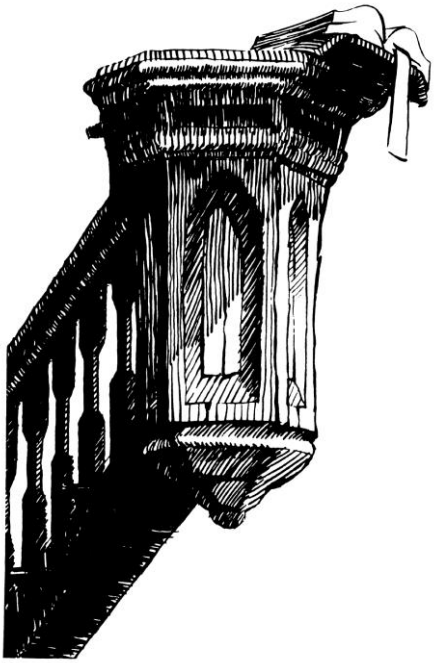
Christ Presbyterian Church

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



Covenant Renewal Service

25 October 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:	Susan Miller
	Sam Ea
Next Sunday:	Laurie Boswell
	Seon Hee Shiell

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

Reflection

The burdens of the spirit differ from the weights on the spirit. A burden of the spirit, on the other hand, is given by God to His child for the purpose of calling him to work, to pray, or to preach. It is a burden with purpose, with reason, and for spiritual profit.

-*Watchman Nee*

We Prepare to Meet with God

Prelude

What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse
For my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down,
O my soul, O my soul,
When I was sinking down, O my soul,
When I was sinking down
Beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown
For my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb
I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb,
Who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme,
I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free
I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free
I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity
I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on!

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 111

Praise the LORD!
I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.
Full of splendor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.
He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.
He provides food for those who fear him;
he remembers his covenant forever.
He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.
The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy;
they are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is his name!
The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever!

↑ **Hymn** 436 Zion, Founded on the Mountains *Trinity Hymnal (arr Dubberly)*

↑ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession of Sin 1 Corinthians 6:9-10

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

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

Our God and King, we bow before you and confess that we are sinners. Our deeds, our words, our very thoughts are corrupted by our sinful state. We acknowledge that we have lived as those who are not of your kingdom. We bemoan our many sins of commission and omission, and we confess that we have been quicker to condemn those faults in others than repentantly to recognize them in our own lives. We thank you that our position as heirs of your kingdom depends not on our own righteousness, but on the imputation to us of the righteousness of our Lord Christ, who lived the perfect life, died in our place, and rose again to reign over us forever. Help us to serve him with joy, we pray, and bind us to each other through him. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness 1 Corinthians 6:11

[11] And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

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

God Consecrates Us

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture Jeremiah 44:1-14

1 The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the Judeans who lived
in the land of Egypt, at Migdol, at Tahpanhes, at Memphis, and in the
land of Pathros, 2 "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel:
You have seen all the disaster that I brought upon Jerusalem and upon
all the cities of Judah. Behold, this day they are a desolation, and no
one dwells in them, 3 because of the evil that they committed,
provoking me to anger, in that they went to make offerings and serve
other gods that they knew not, neither they, nor you, nor your fathers.
4 Yet I persistently sent to you all my servants the prophets, saying,
'Oh, do not do this abomination that I hate!' 5 But they did not listen
or incline their ear, to turn from their evil and make no offerings to
other gods. 6 Therefore my wrath and my anger were poured out and
kindled in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, and they
became a waste and a desolation, as at this day. 7 And now thus says
the LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel: Why do you commit this
great evil against yourselves, to cut off from you man and woman,
infant and child, from the midst of Judah, leaving you no remnant?
8 Why do you provoke me to anger with the works of your hands,
making offerings to other gods in the land of Egypt where you have
come to live, so that you may be cut off and become a curse and a
taunt among all the nations of the earth? 9 Have you forgotten the evil
of your fathers, the evil of the kings of Judah, the evil of their[a] wives,
your own evil, and the evil of your wives, which they committed in the
land of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem? 10 They have not
humbled themselves even to this day, nor have they feared, nor walked
in my law and my statutes that I set before you and before your
fathers.
11 "Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I
will set my face against you for harm, to cut off all Judah. 12 I will take
the remnant of Judah who have set their faces to come to the land of
Egypt to live, and they shall all be consumed. In the land of Egypt they
shall fall; by the sword and by famine they shall be consumed. From
the least to the greatest, they shall die by the sword and by famine, and

they shall become an oath, a horror, a curse, and a taunt. [13] I will
punish those who dwell in the land of Egypt, as I have punished
Jerusalem, with the sword, with famine, and with pestilence, [14] so that
none of the remnant of Judah who have come to live in the land of
Egypt shall escape or survive or return to the land of Judah, to which
they desire to return to dwell there. For they shall not return, except
some fugitives."

↑ **Hymn** 486 God, Be Merciful to Me *Trinity Hymnal*

Preaching of the Word Lee Bridgeman

"*The Gospel according to Nehemiah"*

Sermon Text: Nehemiah 1:1-3; 2:2-5, 11-13; 6:15-16

Nehemiah 1:1-3

[1] The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah.

Now it happened in the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I
was in Susa the citadel, [2] that Hanani, one of my brothers, came with
certain men from Judah. And I asked them concerning the Jews who
escaped, who had survived the exile, and concerning Jerusalem. [3] And
they said to me, "The remnant there in the province who had survived
the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken
down, and its gates are destroyed by fire."

Nehemiah 2:2-5

[2] And the king said to me, "Why is your face sad, seeing you are not
sick? This is nothing but sadness of the heart." Then I was very much
afraid. [3] I said to the king, "Let the king live forever! Why should not
my face be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' graves, lies in
ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?" [4] Then the king said
to me, "What are you requesting?" So I prayed to the God of heaven.
[5] And I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, and if your servant has
found favor in your sight, that you send me to Judah, to the city of my
fathers' graves, that I may rebuild it."

Nehemiah **2:**11-13

[11] So I went to Jerusalem and was there three days. [12] Then I arose in
the night, I and a few men with me. And I told no one what my God
had put into my heart to do for Jerusalem. There was no animal with
me but the one on which I rode. [13] I went out by night by the Valley
Gate to the Dragon Spring and to the Dung Gate, and I inspected the
walls of Jerusalem that were broken down and its gates that had been
destroyed by fire.

Nehemiah 6:15-16

[15] So the wall was finished on the twenty-fifth day of the month Elul, in
fifty-two days. [16] And when all our enemies heard of it, all the nations
around us were afraid and fell greatly in their own esteem, for they
perceived that this work had been accomplished with the help of our
God.

Prayer of Intercession

↑ **Hymn** 311 Hail to the Lord's Anointed *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 There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood

There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Emmanuel's veins;
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see
That fountain in his day;
And there have I, as vile as he,
Washed all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, your precious blood
Shall never lose its power
Till all the ransomed church of God
Be saved, to sin no more.

E'er since, by faith, I saw the stream
Your flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die.

Scripture Reading — During the cup John 1:1-5, 14-18; Philippians 2:1-11

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross[9] Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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 2 O Worship the King *Trinity Hymnal*

↑ The Benediction

↑ Congregation stands as able

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

Sermon Notes

"*The Gospel according to Nehemiah*"

Nehemiah 1:1-3; 2:2-5, 11-13; 6:15-16

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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We are here to serve you.