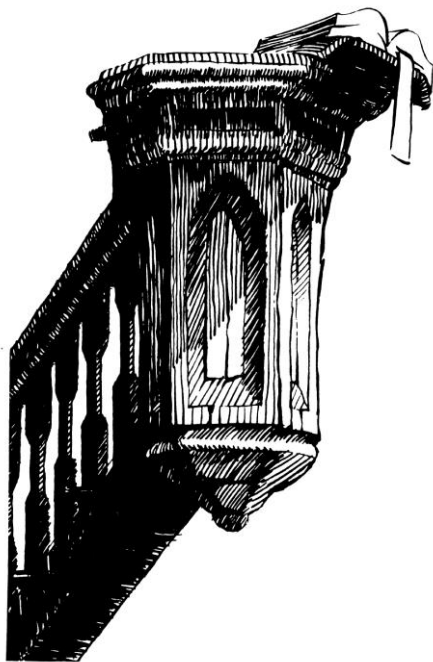


# Christ Presbyterian Church

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



Covenant Renewal Service

6 August 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:** Shaz Beal  
Emilie Miller

**Next Sunday:** Amanda Rooney  
Nelly Naff

# Reflection

Remember that God would give you more pleasure, and not less, and that he will give you as much of the delights of sense as is truly good for you, so you will take them in their place, in subordination to your heavenly delights. And is not this to increase and multiply your pleasure? Are not health and friends and food and convenient habitation much sweeter as the fruit of the love of God, and the foretastes of everlasting mercies, and as our helps to heaven, and as the means to spiritual comfort, than of themselves alone? All your mercies are from God: he would take none from you, but sanctify them, and give you more.

— Richard Baxter

What fools are they who,  
for a drop of pleasure,  
drink a sea of wrath.

— Thomas Watson

# *We Prepare to Meet with God*

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## **Prelude**

## More Love to Thee, O Christ

More love to thee, O Christ, more love to thee!  
Hear thou the prayer I make on bended knee;  
This is my earnest plea, more love, O Christ, to thee,  
More love to thee, more love to thee!

Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest;  
Now thee alone I seek; give what is best;  
This all my prayer shall be, more love, O Christ, to thee,  
More love to thee, more love to thee!

Let sorrow do its work, send grief and pain;  
Sweet are thy messengers, sweet their refrain,  
When they can sing with me, more love, O Christ, to thee,  
More love to thee, more love to thee!

Then shall my latest breath whisper thy praise;  
This be the parting cry my heart shall raise,  
This still its prayer shall be more love, O Christ, to thee,  
More love to thee, more love to thee!

# 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: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father  
and Christ Jesus our Lord! *1 Timothy 1:2b*

**People: Amen.**

## Call to Worship Psalm 150:1–2, 6,

Minister: Hallelujah!  
Praise! Praise God in the temple, in the highest heavens!

**People: Praise! Praise God's mighty deeds and noble majesty.**

Minister: All that is alive, praise!

**People: Praise the Lord.  
Hallelujah!**

▲ **Hymn 34**                      The God of Abraham Praise                      *Trinity Hymnal*

▲ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

# God Cleanses Us

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## Call to Confession of Sin

1 Timothy 6:20–21

O Timothy, guard the deposit entrusted to you. Avoid the irreverent babble and contradictions of what is falsely called “knowledge,” for by professing it some have swerved from the faith. Grace be with you.

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

God of all wisdom, we confess that we are sinners.  
We have been puffed up by our so-called knowledge.  
We have worshiped our own cleverness  
and good sense and clear thinking.  
We have been idiots, ignorant of our own ignorance.  
Forgive us for our idolatry and presumption,  
for our arrogance and lack of compassion,  
for our cold hearts and hard heads.  
We repent and cry to you for mercy.  
May we cling to our precious Savior, the Word of truth,  
in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.  
May his cross be our only boast.  
May we long to know him and the power of his resurrection.  
In his name, *Amen*.

## ▲ Declaration of Forgiveness

James 1:17–18

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

## ▲ *The Doxology* (#731)

*Trinity Hymnal*

# *God Consecrates Us*

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## **Prayer for Illumination**

### **Reading of Scripture**

Isaiah 55:1–3 (p. 615)

“Come, everyone who thirsts,  
come to the waters;  
and he who has no money,  
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk  
without money and without price.

<sup>2</sup>Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,  
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,  
and delight yourselves in rich food.

<sup>3</sup>Incline your ear, and come to me;  
hear, that your soul may live;  
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,  
my steadfast, sure love for David.

▲ **Hymn 131**

Children of the Heavenly Father

*Trinity Hymnal*

## Preaching of the Word

Mr. Bogdan Witecki

**Sermon Text:** Ecclesiastes. 1:1-11 (p. 552 ); 2:12–17 (p. 554);

9:1-6 (p. 557)

*Life under the Sun: birth, toil, and death*

<sup>1</sup> The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher,  
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

<sup>3</sup> What does man gain by all the toil  
at which he toils under the sun?

<sup>4</sup> A generation goes, and a generation comes,  
but the earth remains forever.

