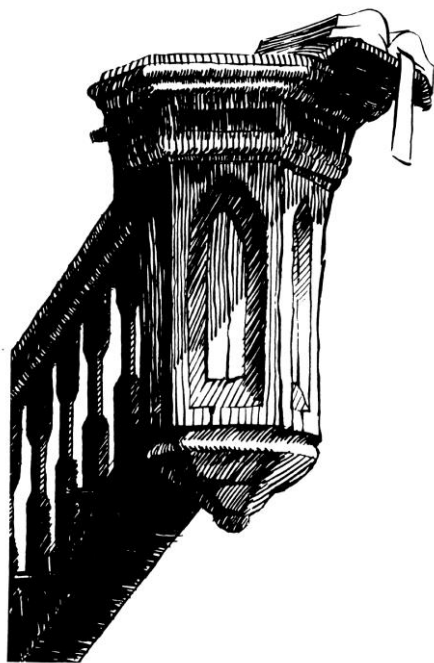


# Christ Presbyterian Church

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



Covenant Renewal Service

19 November 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:** Dawn O'Banion  
Jack Canales  
**Next Sunday:** Brit Osterling  
Samuel Ea

# Reflection

We must not suppose that if we succeeded in making everyone nice we should have saved their souls. A world of nice people, content in their own niceness, looking no further, turned away from God, would be just as desperately in need of salvation as a miserable world — and might even be more difficult to save.

— C. S. Lewis

Everyone needs to be saved, however great, however illustrious. We are all sinners. We are all born in sin.

— D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

If man could have saved himself, there would have been no need for the Son of God to come on earth. Indeed, his coming is proof that people cannot save themselves.

— D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Is it not wonderful news to believe that salvation lies outside ourselves?

— Martin Luther

God doesn't just throw a life preserver to a drowning person. He goes to the bottom of the sea, and pulls a corpse from the bottom of the sea, takes him up on the bank, breathes into him the breath of life and makes him alive. That's what the Bible says happens in your salvation.

— R. C. Sproul

Salvation is from our side a choice; from the divine side it is a seizing upon, an apprehending, a conquest by the Most High God. Our accepting and willing are reactions rather than actions.

— A. W. Tozer

# *We Prepare to Meet with God*

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## **Prelude**

## I Am Not Skilled to Understand

I am not skilled to understand  
What God has willed, what God has planned;  
I only know at his right hand  
Is One who is my Savior!

I take him at his word indeed:  
“Christ died for sinners,” this I read;  
And in my heart I find the need  
Of him to be my Savior!

That he should leave his throne on high  
And come for sinful man to die,  
You count it strange? So once did I,  
Before I knew my Savior!

Yes, living, dying, let me bring  
My strength, my solace from this spring:  
That he who lives to be my King  
Once died to be my Savior!

# 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 113:1–3*

Minister: Praise the LORD!

**People: Praise, O servants of the LORD,  
praise the name of the LORD!**

Minister: Blessed be the name of the LORD  
from this time forth and forevermore!

**People: From the rising of the sun to the setting of the  
same, the name of the LORD is to be praised!**

▲ **Hymn 535**      Oh, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!      *Trinity Hymnal*

▲ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

## God Cleanses Us

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### Call to Confession of Sin

Isaiah 55:6–7

“Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near;  
let the wicked forsake his way,  
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;  
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.”

### 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. *Amen.*

### ▲ Declaration of Forgiveness

Micah 7:18–19

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity  
and passing over transgression  
for the remnant of his inheritance?  
He does not retain his anger forever,  
because he delights in steadfast love.  
He will again have compassion on us;  
he will tread our iniquities underfoot.  
You will cast all our sins  
into the depths of the sea.

### ▲ *The Doxology* (#731)

*Trinity Hymnal*

# *God Consecrates Us*

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## **Prayer for Illumination**

### **Reading of Scripture**

Ezekiel 37:1–14 (p. 724)

<sup>1</sup> The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. <sup>3</sup> And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O LORD GOD, you know.” <sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, “Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup> Thus says the LORD GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup> And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

<sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup> And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the LORD GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” <sup>10</sup> So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

<sup>11</sup> Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.’ <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the LORD GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup> And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.”

<sup>1</sup> And you were dead in the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— <sup>3</sup> among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

<sup>4</sup> But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup> and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

▲ **Hymn 551**

How Blest Is He Whose Trespass

*Trinity Hymnal*



## Preaching of the Word

**Sermon Text:** John 3:1–18 (p. 887)

Rev. John Canales

*“You Must Be Born Again”*

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup>That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

<sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.”

<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

## Prayer of Intercession

**Baptism of**  
Brandon Luter

**Baptism of Covenant Child**  
Bonnie Leigh Luter,  
daughter of Brandon and April Luter

▲ **Hymn 461**      Not What My Hands Have Done      *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*

Let thy blood in mercy poured,  
Let thy gracious body broken,  
Be to me, O gracious Lord,  
Of thy boundless love the token.  
Thou didst give thyself for me,  
Now I give myself to thee.

Thou didst die that I might live;  
Blessèd Lord, thou cam'st to save me:  
All that love of God could give  
Jesus by his sorrows gave me.  
Thou didst give thyself for me,  
Now I give myself to thee.

By the thorns that crowned thy brow,  
By the spear wound and the nailing,  
By the pain and death, I now  
Claim, O Christ, thy love unfailing.  
Thou didst give thyself for me,  
Now I give myself to thee.

Wilt thou own the gift I bring?  
All my penitence I give thee;  
Thou art my exalted King,  
Of thy matchless love forgive me.  
Thou didst give thyself for me,  
Now I give myself to thee.

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.”

Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

## *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 498**

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners

*Trinity Hymnal*

#### **▲ The Benediction**

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▲ Congregation stands as able

# Sermon Notes

John 3:1–18

*“You Must Be Born Again”*

# 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

**Pastoral Assistant** for Hispanic Ministry – César Restrepo

**Interim Chief Musician** – Sharon Miller

**Coordinator of Church Ministries** – Mary Jo Canales

**Elders:** Daniel Beal (sabbatical), Scott Peterson

**Deacons:** Leng Ea, Rod Miller

**Diaconal Aide:** Adam Grimes