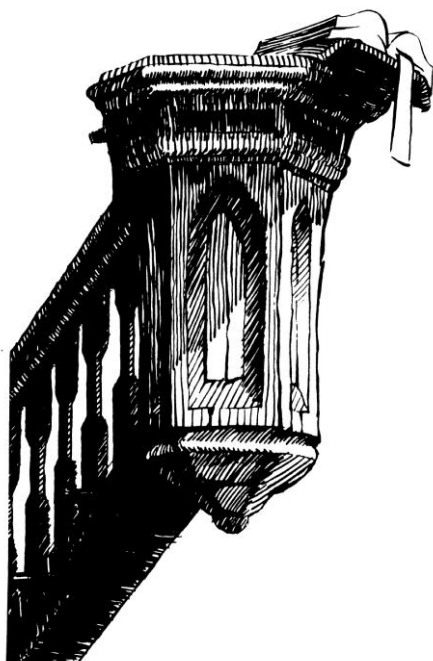


# Christ Presbyterian Church

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



Covenant Renewal Service

17 April 2016



*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.

<b>Nursery today:</b>	Brit Osterling Rhea Abuhl
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Susan Miller Emma Rooney

# Reflection

Adoption is a *family* idea, conceived in terms of *love*, and viewing God as *father*. In adoption, God takes us into His family and fellowship, and establishes us as His children and heirs. Closeness, affection and generosity are at the heart of the relationship. To be right with God the judge is a great thing, but to be loved and cared for by God the father is a greater.

— J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*

All those that are justified, God vouchsafes, in and for his only Son Jesus Christ, to make partakers of the grace of adoption: by which they are taken into the number, and enjoy the liberties and privileges of the children of God; have his name put upon them; receive the Spirit of adoption; have access to the throne of grace with boldness; are enabled to cry, Abba, Father; are pitied, protected, provided for, and chastened by his as by a father; yet never cast off, but sealed to the day of redemption, and inherit the promises, as heirs of everlasting salvation.

— *Westminster Confession of Faith*, Chapter 12

When we see the Law, we see our sin. The evil in our lives comes to mind, it tears us apart, and we groan and think, “How bad I have been. My life is full of hate and evil. Please, God, let me live and I will fix up what I have done wrong.” Man is so evil that all he can see is what he should *do* to be righteous. He is so evil that he cannot see what Christ has done *for him* to be righteous.

Christian righteousness is the greatest righteousness. God puts it on us without our lifting a finger. It's not political or ceremonial. It doesn't have to do with our obeying God's law. It has nothing to do with what we do or how hard we work, but it is given to us and we do *nothing* for it. It's “passive righteousness” because we don't have to work for it. With this “free righteousness” we don't *do* anything, we don't give anything to God, but we receive and allow someone else to do it. That's why we'll call it “passive righteousness.”

— Martin Luther,  
*Argument of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians*

## *We Prepare to Meet with God*

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### **Prelude**

Psalm 23

My Shepherd, you supply my need,  
most holy is your name;  
in pastures fresh you make me feed,  
beside the living stream.  
You bring my wand'ring spirit back.  
when I forsake your ways;  
you lead me, for your mercy's sake,  
in paths of truth and grace.

When through the shades of death I walk,  
your presence is my stay;  
one word of your supporting breath  
drives all my fears away.  
Your hand in sight of all my foes,  
does still my table spread;  
my cup with blessings overflows,  
your oil anoints my head.

Your sure provisions gracious God  
attend me all my days;  
oh, may your house be my abode,  
and all my work be praise.  
Here would I find a settled rest,  
while others go and come;  
no more a stranger, nor a guest,  
but like a child at home.

No more a stranger, nor a guest,  
but like a child at home.

## *God Calls Us*

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### **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 146:1–2, 5–10*

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

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 prisoner 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!

↑ **Hymn 57**

Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah

*Trinity Hymnal*

↑ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

# God Cleanses Us

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## Call to Confession of Sin

John 8:31–34

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free?’” Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin.”