<sup>5</sup> The sun rises, and the sun goes down,  
and hastens to the place where it rises.

<sup>6</sup> The wind blows to the south  
and goes around to the north;  
around and around goes the wind,  
and on its circuits the wind returns.

<sup>7</sup> All streams run to the sea,  
but the sea is not full;  
to the place where the streams flow,  
there they flow again.

<sup>8</sup> All things are full of weariness;  
a man cannot utter it;  
the eye is not satisfied with seeing,  
nor the ear filled with hearing.

<sup>9</sup> What has been is what will be,  
and what has been done is what will be done,  
and there is nothing new under the sun.

<sup>10</sup> Is there a thing of which it is said,  
“See, this is new”?

It has been already  
in the ages before us.

<sup>11</sup> There is no remembrance of former things,  
nor will there be any remembrance  
of later things yet to be  
among those who come after.



**Ecclesiastes 2:12–17** (p. 554)

<sup>12</sup>So I turned to consider wisdom and madness and folly. For what can the man do who comes after the king? Only what has already been done. <sup>13</sup>Then I saw that there is more gain in wisdom than in folly, as there is more gain in light than in darkness. <sup>14</sup>The wise person has his eyes in his head, but the fool walks in darkness. And yet I perceived that the same event happens to all of them. <sup>15</sup>Then I said in my heart, “What happens to the fool will happen to me also. Why then have I been so very wise?” And I said in my heart that this also is vanity. <sup>16</sup>For of the wise as of the fool there is no enduring remembrance, seeing that in the days to come all will have been long forgotten. How the wise dies just like the fool! <sup>17</sup>So I hated life, because what is done under the sun was grievous to me, for all is vanity and a striving after wind.

**Ecclesiastes 9:1-6** (p. 557)

But all this I laid to heart, examining it all, how the righteous and the wise and their deeds are in the hand of God. Whether it is love or hate, man does not know; both are before him. <sup>2</sup>It is the same for all, since the same event happens to the righteous and the wicked, to the good and the evil, to the clean and the unclean, to him who sacrifices and him who does not sacrifice. As the good one is, so is the sinner, and he who swears is as he who shuns an oath. <sup>3</sup>This is an evil in all that is done under the sun, that the same event happens to all. Also, the hearts of the children of man are full of evil, and madness is in their hearts while they live, and after that they go to the dead. <sup>4</sup>But he who is joined with all the living has hope, for a living dog is better than a dead lion. <sup>5</sup>For the living know that they will die, but the dead know nothing, and they have no more reward, for the memory of them is forgotten. <sup>6</sup>Their love and their hate and their envy have already perished, and forever they have no more share in all that is done under the sun.

**Prayer of Intercession**▲ **Hymn 648**

My Jesus, I Love Thee

*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*

Man of Sorrows! What a name  
For the Son of God, who came  
Ruined sinners to reclaim:  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,  
In my place condemned he stood,  
Sealed my pardon with his blood:  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Guilty, vile, and helpless we;  
Spotless Lamb of God was he;  
Full atonement! Can it be?  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Lifted up was he to die,  
“It is finished!” was his cry;  
Now in heaven exalted high:  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

When he comes, our glorious King,  
All his ransomed home to bring,  
Then anew this song we’ll sing;  
*Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*  
*Hallelujah! What a Savior!*

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

## *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 455**      And Can It Be That I Should Gain      *Trinity Hymnal*

And can it be that I should gain  
an interest in the Savior's blood?  
Died he for me who caused his pain?  
For me, who him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be  
that thou, my God, should die for me?  
*Amazing love! How can it be  
that thou, my God, should die for me?*

'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies:  
who can explore his strange design?  
In vain the firstborn seraph tries  
to sound the depths of love divine.  
'Tis mystery all! Let earth adore,  
let angel minds inquire no more.  
*'Tis mystery all! Let earth adore,  
let angel minds inquire no more.*

He left his Father's throne above  
so free, so infinite his grace!  
Humbled himself (so great his love!),  
and bled for all his chosen race.

'Tis mercy all, immense and free:  
for, O my God, it found out me.  
*'Tis mercy all, immense and free:  
for, O my God, it found out me.*

Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray;  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
My chains fell off, my heart was free;  
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.  
*My chains fell off, my heart was free;  
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.*

No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!  
Alive in him, my living Head,  
and clothed in righteousness divine,  
Bold I approach the eternal throne,  
and claim the crown, though Christ, my own.  
*Bold I approach the eternal throne,  
and claim the crown, though Christ, my own.*

## ▲ The Benediction

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▲ Congregation stands as able

## **Sermon Notes**

Ecclesiastes. 1:1-11; 2:12-17; 9:1-6

*Life under the Sun: birth, toil, and death*

# 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  
**(Interim) Chief Musician** – Sharon Miller  
**Coordinator of Church Ministries** – Mary Jo Canales

**Elders:** Daniel Beal, Ray White  
**Deacons:** Leng Ea, Rod Miller  
**Diaconal Aides:** David Abuhl, Adam Grimes