

Christ
Church OPC
Biblical Confessional Reformed

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

30 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: Stephanie Ansell
Audrey Ansell

Next Sunday: Paula Ea
Gray Canales

Reflection

Prayer is either a sheer illusion or a personal contact between embryonic, incomplete persons (ourselves) and the utterly concrete Person. Prayer in the sense of petition, asking for things, is a small part of it; confession and penitence are its threshold, adoration its sanctuary, the presence and vision and enjoyment of God its bread and wine. In it God shows Himself to us. That He answers prayers is a corollary—not necessarily the most important one—from that revelation. What He does is learned from what He is.

— C. S. Lewis
The World's Last Night and Other Essays
“The Efficacy of Prayer”

It is quite useless knocking at the door of heaven for earthly comfort; it's not the sort of comfort they supply there.

C. S. Lewis
Letters of C. S. Lewis

“Praying for particular things,” said I, “always seems to me like advising God how to run the world. Wouldn't it be wiser to assume that He knows best?”

“On that same principle,” said he, “I suppose you never ask a man next to you to pass the salt, because God knows best whether you ought to have salt or not. And I suppose you never take an umbrella, because God knows best whether you ought to be wet or dry.”

“That's quite different,” I protested.

“I don't see why,” said he. “The odd thing is that He should let us influence the course of events at all. But since He lets us do it in one way I don't see why He shouldn't let us do it in the other.”

— C. S. Lewis
God in the Dock, “Scraps” (1954)

We Prepare to Meet with God

Prelude

Sweet Hour of Prayer

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,
That calls me from a world of care,
And bids me at my Father's throne,
Make all my wants and wishes known!
In seasons of distress and grief,
My soul has often found relief,
And oft escaped the tempter's snare
By thy return, sweet hour of prayer.

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,
The joys I feel, the bliss I share
Of those whose anxious spirits burn
With strong desires for thy return!
With such I hasten to the place
Where God, my Savior, shows his face,
And gladly take my station there,
And wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer.

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,
Thy wings shall my petition bear
To him, whose truth and faithfulness
Engage the waiting soul to bless:
And since he bids me seek his face,
Believe his Word, and trust his grace,
I'll cast on him my every care,
And wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer.

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*

**All: 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*

All: Amen.

Call to Worship

Psalm 9:1–2, 7–9

Minister: I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart;
I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.

**All: I will be glad and exult in you;
I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.**

Minister: The LORD sits enthroned forever;
he has established his throne for justice,
and he judges the world with righteousness;
he judges the peoples with uprightness.

**All: The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed,
a stronghold in times of trouble.**

Minister: And those who know your name put their trust in you,
for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you.

**All: Sing praises to the LORD, who sits enthroned in Zion!
Tell among the peoples his deeds!**

▲ **Hymn 80** Lord, with Glowing Heart I'd Praise Thee

▲ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession of Sin

Isaiah 59:1–2

Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save,
or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;
but your iniquities have made a separation
between you and your God,
and your sins have hidden his face from you
so that he does not hear.

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

from The Book of Common Prayer

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Maker of all things, Judge of all men,
we acknowledge and bewail our many sins and wicked acts,
which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against your Divine Majesty,
provoking most justly your wrath and indignation against us.
We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings.
Simply remembering them is grievous unto us;
the burden of them is intolerable.
Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father,
for the sake of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.
Forgive us all that is past,
and grant that we may from this point on serve and please you
in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name.
We ask this through the merit of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

▲ **Declaration of Forgiveness**

Isaiah 57:15–19

Thus says the One who is high and lifted up,
 who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:
“I dwell in the high and holy place,
 and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit,
to revive the spirit of the lowly,
 and to revive the heart of the contrite.
For I will not contend forever,
 nor will I always be angry;
for the spirit would grow faint before me,
 and the breath of life that I made.
Because of the iniquity of his unjust gain I was angry,
 I struck him; I hid my face and was angry,
 but he went on backsliding in the way of his own heart.
I have seen his ways, but I will heal him;
 I will lead him and restore comfort to him and his mourners,
 creating the fruit of the lips.
Peace, peace, to the far and to the near,” says the LORD,
 “and I will heal him.”

▲ **The Doxology (#731)**

Trinity Hymnal

God Consecrates Us

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture

Matthew 6:1–18 (p. 811)

▲ Hymn The Christian's Daily Prayer

As morning dawns and day awakes,
To You I bring my need.
O gracious God, my source of strength,
In You I live and breathe.
Each hour is Yours by wisdom planned,
Each deed empowered by sovereign hands
Renew my spirit, help me stand;
Be glorified today.

As day unfolds, I seek Your will
In all of life's demands;
And though the tempter tries me still,
I cling to Your commands.
Let every effort of my life,
Display the matchless worth of Christ
Make me a living sacrifice;
Be glorified today.

As sun gives way to darkest night,
Your Spirit still is here;
And though my strength fades like the light,
New mercies will appear.
I rest in You; abide with me
Until our trials and suffering.
Give way to final victory
Be glorified, today.

*I rest in You; abide with me
Until our trials and suffering.
Give way to final victory
Be glorified, today;
Be glorified, I pray.*

Preaching of the Word

Sermon Text: Acts 1:12–14 (p. 909)

Rev. John Canales
Kingdom Prayer

Prayer of Intercession

▲ **Hymn 390** Lord of the Sabbath, Hear Us Pray

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.**

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

Distribution of the Bread and the Cup

Approach, my soul, the mercy seat
Where Jesus answers prayer;
There humbly fall before his feet,
For none can perish there.

Thy promise is my only plea;
With this I venture nigh:
Thou call-est burdened souls to thee,
And such, O Lord, am I.

Bowed down beneath a load of sin,
By Satan sorely pressed,
By war without and fears within,
I come to thee for rest.

Be thou my shield and hiding place,
That, sheltered near thy side,
I may my fierce accuser face,
And tell him thou hast died.

O wondrous love! to bleed and die,
To bear the cross and shame,
That guilty sinners, such as I
Might plead thy gracious name!

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Romans 12:9–13

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

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 567 Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray

▲ The Benediction

▲ Congregation stands as able

Sermon Notes

Acts 1:12–14

Kingdom Prayer

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

Senior Pastor – Rev. John Canales
Pastor of Outreach – Rev. Miller Ansell
Chief Musician – Sharon Miller
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Deacons: Leng Ea, Rod Miller

Diaconal Aides: Adam Grimes, Doug Boswell