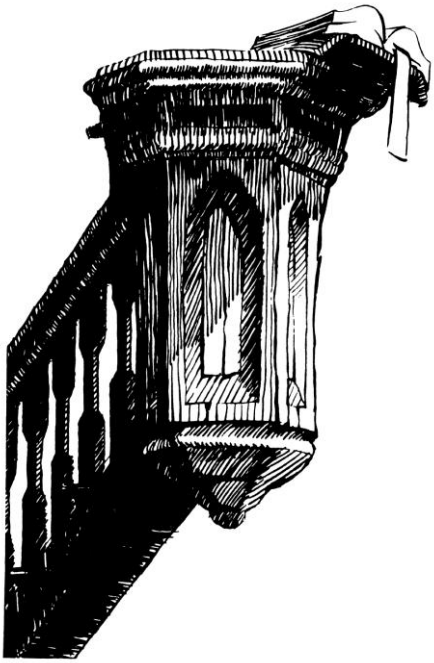
Christ Presbyterian Church

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



Covenant Renewal Service

31 August 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:	Dawn O'Banion
	Arlys Wydner, David Busby
Next Sunday:	Susan Miller
	Amanda Rooney, Naomi Dykstra

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

Reflection

It is better to have one true friend
than all the acquaintances in the world.

— Anonymous

Tell me what company you keep,
and I'll tell you what you are.

— Miguel Cervantes

Your friend is the man
who knows all about you
and still likes you.

— Elbert Hubbard

The friendship that can cease has never been real.

— Jerome

True friends don't spend time gazing into each other's eyes. They may show great tenderness towards each other, but they face in the same direction — toward common projects, goals — above all, towards a common Lord.

— C. S. Lewis

Is any pleasure on earth as great
as a circle of Christian friends by a fire?

— C. S. Lewis

A faithful friend is an image of God.

— French proverb

We Prepare to Meet with God

Prelude

Oh, welcome, brothers, sisters, young and old,
As now before your very eyes unfold
The wonders that our gracious Lord foretold:
God and man at table are sat down.

Oh, who is this who spreads the victory feast?
Oh, who is this who makes our warring cease?
Christ Jesus, risen Savior, Prince of peace!
God and man at table are sat down.

In love he stooped to bear our guilty frame;
In love endured the cross with all its shame;
In love we praise his matchless, holy name;
God and man at table are sat down.

Now worship in the presence of the Lord
With joyful songs and hearts in one accord,
And let our Host of table be adored:
God and man at table are sat down.

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 22:23–31

You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him,
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
For he has not despised or abhorred
the affliction of the afflicted,
and he has not hidden his face from him,
but has heard, when he cried to him.
From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will perform before those who fear him.
The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the LORD!
May your hearts live forever!
All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before you.
For kingship belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
even the one who could not keep himself alive.
Posterity shall serve him;
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness
to a people yet unborn,
that he has done it.

↑ **Hymn 168** I Greet Thee *Trinity Hymnal*

↑ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession of Sin Ephesians 4:25–32

Having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil. Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

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

Merciful God, we confess our sins before you today and humbly ask for your forgiveness. We have sinned against you and against each other. We have failed to imitate you as your beloved children; we have failed to love each other as members one of another. We repent of our lies, our sinful anger, our thievery and laziness and selfishness. We bemoan our gossiping and corrupting talk, our bitterness and clamor and slander and malice. We acknowledge that hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses; and we beseech you to empower us through your Holy Spirit to be kind, tenderhearted, forgiving people. Renew us to communion with you and with each other through the grace of our Lord Jesus, who loved us and gave himself up for us. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness Ephesians 5:1–2

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

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

God Consecrates Us

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture Exodus 24

1 Then [God] said to Moses, "Come up to the LORD, you and
Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and
worship from afar. 2 Moses alone shall come near to the LORD, but
the others shall not come near, and the people shall not come up
with him."

3 Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all
the rules. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All
the words that the LORD has spoken we will do." 4 And Moses
wrote down all the words of the LORD. He rose early in the
morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve
pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. 5 And he sent young
men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and
sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. 6 And Moses took
half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he
threw against the altar. 7 Then he took the Book of the Covenant
and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the
LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." 8 And
Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold
the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in
accordance with all these words."

9 Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the
elders of Israel went up, 10 and they saw the God of Israel. There
was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the
very heaven for clearness. 11 And he did not lay his hand on the
chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and
drank.

↑ **Hymn 378** Here, O My Lord, I See Thee *Trinity Hymnal*

80 Q. How does the Lord's Supper differ from the Roman Catholic Mass?

80 A. The Lord's supper declares to us
that our sins have been completely forgiven
through the one sacrifice of Jesus Christ
which he himself finished on the cross once for all.
It also declares to us
that the Holy Spirit grafts us into Christ,
who with his very body
is now in heaven at the right hand of the Father
where he wants us to worship him.

But the Mass teaches
that the living and the dead
do not have their sins forgiven
through the suffering of Christ
unless Christ is still offered for them daily by the priests.
It also teaches
that Christ is bodily present
in the form of bread and wine
where Christ is therefore to be worshiped.
Thus the Mass is basically
nothing but a denial
of the one sacrifice and suffering of Jesus Christ
and a condemnable idolatry.

81 Q. Who are to come to the Lord's table?

81 A. Those who are displeased with themselves
because of their sins,
but who nevertheless trust
that their sins are pardoned
and that their continuing weakness is covered
by the suffering and death of Christ,
and who also desire more and more
to strengthen their faith
and to lead a better life.

Hypocrites and those who are unrepentant, however,
eat and drink judgment on themselves.

Preaching of the Word Rev. John Canales

Sermon Text: John 15:12–17

12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I
have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, that
someone lay down his life for his friends. 14 You are my
friends if you do what I command you. 15 No longer do I call
you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is
doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard
from my Father I have made known to you. 16 You did not
choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you
should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so
that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it
to you. 17 These things I command you, so that you will love
one another.

Prayer of Intercession

↑ **Hymn 186** One There Is, Above All Others *Trinity Hymnal*
RUF tune

Sermon Notes

John 15:12–17

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

Hymn — During the bread Blest Be the Tie That Binds

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!

Scripture Reading — During the cup 1 John 1:1 – 2:11

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

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. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 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. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

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. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard. At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

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

Psalm 87

Zion, founded on the mountains,
God, thy Maker, loves thee well;
He has chosen thee, most precious,
He delights in thee to dwell;
God's own city, God's own city,
Who can all thy glory tell?

Heathen lands and hostile peoples
Soon shall come the Lord to know;
Nations born again in Zion
Shall the Lord's salvation show;
God Almighty, God Almighty
Shall on Zion strength bestow.

When the Lord shall count the nations,
Sons and daughters he shall see,
Born to endless life in Zion,
And their joyful song shall be:
"Blessed Zion, blessed Zion,
All our fountains are in thee."

↑ The Benediction

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