

# Order for the Public Worship of God

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

*Christ*  
**Church** **OPC**  

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**Biblical** **Confessional** **Reformed**

30 December 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:** Mary Jo Canales  
Gray Canales

# Reflection

The Almighty appeared on earth as a helpless human baby, needing to be fed and changed and taught to talk like any other child. The more you think about it, the more staggering it gets. Nothing in fiction is so fantastic as this truth of the Incarnation.

— J. I. Packer

He was created of a mother whom he created. He was carried by hands that he formed. He cried in the manger in wordless infancy, he the Word, without whom all human eloquence is mute.

— Augustine of Hippo

He became what we are that he might make us what he is.

— Athanasius of Alexandria

The Word introduced Himself into that which He was not, in order that the nature of man also might become what it was not, resplendent, by its union, with the grandeur of divine majesty, which has been raised beyond nature rather than that it has cast the unchangeable God beneath its nature.

— Cyril of Alexandria

Bethlehem and Golgotha, the Manger and the Cross, the birth and the death, must always be seen together.

— J. Sidlow Baxter

# We Prepare to Meet with God

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## Prelude

## In the Bleak Midwinter

In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter long ago.

Our God, Heav'n cannot hold him nor earth sustain;  
Heav'n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:  
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ.

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb,  
If I were a Wise Man I would do my part,  
Yet what I can I give him, Give my heart.

# 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!** *Psalms 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

Minister: The Word was made flesh,

**All: Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Minister: and dwelt among us,

**All: Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Minister: Jesus, Son of the living God,  
splendor of the Father, Light eternal:

**All: Glory to you, O Lord!**

Minister: Jesus, King of glory, Sun of righteousness,  
born of the virgin Mary:

**All: Glory to you, O Lord!**

Minister: Jesus, Wonderful Counselor,  
mighty God, everlasting Lord:

**All: Glory to you, O Lord!**

Minister: Jesus, Prince of Peace, Shepherd of souls,  
perfect in holiness:

**All: Glory to you, O Lord!**

Minister: Jesus, Friend of all, Protector of the poor,  
Treasure of the faithful:

**All: Glory to you, O Lord!**

Minister: Jesus, Good Shepherd, inexhaustible Wisdom,  
our Way, our Truth, and our Life:

**All: Glory to you, O Lord!**

Minister: Jesus, joy of the angels, and crown of all the saints:

**All: Glory to you, O Lord!**

Minister: Christ is born! Give him glory!  
Christ has come down from heaven! Receive him!  
Christ is now on earth! Exalt him!  
O earth, sing to the Lord!  
O you nations, praise him in joy,  
for he has been glorified! **Amen.**

▲ **Hymn 218**     Angels, from the Realms of Glory

▲ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

## **God Cleanses Us**

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### **Call to Confession of Sin**

Matthew 4:12–17

Now when [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,  
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—  
the people dwelling in darkness  
have seen a great light,  
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,  
on them a light has dawned.”

From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

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

God of grace and truth,  
in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness,  
bringing the good news of joy  
that mankind is reconciled to God through Jesus.

We confess that we have not welcomed the light,  
or trusted the good news.

We have closed our eyes to your glory in our midst,  
and have ignored your presence  
in the Spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ.

And, barely acknowledging in our lives Jesus' first coming,  
we have not watched diligently  
for the final coming of our Savior and Judge.

Forgive our sin,  
and renew our hope in the gospel,  
so that we may receive the fullness of your grace,  
and live in the truth of Christ our Lord,  
in whose name we pray. *Amen.*

### ✠ Declaration of Forgiveness

1 John 4:9–10

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Minister: In Christ, we are forgiven!

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### ✠ *The Doxology* (#731)

*Trinity Hymnal*

# God Consecrates Us

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**Prayer for Illumination**

**Reading of Scripture**

Luke 2:22–40 (p. 857)

♣ **Hymn 197**    Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

**Preaching of the Word**

Rev. Miller Ansel

**Sermon Text:** Luke 16:19–31 (p. 876)

*The Eternal Significance of our Present Lives*

**Prayer of Intercession**

♣ **Hymn 219**    All Praise to Thee, Eternal Lord

## God Communes with Us

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⤴ **Affirmation of Faith: Nicene Creed** p. 846, *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*

O Jesus sweet, O Jesus mild,  
Your Father's will you have fulfilled.  
From heav'n above to earth you came,  
And born as man you took our name.  
O Jesus sweet, O Jesus mild.

O Jesus sweet, O Jesus mild,  
Your birth the world with hope has filled.  
Your death has ransomed our lost race,  
For on the cross you took our place.  
O Jesus sweet, O Jesus mild.

O Jesus sweet, O Jesus mild,  
We seek to do what you have willed.  
All that we have comes from above;  
Lord, keep us walking in your love.  
O Jesus sweet, O Jesus mild.

“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.  
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.  
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.  
Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
    a leader and commander for the peoples.  
Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know,  
    and a nation that did not know you shall run to you,  
because of the Lord your God, and of the Holy One of Israel,  
    for he has glorified you.

“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.”

## ***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 198**      Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!

#### **▲ The Benediction**

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▲ Congregation stands as able

# **Sermon Notes**

Luke 16:19–31

*The Eternal Significance of our Present Lives*



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

**Elders:** Scott Peterson, Rod Alexander

**Deacons:** Leng Ea, Rod Miller

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