Christ Presbyterian Church

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

Covenant Renewal Service

3 May 2015

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
	Jeanette Sands, Nick Kirkland
Next Sunday:	Susan Miller
	Tova Anderson, Elisabeth Miller

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

Reflection

"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

Is it not wonderful news to believe
that salvation lies outside ourselves?

— Martin Luther

It will do us good to be very empty,
to be very weak,
to be very distrustful of self,
and so to go about our Master's work.

— Charles H. Spurgeon

We Prepare to Meet with God

Prelude

Psalm 121

Unto the hills I lift my eyes.
From where comes all my aid
When troubled or afraid?
The LORD shall to my help arise,
He who made earth and heaven:
His aid is freely given.

Your Keeper slumbers not, nor shall
He cause your foot to fail
When dangers you assail
Lo, he who keeps His Israel
Will neither sleep nor slumber:
Nought shall your life encumber.

The LORD your Keeper is for aye,
A shade on your right hand:
You shall securely stand.
The moon by night, the sun by day
Shall not afflict or smite you,
But with their radiance light you.

The LORD will guard and keep you when
You meet with harm or strife:
He will preserve your life.
When going out or coming in,
The LORD will you deliver
From this time forth, for ever.

–New Genevan Psalter 1551 (trans. Westra)

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

Call to Worship Psalm 100

Minister: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.
People: Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.
Minister: Know that the LORD is God.
People: It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.
Minister: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts
with praise;
People: give thanks to him and praise his name.
Minister: For the LORD is good and is love endures forever;
People: his faithfulness continues through all
generations.

↑ **Hymn 92** A Mighty Fortress is Our God *Trinity Hymnal*

↑ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession of Sin Isaiah 40:18–20, 27

To whom then will you liken God,
or what likeness compare with him?
An idol! A craftsman casts it,
and a goldsmith overlays it with gold
and casts for it silver chains.
He who is too impoverished for an offering
chooses wood that will not rot;
he seeks out a skillful craftsman
to set up an idol that will not move.

Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
"My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God"?

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

Great Triune God, all–powerful and all–knowing, Creator, Sustainer, and Redeemer, we humbly confess that we are sinners. We acknowledge that our hearts are idol factories. We who are impoverished of spirit, who have no merit of our own by which to gain your favor, have attempted to rely on our own works. In our fallen state, we have deceived ourselves, failing to recognize our utter helplessness, your supreme sovereignty, and your boundless covenant love. Now we repent, Father, and recognize that our way is not hidden from you, that you have not disregarded our right; that, indeed, you have condescended to our weakness and have provided salvation and redemption and life and strength through the sacrificial death and glorious resurrection of your precious Son. Cleanse us, we pray, and make us your humble and confident and thankful and obedient people. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness Isaiah 40:28–31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases strength.
Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;
but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

Romans 5:6–8

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

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

God Consecrates Us

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture 2 Corinthians 4:1–18

1 Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart.
2 But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to
practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement
of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the
sight of God. 3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who
are perishing. 4 In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of
the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory
of Christ, who is the image of God. 5 For what we proclaim is not ourselves,
but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.
6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our
hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of
Jesus Christ.

7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power
belongs to God and not to us. 8 We are afflicted in every way, but not
crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken;
struck down, but not destroyed; 10 always carrying in the body the death of
Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. 11 For
we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the
life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. 12 So death is at
work in us, but life in you.

13 Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written,
"I believed, and so I spoke," we also believe, and so we also speak,
14 knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and
bring us with you into his presence. 15 For it is all for your sake, so that as
grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the
glory of God.

16 So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner
self is being renewed day by day. 17 For this light momentary affliction is
preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, 18 as we
look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the
things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

↑ **Hymn 499** Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me *Trinity Hymnal*

Preaching of the Word Rev. John Canales

Sermon Text: 2 Chronicles 20:1–30

1 After this the Moabites and Ammonites, and with them some of
the Meunites, came against Jehoshaphat for battle. 2 Some men
came and told Jehoshaphat, "A great multitude is coming against
you from Edom, from beyond the sea; and, behold, they are in
Hazazon–tamar" (that is, Engedi). 3 Then Jehoshaphat was afraid
and set his face to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast
throughout all Judah. 4 And Judah assembled to seek help from the
LORD; from all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD.