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

Father, we marvel at the fact that we can call you Father.  
We were dead in our sins, orphans and slaves,  
    with no hope and no standing before you;  
    but you showed your love to us in that,  
    while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.  
You adopted us and made us heirs;  
    you bestowed your loving, fatherly protection on us  
    and lavished us with rich blessings.  
And yet, dear Father, we have sinned.  
We have continued to act like orphans,  
    scorning your authority, and misusing your inheritance.  
We have continued to act like slaves to sin,  
    wallowing in lusts and worshipping our own egos.  
We cry to you for forgiveness  
    and pray that the Spirit of adoption  
    will continue to convict us of sin,  
    remind us of our position as sons and daughters of the Most High,  
    and sanctify us to your glory.  
Through Christ our Redeemer and elder Brother, Amen.

## Declaration of Forgiveness

1 John 2:12; 3:1a

I am writing to you, little children,  
    because your sins are forgiven for his name’s sake.  
See what kind of love the Father has given to us,  
    that we should be called children of God; and so we are.

# *God Consecrates Us*

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## **Prayer for Illumination**

### **Reading of Scripture**

Hosea 1:2–10

When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, “Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the Lord.” So he went and took Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

And the Lord said to him, “Call his name Jezreel, for in just a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. And on that day I will break the bow of Israel in the Valley of Jezreel.”

She conceived again and bore a daughter. And the Lord said to him, “Call her name No Mercy, for I will no more have mercy on the house of Israel, to forgive them at all. But I will have mercy on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the Lord their God. I will not save them by bow or by sword or by war or by horses or by horsemen.”

When she had weaned No Mercy, she conceived and bore a son. And the Lord said, “Call his name Not My People, for you are not my people, and I am not your God.”

Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered. And in the place where it was said to them, “You are not my people,” it shall be said to them, “Children of the living God.”

## **↑ Psalm 87**

*Trinity Psalter*  
(arr. Dubberly)



## Preaching of the Word

**Sermon Text:** 1 John 2:28–3:3

Rev. John Canales

*God's Children Now*

<sup>2:28</sup> And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming. <sup>29</sup> If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

<sup>3:1</sup> See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup> Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup> And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

## Prayer of Intercession

↑ Hymn 305

Arise, My Soul, Arise

*Trinity Hymnal*

## *God Communes with Us*

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↑ 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*

How deep the Father's love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure,  
That he should give His only Son  
To make a wretch his treasure!

How great the pain of searing loss!  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross,  
My sin upon his shoulders!  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers.

It was my sin that held him there  
Until it was accomplished!  
His dying breath has brought me life;  
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything:  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,  
His death and resurrection.

Why should his suffering be my gain?  
I cannot give an answer,  
But this I know with all my heart:  
His wounds have paid my ransom!

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

## *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***

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#### **The Collection of Alms and Tithes**

##### **Hymn**

Behold What Love

Behold, what love, what boundless love the Father has bestowed  
on sinners lost, that we should be now called the sons of God!

*Behold, what manner of love!*  
*What manner of love the Father has bestowed upon us,*  
*that we, that we should be called,*  
*should be called the sons of God!*

No longer far from him, but now by precious blood made nigh;  
accepted in the Well-beloved, near to God's heart we lie!

What we in glory soon shall be, it does not yet appear;  
but when our precious Lord we see, we shall his image bear.

And now in our great Father's love we share a filial part.  
He sends his Spirit, like a dove, to rest upon our hearts.

We would no longer lie in fear like slaves before the throne:  
our faith shall "Abba, Father!" cry, and he his sons will own

#### **↑ The Benediction**

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↑ Congregation stands as able

# **Sermon Notes**

*1 John 2:28–3:3*



# 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** – Mary Jo Canales

**Elders:** Daniel Beal, Sam Bridgeman, Ray White

**Deacons:** Leng Ea (sabbatical), Rod Miller

**Diaconal Aide:** Adam Grimes