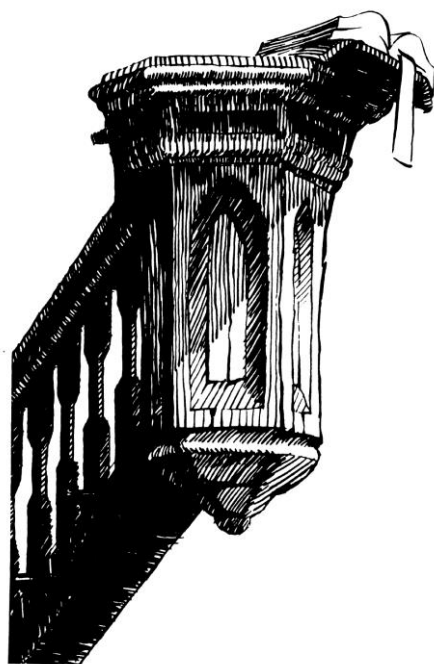


# Christ Presbyterian Church

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



Covenant Renewal Service

23 October 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:** Lauren Alexander  
Rhea Abuhl

**Next Sunday:** Paula Ea  
Greyson Ea

# Reflection

Look: the question is not whether we should bring God into our work or not. We certainly should and must: as MacDonald says, “All that is not God is death.” The question is whether we should simply (a.) Bring Him in in the dedication of our work to Him, in the integrity, diligence, and humility with which we do it or also (b.) Make His professed and explicit service our job. The A vocation rests on all men whether they know it or not; the B vocation only on those who are specially called to it. Each vocation has its peculiar dangers and peculiar rewards.

— C. S. Lewis  
*A Severe Mercy*, Letter to Sheldon Vanauken

One can never see, or not till long afterwards, why *any* one was selected for *any* job. And when one does, it is usually some reason that leaves no room for vanity.

— C. S. Lewis  
*Perelandra*

## *We Prepare to Meet with God*

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### **Prelude**

Man of Sorrows, What a Name

Man of Sorrows! what a name  
For the Son of God, who came  
Ruined sinners to reclaim:  
Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,  
In my place condemned he stood,  
Sealed my pardon with his blood:  
Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Guilty, vile, and helpless, we;  
Spotless Lamb of God was he;  
Full atonement! can it be?  
Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Lifted up was he to die,  
“It is finished!” was his cry;  
Now in heaven exalted high:  
Hallelujah! what a Savior!

When he comes, our glorious King,  
Ransomed earth with joy will ring;  
Then anew this song we’ll sing:  
Hallelujah! what a Savior!

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

**People: Amen.**

## Call to Worship *Psalm 9:1–2*

Minister: I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart;  
I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.

**People: I will be glad and exult in you;  
I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.**

▲ **Hymn 613**      Give Thanks Unto the Lord, Jehovah      *Trinity Hymnal*

▲ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

## *God Cleanses Us*

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### **Call to Confession of Sin**

Proverbs 6:16–19

There are six things that the LORD hates,  
seven that are an abomination to him:  
haughty eyes, a lying tongue,  
and hands that shed innocent blood,  
a heart that devises wicked plans,  
feet that make haste to run to evil,  
a false witness who breathes out lies,  
and one who sows discord among brothers.

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

Lord God of the universe, we confess that we are sinners.  
In our thoughts, our words, and our actions,  
we have sinned against you and against each other,  
practicing things that are an abomination to you  
and damaging to ourselves and others.  
Forgive us, Father, for our selfish arrogance,  
our blind ambition, our lack of trust;  
for our failure to heed your word,  
to avail ourselves of your means of grace,  
to seek to worship you with our lips and with our lives.  
We cry to you for mercy, relying solely on the grace  
you have poured out on us through Christ our Lord,  
who suffered and died on our behalf.  
Fill us, we pray, with his Spirit, his love,  
his eagerness to do your will. In his name, *Amen*.

### **Declaration of Forgiveness**

Ephesians 5:2

Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

▲ *The Doxology* (#731)

*Trinity Hymnal*

# *God Consecrates Us*

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## **Prayer for Illumination**

### **Reading of Scripture**

James 3:13–4:17 (p. 1012)

<sup>3:13</sup> Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. <sup>14</sup> But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. <sup>15</sup> This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. <sup>16</sup> For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. <sup>17</sup> But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. <sup>18</sup> And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

<sup>4:1</sup> What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? <sup>2</sup> You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup> You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. <sup>4</sup> You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup> Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, “He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us”? <sup>6</sup> But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” <sup>7</sup> Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup> Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. <sup>9</sup> Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. <sup>10</sup> Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

<sup>11</sup> Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. <sup>12</sup> There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?

