Christ Presbyterian Church

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



Covenant Renewal Service

11 June 2017

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: Lauren Alexander

Alfia Naff

Next Sunday: Sharon Miller

Avery Rooney

Reflection

Jesus calls us to his rest, and meekness is His method. The meek man cares not at all who is greater than he, for he has long ago decided that the esteem of the world is not worth the effort.

— A.W. Tozer Pursuit of God

You will find what you are looking for when you realize God has placed those longings in your heart as a divine desire; your hunger is a gift from God to draw you to Him. It's a holy want with a holy fulfillment. Everything you really need and want is offered by and found in Him.

— Mike Bickle The Seven Longings of the Human Heart

The Bible is different because it is the Word of God, by which He speaks to me. Disagreeing with the Bible would be disagreeing with God. So when I read the Bible I want to place myself 'under' it. I want to receive the Scripture in such a way that over time, my thinking, feeling, choosing, believing and behaving will be molded by the Word God is speaking into my life. I don't want to critique the Scriptures; I want them to critique me and change me.

— Colin S. Smith *Jonah: Navigating a God-Centered*

We Prepare to Meet with God

Prelude

Amidst Us Our Beloved Stands

Amidst us our Beloved stands, and bids us view his pierced hands; points to the wounded feet and side, blest emblems of the Crucified.

If now, with eyes defiled and dim, we see the signs, but see not him; O may his love the scales displace, and bid us see him face to face!

O glorious Bridegroom of our hearts, your present smile a heav'n imparts!
O lift the veil, if veil there be, let every saint your glory see!

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 67

Minister: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations.

People: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

Minister: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

People: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

Minister: The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us.

People: God shall bless us;

let all the ends of the earth fear him!

▲ Hymn 87 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want Trinity Hymnal

▲ Prayer of Petition and Adoration

Call to Confession of Sin

Isaiah 1:18

"Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool."

Corporate Confession of Sin and Supplication for Mercy (unison)

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you.

You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love.

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you.

Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior, in whose name we pray. *Amen*.

▲ Declaration of Forgiveness

Psalm 103:8-13

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever.

He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west,

so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

★ *The Doxology* (#731)

Trinity Hymnal

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture

Psalm 80 (p.491)

¹Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock.

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

² Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might and come to save us!

³Restore us, O God;

let your face shine, that we may be saved!

⁴O LORD God of hosts,

how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.

⁶You make us an object of contention for our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves.

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;

let your face shine, that we may be saved!

⁸You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.

⁹You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.

¹⁰ The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches.

¹¹ It sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River.

¹²Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

¹³ The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.

¹⁴Turn again, O God of hosts!

Look down from heaven, and see;

have regard for this vine,

the stock that your right hand planted, and for the son whom you made strong for yourself.

¹⁶ They have burned it with fire; they have cut it down; may they perish at the rebuke of your face!

¹⁷But let your hand be on the man of your right hand, the son of man whom you have made strong for yourself!

Then we shall not turn back from you;
 give us life, and we will call upon your name!
 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts!
 Let your face shine, that we may be saved!

▲ Hymn

Come Ye Sinners Poor and Wretched (RUF)

Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched, Weak and wounded, sick and sore; Jesus, ready, stands to save you, Full of pity, joined with power. He is able, He is able; He is willing; doubt no more.

Come ye needy, come, and welcome, God's free bounty glorify; True belief and true repentance, Every grace that brings you nigh. Without money, without money Come to Jesus Christ and buy.

Come, ye weary, heavy laden, Bruised and broken by the fall; If you tarry 'til you're better, You will never come at all. Not the righteous, not the righteous; Sinners Jesus came to call.

Let not conscience make you linger, Nor of fitness fondly dream; All the fitness He requireth Is to feel your need of Him. This He gives you, this He gives you, 'Tis the Spirit's rising beam.

Lo! The Incarnate God, ascended; Pleads the merit of His blood. Venture on Him; venture wholly, Let no other trust intrude. None but Jesus, none but Jesus Can do helpless sinners good.

Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched, He is willing; doubt no more.

Preaching of the Word Sermon Text: John 15:1–17 (p. 901)

Rev. John McCracken *Christian Growth*

¹ "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11 These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. ¹⁷ These things I command you, so that you will love one another."

Prayer of Intercession

▲ Hymn 551

How Blest is He Whose Trespass

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

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.

<u>Words of Institution</u> Matt 26:26–28; Mk 14:22–24; Lk 22:17–20

Distribution of the Bread and the Cup

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended, That man to judge thee have in hate pretended? By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted.

Who was the guilty? who brought this upon thee? Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee. 'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee: I crucified thee.

Lo, the good Shepherd for the sheep is offered: The slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered. For man's atonement, while we nothing heedeth, God intercedeth.

For me, kind Jesus, was thine incarnation, Thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation: Thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion, For my salvation.

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee, I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee Think on thy pity and thy love unswerving, Not my deserving.

Scripture Reading — During the cup

Galatians 5:16-24

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

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 642

Be Thou My Vision

Trinity Hymnal

▲ The Benediction

▲ Congregation stands as able

Sermon Notes

John 15:1–17 Christian Growth

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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