection

Salvation is God's way of making us real people.

— Augustine of Hippo

What, then, is the difference which He has made to the whole human mass? It is just this; that the business of becoming a son of God, of being turned from a created thing into a begotten thing, of passing over from the temporary biological life into timeless “spiritual” life, has been done for us. Humanity is already “saved” in principle. We individuals have to appropriate that salvation. But the really tough work—the bit we could not have done for ourselves—has been done for us. We have not got to try to climb up into spiritual life by our own efforts; it has already come down into the human race. If we will only lay ourselves open to the one Man in whom it was fully present, and who, in spite of being God, is also a real man, He will do it in us and for us.

— C. S. Lewis  
*Mere Christianity*

If man could have saved himself, there would have been no need for the Son of God to come on earth. Indeed, his coming is proof that people cannot save themselves.

— Martyn Lloyd-Jones

“Please—Aslan,” said Lucy, can anything be done to save Edmund?”

“All shall be done,” said Aslan.

— C. S. Lewis  
*The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to  
make the wound-ed whole. There is a balm in  
Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul. Some -  
If you  
times I feel dis-cou-raged and think my work's in  
can-not preach like Pe-ter, if you can-not pray like  
vain. But then the Ho-ly Spi-rit re-  
Paul, you can tell the love of Je-sus, and  
vives my soul a - - gain! There is a  
say, "He died for all!"

# God Calls Us

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## 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: May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you. *Jude 2*

**People: Amen.**

## Call to Worship

*Psalm 95:6–7a*

Minister: Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

**People: let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!**

Minister: For he is our God,

**People: and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of his hand.**

♣ **Hymn 80**      Lord, With Glowing Heart I Praise Thee *Trinity Hymnal*

♣ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

# God Cleanses Us

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## Call to Confession of Sin

Psalm 66:16–20

Come and hear, all you who fear God,  
and I will tell what he has done for my soul.  
I cried to him with my mouth,  
and high praise was on my tongue.  
If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,  
the Lord would not have listened.  
But truly God has listened;  
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.  
Blessed be God,  
because he has not rejected my prayer  
or removed his steadfast love from me!

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

God of love, in the wrong we have done  
and in the good we have not done,  
we have sinned in ignorance;  
we have sinned in weakness;  
we have sinned through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry.  
We repent and turn to you.  
Forgive us and renew our lives  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

## Declaration of Forgiveness

Colossians 2:9–14

In [Christ] the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

# *God Consecrates Us*

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## **Prayer for Illumination**

### **Reading of Scripture**

Mark 10:17–31

<sup>17</sup> And as [Jesus] was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>18</sup> And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. <sup>19</sup> You know the commandments: ‘Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.’” <sup>20</sup> And he said to him, “Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth.” <sup>21</sup> And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” <sup>22</sup> Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

<sup>23</sup> And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” <sup>24</sup> And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.” <sup>26</sup> And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, “Then who can be saved?” <sup>27</sup> Jesus looked at them and said, “With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God.” <sup>28</sup> Peter began to say to him, “See, we have left everything and followed you.” <sup>29</sup> Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, <sup>30</sup> who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. <sup>31</sup> But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”

▲ **Hymn 599**

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

*Trinity Hymnal*



## Preaching of the Word

**Sermon Text:** John 3:14–18

Rev. John Canales  
*Can God Really Save Me?*

<sup>14</sup> “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

<sup>18</sup> Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”

## Prayer of Intercession

▲ **Hymn 308**

Jesus Paid It All

*Trinity Hymnal*

## *God Communes with Us*

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▲ **Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed**

p. 846, *Trinity Hymnal*

▲ *The Gloria Patri* (#735)

*Trinity Hymnal*

### **The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

*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*

Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands,  
For our offenses given;  
But now at God's right hand he stands  
And brings us life from heaven;  
Therefore, let us joyful be  
And sing to God right thankfully  
Loud songs of hallelujah.

*Hallelujah!*

Here the true Paschal Lamb we see,  
Whom God so freely gave us;  
He died on the accursed tree  
(so strong his love!) to save us.  
See, his blood does mark our door;  
Faith points to it, death passes o'er,  
And Satan cannot harm us.

*Hallelujah!*

Then let us feast this joyful day  
On Christ, the Bread of Heaven;  
The Word of grace has purged away  
The old and evil leaven.  
Christ alone our souls will feed;  
He is our meat and drink indeed;  
Faith lives upon no other.

*Hallelujah!*

“There is no other god besides me,  
a righteous God and a Savior;  
there is none besides me.

“Turn to me and be saved,  
all the ends of the earth!  
For I am God,  
and there is no other.”

John 1:12–13

To all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

*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*

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## **The Collection of Alms and Tithes**

### **Hymn**

Behold What Love, What Boundless Love

Behold, what love, what boundless love,  
The Father hath bestowed  
On sinners lost, that we should be  
Now called the sons of God!

*Behold, what manner of love!*  
*What manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us,*  
*That we, that we should be called,*  
*Should be called the sons of God!*

No longer far from Him but now  
By precious blood made nigh,  
Accepted in the Well-beloved,  
Near to God's heart we lie.

### *Refrain*

What we in glory soon shall be,  
It doth not yet appear;  
But when our precious Lord we see,  
We shall His image bear.

### *Refrain*

## **▲ The Benediction**

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▲ Congregation stands as able

# **Sermon Notes**

John 3:14–18

*Can God Really Save Me?*



# 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** – Mary Jo Canales

**Elders:** Daniel Beal, Sam Bridgeman, Ray White  
**Deacons:** Leng Ea (sabbatical), Rod Miller  
**Diaconal Aide:** Adam Grimes