



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

## Order for the Public Worship of God

9 September 2018



*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:** Laurie Boswell  
Sam Ea

**Next Sunday:** Dawn O'Banion  
Jack Canales

# Reflection

If you do not wish for His kingdom, don't pray for it. But if you do, you must do more than pray for it; you must work for it.

— J. Ruskin

The Spirit of God is given to the true saints to dwell in them, as his proper lasting abode; and to influence their hearts, as a principle of new nature or as a divine supernatural spring of life and action.

— Jonathan Edwards

# We Prepare to Meet with God

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## Prelude

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts  
Tune: MURPHY

Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts,  
Thou fount of life, thou light of men,  
From the best bliss that earth imparts  
We turn unfilled to thee again.

Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood;  
Thou savest those that on thee call;  
To them that seek thee thou art good,  
To them that find thee all in all.

We taste thee, O thou living bread,  
And long to feast upon thee still;  
We drink of thee, the fountainhead,  
And thirst our souls from thee to fill.

Our restless spirits yearn for thee,  
Where'er our changeful lot is cast;  
Glad when thy gracious smile we see,  
Blest when our faith can hold thee fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay,  
Make all our moments calm and bright;  
Chase the dark night of sin away,  
Shed o'er the world thy holy light.

# 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*

**All: 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*

**All: Amen.**

## Call to Worship

*Psalm 95:6-7*

Minister: Oh come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

**All: For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of his hand.**

▲ Hymn 65      Before Jehovah's Awesome Throne      *Trinity Hymnal*

▲ Prayer of Petition and Adoration

# God Cleanses Us

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## Call to Confession of Sin

1 John 1:5–7

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

## 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

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*



# God Consecrates Us

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## Prayer for Illumination

### Reading of Scripture

Luke 3:1–22 (p. 858)

<sup>1</sup> In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, <sup>2</sup> during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup> And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>4</sup> As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

<sup>5</sup> Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall become straight,  
and the rough places shall become level ways,

<sup>6</sup> and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

<sup>7</sup> He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup> Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. <sup>9</sup> Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

<sup>10</sup> And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” <sup>11</sup> And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” <sup>12</sup> Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” <sup>13</sup> And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” <sup>14</sup> Soldiers also asked him, “And we,

what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages."

<sup>15</sup> As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, <sup>16</sup> John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

<sup>18</sup> So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. <sup>19</sup> But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, <sup>20</sup> added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

<sup>21</sup> Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

▲ Hymn 377

Jesus, Where'er Your People Meet *Trinity Hymnal*

## Preaching of the Word

Sermon Text: Acts 1:1–5 (p. 909)

Rev. John Canales

*Jesus' Story Continues*

<sup>1</sup> In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup> until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup> He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

<sup>4</sup> And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; <sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

## Prayer of Intercession

▲ Hymn 355

We Are God's People

*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

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my all in all –  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh –  
Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones he came to save:  
Till on that cross, as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied –  
For every sin on him was laid;  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay –  
Light of the world by darkness slain!  
Then, bursting forth in glorious day,  
Up from the grave he rose again!  
And as he stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am his and he is mine:  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath.  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till he returns or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till he returns or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

*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 347

The Church’s One Foundation *Trinity Hymnal*

**▲ The Benediction**

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▲ Congregation stands as able

# **Sermon Notes**

Acts 1:1-5

*Jesus' Story Continues*

# Welcome to Christ Church OPC

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 Church is a congregation of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC). 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** - Miller Ansell

**Chief Musician** - Sharon Miller

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

**Elders:** Scott Peterson, Rod Alexander

**Deacons:** Leng Ea, Rod Miller

**Diaconal Aides:** Adam Grimes, Doug Boswell