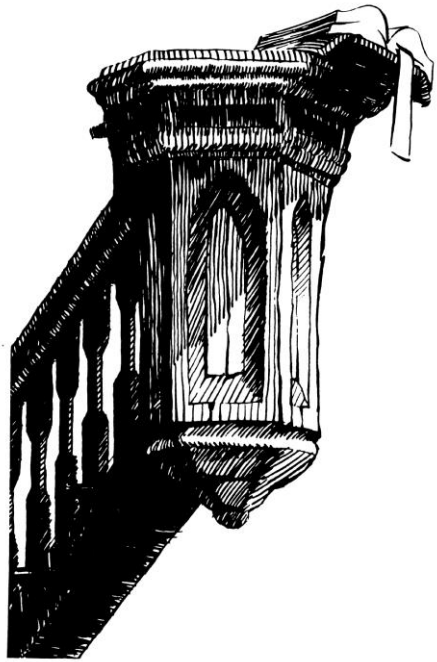
Christ Presbyterian Church

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



Covenant Renewal Service

20 December 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:	Paula Ea
	Gray Canales
Next Sunday:	Mary Jo Canales
	Claire Jones

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

Reflection

Let us serve Him faithfully as our Master. Let us obey Him loyally as our King. Let us study His teachings as our Prophet. Let us walk diligently after Him as our Example. Let us look anxiously for Him as our coming Redeemer of body as well as soul. But above all let us prize Him as our Sacrifice, and rest our whole weight on His death as atonement for sin. Let His blood be more precious in our eyes every year we live. Whatever else we glory in about Christ, let us glory above all things in His cross.

— 19th-c. pastor J. C. Ryle

We Prepare to Meet with God

Prelude

O sacred Head, now wounded,
With grief and shame weighed down;
Now scornfully surrounded
With thorns, thine only crown;
O sacred Head, what glory,
What bliss till now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I joy to call thee mine.

What thou, my Lord, hast suffered
Was all for sinners' gain:
Mine, mine was the transgression,
But thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior!
'Tis I deserve thy place;
Look on me with thy favor;
Vouchsafe to me thy grace.

What language shall I borrow
To thank thee, dearest Friend,
For this, thy dying sorrow,
Thy pity without end?
O make me thine forever;
And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never
Outlive my love to thee.

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 —based on Psalm 126

Minister: The Lord has done great things for us!
People: And we are filled with joy!
Minister: Our God has turned our weeping into singing,
People: our tears into songs of joy!
Minister: O Christ of God, come anew in our hearts this day,
People: and remain in us forever.

↑ **Hymn 195** Joy to the World *Trinity Hymnal*

↑ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession of Sin Matthew 3:1–3

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,
"'The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.'"

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

While we ask, Lord, for the most meaningful Advent season ever,
we sadly confess having done so little with so much.
Forgive us Lord,
for not bending the knee,
for not reading your Word,
for not searching our hearts,
for not facing our sins.
Forgive us according to your tender mercies, O God!
Grant that when Christmas morning breaks for us this year,
we may have a fresh sense of your presence
and a renewed resolve to live to the praise of Christ's glory. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness Jeremiah 33:14–16

"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'"

Minister: Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose coming we announce in this season, is our righteousness. In Christ, we are made right with God.
People: Thanks be to God!

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

God Consecrates Us

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture Ezekiel 37:1–14

[1] The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the
Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was
full of bones. [2] And he led me around among them, and behold, there
were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very
dry. [3] And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I
answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." [4] Then he said to me, "Prophesy
over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the
LORD. [5] Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause
breath to enter you, and you shall live. [6] And I will lay sinews upon you,
and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and
put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the
LORD."

[7] So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was
a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to
its bone. [8] And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and
flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was
no breath in them. [9] Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath;
prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD:
Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that
they may live." [10] So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath
came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly
great army.