<sup>13</sup> Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit”— <sup>14</sup> yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. <sup>15</sup> Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.” <sup>16</sup> As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. <sup>17</sup> So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

▲ **Hymn 163**

At the Name of Jesus

*Trinity Hymnal*



<sup>1</sup> Now Abimelech the son of Jerubbaal went to Shechem to his mother's relatives and said to them and to the whole clan of his mother's family, <sup>2</sup>“Say in the ears of all the leaders of Shechem, ‘Which is better for you, that all seventy of the sons of Jerubbaal rule over you, or that one rule over you?’ Remember also that I am your bone and your flesh.”

<sup>3</sup> And his mother's relatives spoke all these words on his behalf in the ears of all the leaders of Shechem, and their hearts inclined to follow Abimelech, for they said, “He is our brother.” <sup>4</sup> And they gave him seventy pieces of silver out of the house of Baal-berith with which Abimelech hired worthless and reckless fellows, who followed him. <sup>5</sup> And he went to his father's house at Ophrah and killed his brothers the sons of Jerubbaal, seventy men, on one stone. But Jotham the youngest son of Jerubbaal was left, for he hid himself. <sup>6</sup> And all the leaders of Shechem came together, and all Beth-millo, and they went and made Abimelech king, by the oak of the pillar at Shechem.

<sup>7</sup> When it was told to Jotham, he went and stood on top of Mount Gerizim and cried aloud and said to them, “Listen to me, you leaders of Shechem, that God may listen to you. <sup>8</sup> The trees once went out to anoint a king over them, and they said to the olive tree, ‘Reign over us.’ <sup>9</sup> But the olive tree said to them, ‘Shall I leave my abundance, by which gods and men are honored, and go hold sway over the trees?’ <sup>10</sup> And the trees said to the fig tree, ‘You come and reign over us.’ <sup>11</sup> But the fig tree said to them, ‘Shall I leave my sweetness and my good fruit and go hold sway over the trees?’ <sup>12</sup> And the trees said to the vine, ‘You come and reign over us.’ <sup>13</sup> But the vine said to them, ‘Shall I leave my wine that cheers God and men and go hold sway over the trees?’ <sup>14</sup> Then all the trees said to the bramble, ‘You come and reign over us.’ <sup>15</sup> And the bramble said to the trees, ‘If in good faith you are anointing me king over you, then come and take refuge in my shade, but if not, let fire come out of the bramble and devour the cedars of Lebanon.’

<sup>16</sup> “Now therefore, if you acted in good faith and integrity when you made Abimelech king, and if you have dealt well with Jerubbaal and

his house and have done to him as his deeds deserved— <sup>17</sup> for my father fought for you and risked his life and delivered you from the hand of Midian, <sup>18</sup> and you have risen up against my father's house this day and have killed his sons, seventy men on one stone, and have made Abimelech, the son of his female servant, king over the leaders of Shechem, because he is your relative— <sup>19</sup> if you then have acted in good faith and integrity with Jerubbaal and with his house this day, then rejoice in Abimelech, and let him also rejoice in you. <sup>20</sup> But if not, let fire come out from Abimelech and devour the leaders of Shechem and Beth-millo; and let fire come out from the leaders of Shechem and from Beth-millo and devour Abimelech.” <sup>21</sup> And Jotham ran away and fled and went to Beer and lived there, because of Abimelech his brother.

### **Prayer of Intercession**

▲ **Hymn 186**

One There Is, Above All Others

*Trinity Hymnal*

## *God Communes with Us*

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

p. 845, *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*

Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love:  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
Is like to that above.

Before the Father's throne  
We pour our ardent prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
Our comforts and our cares.

In sweet communion, Lord,  
We gather 'round your word.  
Oh, may your presence now be known,  
Oh, may your voice be heard!

In signs of bread and wine  
We're nourished by the Son;  
His boundless grace and love divine  
Unite our hearts as one.

And as we lift our voice  
To praise the Lamb who died,  
In him we glory and rejoice:  
Our Savior, crucified!

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

## *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 691**

It is Well With My Soul

*Trinity Hymnal*

#### **▲ The Benediction**

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▲ Congregation stands as able

# **Sermon Notes**

Judges 9:1–21 p. 208

*God's Calling On Your Life*

# 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