5 And Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem,
in the house of the LORD, before the new court, 6 and said, "O
LORD, God of our fathers, are you not God in heaven? You rule
over all the kingdoms of the nations. In your hand are power and
might, so that none is able to withstand you. 7 Did you not, our
God, drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people
Israel, and give it forever to the descendants of Abraham your
friend? 8 And they have lived in it and have built for you in it a
sanctuary for your name, saying, 9 'If disaster comes upon us, the
sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we will stand before
this house and before you— for your name is in this house—and
cry out to you in our affliction, and you will hear and save.' 10 And
now behold, the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir,
whom you would not let Israel invade when they came from the
land of Egypt, and whom they avoided and did not destroy— 11
behold, they reward us by coming to drive us out of your
possession, which you have given us to inherit. 12 O our God, will
you not execute judgment on them? For we are powerless against
this great horde that is coming against us. We do not know what
to do, but our eyes are on you."

13 Meanwhile all Judah stood before the LORD, with their little
ones, their wives, and their children. 14 And the Spirit of the LORD
came upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, son of Benaiah, son of
Jeiel, son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst
of the assembly. 15 And he said, "Listen, all Judah and inhabitants
of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: Thus says the LORD to you,
'Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed at this great horde, for
the battle is not yours but God's. 16 Tomorrow go down against

them. Behold, they will come up by the ascent of Ziz. You will
find them at the end of the valley, east of the wilderness of Jeruel.
[17] You will not need to fight in this battle. Stand firm, hold your
position, and see the salvation of the LORD on your behalf, O
Judah and Jerusalem.' Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed.
Tomorrow go out against them, and the LORD will be with you."

[18] Then Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground,
and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell down before the
LORD, worshiping the LORD. [19] And the Levites, of the Kohathites
and the Korahites, stood up to praise the LORD, the God of Israel,
with a very loud voice.

[20] And they rose early in the morning and went out into the
wilderness of Tekoa. And when they went out, Jehoshaphat stood
and said, "Hear me, Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem! Believe in
the LORD your God, and you will be established; believe his
prophets, and you will succeed." [21] And when he had taken
counsel with the people, he appointed those who were to sing to
the LORD and praise him in holy attire, as they went before the
army, and say,

"Give thanks to the LORD,
for his steadfast love endures forever."

[22] And when they began to sing and praise, the LORD set an
ambush against the men of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who
had come against Judah, so that they were routed. [23] For the men
of Ammon and Moab rose against the inhabitants of Mount Seir,
devoting them to destruction, and when they had made an end of
the inhabitants of Seir, they all helped to destroy one another.

[24] When Judah came to the watchtower of the wilderness, they
looked toward the horde, and behold, there were dead bodies lying
on the ground; none had escaped. [25] When Jehoshaphat and his
people came to take their spoil, they found among them, in great
numbers, goods, clothing, and precious things, which they took
for themselves until they could carry no more. They were three
days in taking the spoil, it was so much. [26] On the fourth day they
assembled in the Valley of Beracah, for there they blessed the
LORD. Therefore the name of that place has been called the Valley
of Beracah to this day. [27] Then they returned, every man of Judah

and Jerusalem, and Jehoshaphat at their head, returning to
Jerusalem with joy, for the LORD had made them rejoice over their
enemies. [28] They came to Jerusalem with harps and lyres and
trumpets, to the house of the LORD. [29] And the fear of God came
on all the kingdoms of the countries when they heard that the
LORD had fought against the enemies of Israel. [30] So the realm of
Jehoshaphat was quiet, for his God gave him rest all around.

Prayer of Intercession

↑ **Hymn 172** Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder *Trinity Hymnal*
(RUF tune)

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

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 A Debtor to Mercy Alone

A debtor to mercy alone,
Of covenant mercy I sing;
Nor fear, with your righteousness on,
My person and offering to bring.
The terrors of law and of God
With me can have nothing to do;
My Savior's obedience and blood
Hide all my transgressions from view.

The work which his goodness began,
The arm of his strength will complete;
His promise is yea and amen,
And never was forfeited yet.
Things future, nor things that are now,
Nor all things below or above,
Can make him his purpose forgo,
Or sever my soul from his love.

My name from the palms of his hands
Eternity will not erase;
Impressed on his heart it remains,
In marks of indelible grace.
Yes, I to the end shall endure,
As sure as the earnest is given;
More happy, but not more secure,
The glorified spirits in heaven.

Scripture Reading — During the cup Romans 8:18–39

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves,

who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised— who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

> "For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
> we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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 44 How Great Thou Art *Trinity Hymnal*

↑ **The Benediction**

↑ Congregation stands as able

Sermon Notes

2 Chronicles 20:1–30

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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