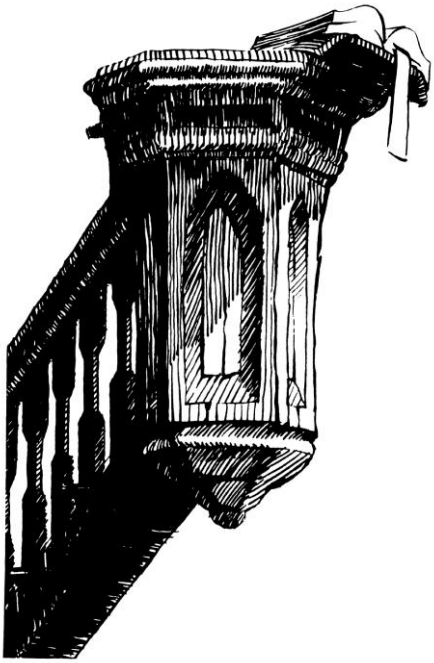
Christ Presbyterian Church

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



Covenant Renewal Service

16 August 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.

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:	Laurie Boswell Willem Anderson
Next Sunday:	Lauren Alexander Tammy Smith

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

Reflection

The efficacy of prayer is, at any rate, no *more* of a problem than the efficacy of all human acts. i.e., if you say "It is useless to pray because Providence already knows what is best and will certainly do it," then why is it not equally useless (and for the same reason) to try to alter the course of events in anyway whatever?

—C.S. Lewis

I got up early one morning
And rushed right into the day;
I had so much to accomplish
That I didn't have time to pray.

Problems just tumbled about me,
And heavier came each task;
"Why doesn't God help me?" I wondered.
He answered, "You didn't ask."

I wanted to see joy and beauty,
But the day toiled on gray and bleak;
I wondered why God didn't show me.
He said, "But you didn't seek."

I tried to come into God's presence;
I used all my keys in the lock.
God gently and lovingly chided,
"My child, you didn't knock."

I woke up early this morning,
And paused before entering the day;
I had so much to accomplish
That I had to take time to pray.

—Author unknown

We Prepare to Meet with God

Prelude

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, Lord of heav'n and earth,
Let praise and honor clothe your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done;
throughout the world complete your reign.
Teach us, O Lord, to trust in you
For bread and breath each day anew.

Forgive us, Lord, our sins and debts
As we to debtors show your grace.
Remove us from all tempting paths
And guard us from the devil's ways;
For glory, strength, and heaven's throne
Belong to you, and you alone.

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 50:14–15

"Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and perform your vows to the Most High,
And call upon me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me."

↑ **Psalm 111:1–4** *Trinity Psalter*

↑ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession of Sin Hebrews 4:14–16

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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

Gracious and Almighty Lord,
you created the heavens and set the solar system spinning.
you created us in your own image,
and then poured out blessing upon blessing.
In spite of the abundant evidence
of your power and faithful love,
we confess that we hesitate to look to you for all we need.
We confess our tendency to rely upon our own efforts and wisdom
in the misguided belief that we know best,
and that we can make our way by ourselves.
Forgive us!
Reorient our hearts and make us less enamored of our own abilities,
that we might be humble enough, and wise enough,
to live in gratitude and dependence,
looking to you in faith every day.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness Hebrews 7:23–25

The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, but [Jesus] holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

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

God Consecrates Us

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture 2 Chronicles 7:11–22

11 Thus Solomon finished the house of the LORD and the king's
house. All that Solomon had planned to do in the house of the LORD
and in his own house he successfully accomplished. 12 Then the
LORD appeared to Solomon in the night and said to him: "I have
heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a house
of sacrifice. 13 When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or
command the locust to devour the land, or send pestilence among
my people, 14 if my people who are called by my name humble
themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked
ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal
their land. 15 Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the
prayer that is made in this place. 16 For now I have chosen and
consecrated this house that my name may be there forever. My
eyes and my heart will be there for all time. 17 And as for you, if you
will walk before me as David your father walked, doing according to
all that I have commanded you and keeping my statutes and my
rules, 18 then I will establish your royal throne, as I covenanted with
David your father, saying, 'You shall not lack a man to rule Israel.'

19 "But if you turn aside and forsake my statutes and my
commandments that I have set before you, and go and serve other
gods and worship them, 20 then I will pluck you up from my land that
I have given you, and this house that I have consecrated for my
name, I will cast out of my sight, and I will make it a proverb and a
byword among all peoples. 21 And at this house, which was exalted,
everyone passing by will be astonished and say, 'Why has the LORD
done thus to this land and to this house?' 22 Then they will say,
'Because they abandoned the LORD, the God of their fathers who
brought them out of the land of Egypt, and laid hold on other gods
and worshiped them and served them. Therefore he has brought all
this disaster on them.'"

↑ **Hymn 91** Bow Down Thy Ear, O Lord, and Hear *Trinity Hymnal*

Preaching of the Word Rev. John Canales

Sermon Text: Matthew 6:5–15 *Why, How and What to Pray*

5 "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they
love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that
they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their
reward. 6 But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and
pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in
secret will reward you.
7 "And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles
do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. 8 Do
not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask
him. 9 Pray then like this:

"Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
10 Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
11 Give us this day our daily bread,
12 and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
13 And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

14 For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will
also forgive you, 15 but if you do not forgive others their trespasses,
neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Heidelberg Catechism: ***Lord's Day 45***

Q.116 Why do Christians need to pray?

A. 116 Because Prayer is the most important part
of the thankfulness God requires of us.
And also because God gives his grace and Holy Spirit
only to those who pray continually and groan inwardly,
asking God for these gifts
and thanking him for them.

Q. 117 How does God want us to pray so that he will listen to us?

A. 117 First, we must pray from the heart
to no other than the one true God,
who has revealed himself in his Word,
asking for everything he has commanded us to ask for.

Second, we must acknowledge our need and misery,
hiding nothing,
and humble ourselves in his majestic presence.

Third, we must rest on this unshakable foundation:
even though we do not deserve it,
God will surely listen to our prayer
because of Christ our Lord.
That is what he promised us in his Word.

Q. 118 What did God command us to pray for?

A. 118 Everything we need, spiritually and physically,
as embraced in the prayer
Christ our Lord himself taught us.

Q. 119 What is this prayer?

A. 119 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 have also forgiven 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.

Prayer of Intercession

↑ **Hymn 377** Jesus, Where'er Your People Meet *Trinity Hymnal*

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

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

Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

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!

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 81 O Love of God, How Strong and True *Trinity Hymnal*

↑ The Benediction

↑ Congregation stands as able

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

Sermon Notes

Matthew 6:5–15

Why, How and What to Pray

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
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Associate Pastor – Rev. Jahaziel Cantú
Chief Musician – Christopher Oglesby
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Deacons: Leng Ea, Rod Miller
Diaconal Aid: Adam Grimes