

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 October 2017

Reformation Sunday

*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
Mary Jo Canales
Next Sunday: Lauren Alexander
Gray Canales

Reflection

Centrality of the Gospel

The gospel is:

- you are more flawed and lost than you ever dared believe, yet
- you can be more accepted and loved than you ever dared hope at the same time, because Jesus Christ lived and died in your place.

Salvation is of the Lord (Jonah 2:9)

The irreligious don't repent at all. The religious only repent of sins. But Christians also repent of their righteousness. Moral and religious people are sorry for their sins, but they see sins as simply the failure to live up to standards by which they are saving themselves. They may go to Jesus for forgiveness — but only as a way to “cover over the gaps” in their project of self-salvation. But a Christian is someone who has adopted a whole new system of approach to God. They realize their entire reason for either irreligion or religion has been essentially the same and essentially wrong! Christians realize that both their sins and their best deeds have all really been ways of avoiding Jesus as Savior.

...the way to avoid Jesus was to avoid sin...

— Flannery O'Connor

A Christian says: “Though I have often failed to obey the law, the deeper problem is why I was ever trying to obey it! Even my effort to obey it is just a way of seeking to be my own savior. In that mindset, even if I obey or ask for forgiveness, I am really resisting the gospel and setting myself up as Savior.” To “get the gospel” is to turn from self-justification and rely on Jesus' record for a relationship with God. “Lay your deadly doing down, down at Jesus' feet. Stand in Him, in Him alone — gloriously complete.”

The Two “Thieves” of the Gospel: Legalism and Liberalism

Tertullian said, “Just as Christ was crucified between two thieves, so this doctrine of justification is ever crucified between two opposite errors.” These errors continue to “steal” the gospel from us. They are “legalism” and “liberalism.” On the one hand, “legalists” have a truth without grace, for they say or imply that we must obey the truth in order to be saved. On the other hand, “liberals” have a grace without truth, for they say or imply that we are all accepted by God regardless of what we decide is true for us. But those with a truth without grace do not really have the truth, and those with a grace without truth do not really have grace. In Jesus, we behold the glory of the one “full of grace and truth.” De-emphasize or lose one or the other of these truths, you fall somewhat into legalism or somewhat into license and you eliminate the joy and the “release” of the gospel. Without knowledge of our extreme sin, the payment of the gospel seems trivial and does not electrify or transform. But without knowledge of Christ’s completely satisfying life and death, the knowledge of sin would crush us or move us to deny and repress it. Take away either the knowledge of sin or the knowledge of grace and people’s lives are not changed. They will be crushed by the moral law or run from it screaming and angry.

As Luther put it, the Christian is *simul justus et peccator* (simultaneously accepted, yet a sinner). We are more sinful than we ever dared believe, but through Christ we are more accepted than we ever dared hope. When the gospel dawns on the soul, it becomes a transforming power (Romans 1:17). Instead of seeing the law of God as an abstract moral code, Christians see it as a way to know, serve, and resemble their Master. Instead of obeying to make God indebted to them, they obey because they are indebted to him. Instead of being driven by an anxious sense of being unacceptable, they are empowered by grateful joy. The difference between these two ways of morality could not be greater. Their spirits, goals, motivations and results are entirely different.

— drawn from the teaching of Jack Miller

We Prepare to Meet with God

Prelude

Psalm 19:7–14

Jehovah's perfect law
Restores the soul again;
His testimony sure
Gives wisdom unto men;
The precepts of the Lord are right;
And fill the heart with great delight.

The Lord's command is pure,
Enlightening the eyes;
Jehovah's fear is clean;
More lasting than the skies.
The judgements of the Lord express
His truth and perfect righteousness.

They're more to be desired
Than stores of finest gold;
Than honey from the comb
More sweetness far they hold.
With warmings they Thy servant guard;
In keeping them is great reward.

His errors who can know?
Cleans me from hidden stain.
Keep me from willful sins,
Nor let them o'er me reign.
And then I upright shall appear
And be from great transgression clear.

Let all the words I speak
And all the thoughts within
Come up before Thy sight
And Thine approval win.
O Thou Jehovah, unto me
My rock and my Redeemer be.

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

People: Amen.

Call to Worship

Psalm 46

Minister: God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

**People: though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.**

Minister: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

**People: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.**

Minister: The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.

**People: The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Minister: Come, behold the works of the LORD,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.

**People: He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the chariots with fire.**

Minister: "Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!"

