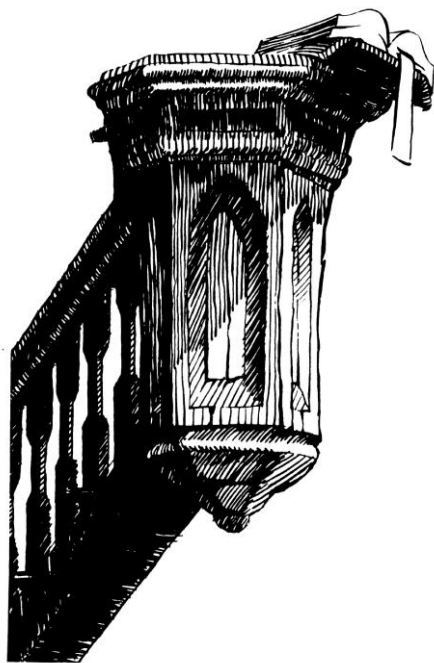


# Christ Presbyterian Church

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



Covenant Renewal Service

29 May 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.

**Nursery today:** Amanda Grimes

Rhea Abuhl

**Next Sunday:** Brit Osterling

Greyson Ea

# Reflection

Of all powers he [God] forgives most; but he condones least: he is pleased with little, but demands all.

When Christianity says that God loves man, it means that God *loves* man: not that He has some “disinterested,” because really indifferent, concern for our welfare, but that, in awful and surprising truth, we are the objects of His love. You asked for a loving God: you have one. The great spirit you so lightly invoked, the “lord of terrible aspect,” is present: not a senile benevolence that drowsily wishes you to be happy in your own way, not the cold philanthropy of a conscientious magistrate, nor the care of a host who feels responsible for the comfort of his guests, but the consuming fire Himself, the Love that made the worlds, persistent as the artist’s love for his work and despotic as a man’s love for a dog, provident and venerable as a father’s love for a child, jealous, inexorable, exacting as love between the sexes. How this should be, I do not know: it passes reason to explain why any creatures, not to say creatures such as we, should have a value so prodigious in their Creator’s eyes. It is certainly a burden of glory not only beyond our deserts but also, except in rare moments of grace, beyond our desiring.

— C. S. Lewis  
*The Problem of Pain*

Though our feelings come and go, His love for us does not. It is not wearied by our sins, or our indifference; and, therefore, it is quite relentless in its determination that we shall be cured of those sins, at whatever cost to us, at whatever cost to Him.

— C. S. Lewis  
*Mere Christianity*

## *We Prepare to Meet with God*

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**Prelude**      Jesus Loves Me, This I Know (instrumental)

## *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 134*

Minister: Come, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD,  
who stand by night in the house of the LORD!

**People: Lift up your hands to the holy place  
and bless the LORD!**

Minister: May the LORD bless you from Zion,  
he who made heaven and earth!

▲ **Hymn 11**      Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God      *Trinity Hymnal*

▲ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

# God Cleanses Us

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## Call to Confession of Sin

Matthew 22:37–40

Our Lord Jesus Christ said, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

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

Awesome and compassionate God,  
you have loved us with unfailing, self-giving mercy,  
but we have not loved you.  
You constantly call us, but we do not listen.  
You ask us to love, but we walk away from neighbors in need,  
wrapped in our own concerns.  
We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed.  
God of grace, as you come to us in mercy,  
we repent in spirit and in truth,  
admit our sin, and gratefully receive your forgiveness  
through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. *Amen.*

## Declaration of Forgiveness

1 Peter 2:21–24

Christ suffered for you... He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

## ▲ *The Doxology* (#731)

*Trinity Hymnal*

# *God Consecrates Us*

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## **Prayer for Illumination**

### **Reading of Scripture**

Genesis 22:1–19

<sup>1</sup> After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” <sup>2</sup> He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” <sup>3</sup> So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup> On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. <sup>5</sup> Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” <sup>6</sup> And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. <sup>7</sup> And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” <sup>8</sup> Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

<sup>9</sup> When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup> Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. <sup>11</sup> But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” <sup>12</sup> He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” <sup>13</sup> And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup> So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

<sup>15</sup> And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven <sup>16</sup> and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup> I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, <sup>18</sup> and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.” <sup>19</sup> So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham lived at Beersheba.

▲ **Hymn**

The Love of God

*Trinity Hymnal*

The love of God is greater far  
Than tongue or pen can ever tell;  
It goes beyond the highest star,  
And reaches to the lowest hell;  
The guilty pair, bowed down with care,  
God gave His Son to win;  
His erring child He reconciled,  
And pardoned from his sin.

Refrain:

Oh, love of God, how rich and pure!  
How measureless and strong!  
It shall forevermore endure—  
The saints’ and angels’ song.

When years of time shall pass away,  
And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall,  
When men who here refuse to pray,  
On rocks and hills and mountains call,  
God’s love so sure, shall still endure,  
All measureless and strong;  
Redeeming grace to Adam’s race—  
The saints’ and angels’ song.

Refrain



Could we with ink the ocean fill,  
And were the skies of parchment made,  
Were every stalk on earth a quill,  
And every man a scribe by trade;  
To write the love of God above  
Would drain the ocean dry;  
Nor could the scroll contain the whole,  
Though stretched from sky to sky.

Refrain

### Preaching of the Word

Rev. John Canales

**Sermon Text:** 1 John 4:7–12

*Love Personified, Proven and Practiced*

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

<sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

### Prayer of Intercession

▲ Hymn 535

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

*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*

Hymn — During the bread

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!

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;  
his mercies never come to an end...  
though he cause grief, he will have compassion  
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

*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 529**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

*Trinity Hymnal*

▲ **The Benediction**

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▲ Congregation stands as able

# **Sermon Notes**

*1 John 4:7–12*

*Love Personified, Proven and Practiced*





# 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