[11] Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of
Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost;
we are indeed cut off.' [12] Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus
says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from
your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel.
[13] And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves,
and raise you from your graves, O my people. [14] And I will put my
Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own

land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

↑ **Hymn 232** Oh Jesus Sweet, Oh Jesus Mild *Trinity Hymnal*

Preaching of the Word Rev. John Canales
Sermon Text: Zechariah 3 *What Messiah Has Done for Us*

1 Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel
of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. 2 And
the LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, O Satan! The LORD
who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this a brand plucked
from the fire?" 3 Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed
with filthy garments. 4 And the angel said to those who were standing
before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." And to him he
said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will
clothe you with pure vestments." 5 And I said, "Let them put a clean
turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and
clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD was standing
by.

6 And the angel of the LORD solemnly assured Joshua, 7 "Thus says the
LORD of hosts: If you will walk in my ways and keep my charge, then
you shall rule my house and have charge of my courts, and I will give
you the right of access among those who are standing here. 8 Hear now,
O Joshua the high priest, you and your friends who sit before you, for
they are men who are a sign: behold, I will bring my servant the
Branch. 9 For behold, on the stone that I have set before Joshua, on a
single stone with seven eyes, I will engrave its inscription, declares the
LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of this land in a single
day. 10 In that day, declares the LORD of hosts, every one of you will
invite his neighbor to come under his vine and under his fig tree."

Prayer of Intercession

Minister: Lord God, we long for the coming
of your kingdom in Jesus Christ, our Lord.
We lament before you the signs
that your kingdom has not come in fullness.
We lament signs of brokenness in the community of nations.
People: [*Silence*]

Minister: We pray for Christians who are persecuted
because they profess the name of Jesus.
People: [*Silence*]

[*All sing*]
"O come, O King of nations, bind
in one the hearts of all mankind.
Bid all our sad divisions cease,
and be yourself our King of peace."

Minister: We pray for the broken relationships
that bring such pain to many we know.
People: [*Silence*]

Minister: We pray for many of our friends and coworkers who
have chosen to ignore or disown the gospel of Christ.
People: [*Silence*]

[*All sing*]
"O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear."

Minister: We pray for the racism that plagues our community.
People: [*Silence*]

Minister: We pray for the physical and emotional abuse
of children and spouses in our homes.

People: [*Silence*]

[*All sing*]
"O come, O Bright and Morning Star,
and bring us comfort from afar!
Dispel the shadows of the night
and turn our darkness into light."

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 He Was Wounded for Our Transgressions

He was wounded for our transgressions,
He bore our sins in His body on the tree;
For our guilt He gave us peace,
From our bondage gave release,
And with His stripes, and with His stripes,
And with His stripes our souls are healed.

He was numbered among transgressors,
We did esteem Him forsaken by His God;
As our sacrifice He died,
That the law be satisfied,
And all our sin, and all our sin,
And all our sin was laid on Him.

We had wandered, we all had wandered
Far from the fold of "the Shepherd of the sheep";
But He sought us where we were,
On the mountains bleak and bare,
And brought us home, and brought us home,
And brought us safely home to God.

Who can number His generation?
Who shall declare all the triumphs of His Cross?
Millions, dead, now live again,
Myriads follow in His train!
Victorious Lord, victorious Lord,
Victorious Lord and coming King!

Scripture Reading — During the cup Zephaniah 3:14–20

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!
The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;
he has cleared away your enemies.
The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall never again fear evil.
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
"Fear not, O Zion;
let not your hands grow weak.
The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;
he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing.
I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.
Behold, at that time I will deal
with all your oppressors.
And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
At that time I will bring you in,
at the time when I gather you together;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes," says the LORD.

Psalm 146:3–10

Put not your trust in princes,
in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.
When his breath departs, he returns to the earth;
on that very day his plans perish.

Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD his God,
who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them,
who keeps faith forever;
who executes justice for the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.
The LORD watches over the sojourners;
he upholds the widow and the fatherless,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

The LORD will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, to all generations.
Praise the 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 203 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing *Trinity Hymnal*

↑ **The Benediction**

↑ Congregation stands as able

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

Sermon Notes

What Messiah Has Done for Us

Zechariah 3

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 – Karen Brown

Elders: Daniel Beal, Sam Bridgeman, Ray White
Deacons: Leng Ea, Rod Miller
Diaconal Aide: Adam Grimes