**People: The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

▲ **Hymn 302** Come, Christians Join to Sing *Trinity Hymnal*

▲ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession of Sin

Galatians 3:1–6

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith— just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”?

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

Holy God, our mighty Fortress,
whose truth still abides and whose kingdom is forever,
we confess that we are sinners and that we have continued to sin.
In our hypocrisy, we have excused, ignored,
minimized, and denied our sin.
In our foolishness, we have imagined
that our own works can save us.
Even as we preach the precious gospel of salvation
through grace alone, we have scorned that grace
and relied on our own strength and wisdom
instead of submitting to you.
Now, Father, as we recognize that we are wholly incapable
of reforming or redeeming ourselves,
we repent of our sins
and cast ourselves on your sovereign mercy:
the boundless mercy that sent your perfect Son to the cross
as our Substitute and Savior.
Cleanse us, we pray,
make us hunger and thirst for righteousness,
enable us to live by faith,
and continue the sanctifying work of your Holy Spirit
in our lives. Through Christ our Lord, *Amen.*

▲ **Declaration of Forgiveness**

Romans 4:23–25

But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for [Abraham’s] sake alone, but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

▲ *The Doxology* (#731)

Trinity Hymnal

God Consecrates Us

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture

Psalm 22 (p. 457)

¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

² O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.

³ Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴ In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.

⁵ To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

⁶ But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

⁷ All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

⁸ "He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"

⁹ Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.

¹⁰ On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God.

¹¹ Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.

¹² Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me;

¹³ they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.

¹⁴ I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;
¹⁵ my strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.

¹⁶ For dogs encompass me;
a company of evildoers encircles me;
they have pierced my hands and feet—
¹⁷ I can count all my bones—
they stare and gloat over me;
¹⁸ they divide my garments among them,
and for my clothing they cast lots.

¹⁹ But you, O LORD, do not be far off!
O you my help, come quickly to my aid!
²⁰ Deliver my soul from the sword,
my precious life from the power of the dog!
²¹ Save me from the mouth of the lion!
You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!

²² I will tell of your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
²³ You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him,
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
²⁴ For he has not despised or abhorred
the affliction of the afflicted,
and he has not hidden his face from him,
but has heard, when he cried to him.

²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will perform before those who fear him.
²⁶ The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the LORD!
May your hearts live forever!

²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before you.

²⁸ For kingship belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.

²⁹ All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
even the one who could not keep himself alive.

³⁰ Posterity shall serve him;
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;

³¹ they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet
unborn,
that he has done it.

▲ **Hymn 554**

From Depths of Woe

Trinity Hymnal

Preaching of the Word

Rev. John Canales

Sermon Texts: Habakkuk 2:4 (p. 785)

Romans 1:16–17 (p. 939); Galatians 3:10–13 (p. 973)

500 Years Later, Luther Still Matters

Habakkuk 2:4

“Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith.”

Romans 1:16–17

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

Galatians 3:10–13

¹⁰ For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.” ¹¹ Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for “The righteous shall live by faith.” ¹² But the law is not of faith, rather “The one who does them shall live by them.” ¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us — for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree.”

Prayer of Intercession

▲ Hymn 519

Fountain of Never-Ceasing Grace

Trinity Hymnal

God Communes with Us

▲ **Affirmation of Faith: Apostles’/Nicene 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 Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands,
For our offenses given;
But now at God's right hand he stands
And brings us life from heaven;
Therefore, let us joyful be
And sing to God right thankfully
Loud songs of hallelujah.
Hallelujah!

Here the true Paschal Lamb we see,
Whom God so freely gave us;
He died on the accursed tree
(so strong his love!) to save us.
See, his blood does mark our door;
Faith points to it, death passes o'er,
And Satan cannot harm us.
Hallelujah!

Then let us feast this joyful day
On Christ, the Bread of Heaven;
The Word of grace has purged away
The old and evil leaven.
Christ alone our souls will feed;
He is our meat and drink indeed;
Faith lives upon no other.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

We are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness 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

The Collection of Alms and Tithes

Hymn 92

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Trinity Hymnal

▲ The Benediction

▲ Congregation stands as able

Sermon Notes

Habakkuk 2:4; Romans 1:16–17; Galatians 3:10–13
500 Years Later, Luther Still Matters

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.



3410 Peters Colony Road • Flower Mound, Texas 75022 • 972-355-5892
www.ChristPresbyterian.org • email@ChristPresbyterian.org

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, Scott Peterson

Deacons: Leng Ea, Rod Miller

Diaconal Aide: Adam Grimes