

# 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

9 January 2020

*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

Jacob Pixley

**Next Sunday:** Laurie Boswell

Gray Canales

# Reflection

Every one of us is, even from his mother's womb, a master craftsman of idols.

— John Calvin  
*Commentary on the Acts of the Apostles*

One of the great difficulties is to keep before the audience's mind the question of Truth. They always think you are recommending Christianity not because it is *true* but because it is *good*. And in the discussion they will at every moment try to escape from the issue "True—or False" into stuff about a good society, or morals, or the incomes of Bishops, or the Spanish Inquisition, or France, or Poland—or anything whatever. You have to keep forcing them back, and again back, to the real point. Only thus will you be able to undermine... their belief that a certain amount of "religion" is desirable but one mustn't carry it too far. One must keep on pointing out that Christianity is a statement which, if false, is of *no* importance, and if true, of infinite importance. The one thing it cannot be is moderately important.

— C. S. Lewis  
*God in the Dock*

# We Prepare to Meet with God

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## Prelude

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Come, Christians, join to sing *Alleluia! Amen!*  
Loud praise to Christ our King; *Alleluia! Amen!*  
Let all, with heart and voice,  
Before his throne rejoice;  
Praise is his gracious choice. *Alleluia! Amen!*

Come, lift your hearts on high, *Alleluia! Amen!*  
Let praises fill the sky, *Alleluia! Amen!*  
He is our Guide and Friend;  
To us he'll condescend;  
His love shall never end. *Alleluia! Amen!*

Praise yet our Christ again, *Alleluia! Amen!*  
Life shall not end the strain; *Alleluia! Amen!*  
On heaven's blissful shore,  
His goodness we'll adore,  
Singing forevermore, "*Alleluia! Amen!*"

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

**All: Amen.**

## Call to Worship

*Psalm 57:7–10*

Minister: My heart is steadfast, O God,  
my heart is steadfast!  
I will sing and make melody!

**All: Awake, my glory!  
Awake, O harp and lyre!  
I will awake the dawn!**

Minister: I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples;  
I will sing praises to you among the nations.

**All: For your steadfast love is great to the heavens,  
your faithfulness to the clouds.**

▲ **Hymn 38** Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

▲ **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 God,  
we confess that we have not lived as you have taught us.  
We have put our longing for money, success, or happiness  
above our desire for you and your kingdom.  
We worry about what others will think, what we wear,  
how our reputation can be polished.  
We make idols out of the winning record of a sport team,  
the next promotion at work, the perfect family,  
the cleanliness of our house, or the latest technology.  
We are careless with our words, saying things we don't mean,  
things that are hurtful to our children or friends.  
We are so busy with our lives  
that we forget our every breath depends on you.  
While we waste time on meaningless activities,  
we fail to recognize moments of grace throughout our day.  
We indulge in hateful thoughts  
against those we feel have offended us,  
and we are indifferent  
toward the suffering in our own neighborhoods.  
We forget that all people bear your image.  
In an effort to look better, we compare ourselves to others.  
We take advantage of weakness  
and are passive in the face of injustice.  
For personal gain and reputation,  
we lie blatantly, and we lie by omission.

*Continues...*

We would rather blame others unjustly than accept fault.  
We long for what is not ours  
and begrudge the blessings of others.  
Forgive us for thinking of ourselves before others and before you.  
Free us from unreasonable expectations of ourselves and others,  
from the need to compete, and from loss of perspective  
so that we may glorify you in all we think, say, and do.  
We ask humbly, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

### ▲ Declaration of Forgiveness

Isaiah 53:4–6

Surely he has borne our griefs  
and carried our sorrows;  
yet we esteemed him stricken,  
smitten by God, and afflicted.  
But he was pierced for our transgressions;  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,  
and with his wounds we are healed.  
All we like sheep have gone astray;  
we have turned—every one—to his own way;  
and the LORD has laid on him  
the iniquity of us all.

### ▲ *The Doxology* (#731)

*Trinity Hymnal*

## **God Consecrates Us**

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**Prayer for Illumination**

**Reading of Scripture**

1 Corinthians 1:18–2:9 (p. 964)

### ▲ Psalm 96

*Trinity Psalter*

**Preaching of the Word**

Rev. John Canales

**Sermon Text:** Acts 17:16–34 (p. 926) *Engaging the Culture*

**Prayer of Intercession**

### ▲ Hymn 242 Not All the Blood of Beasts

# 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*



*Hymn — During the bread* How Sweet and Awesome is the Place

How sweet and awesome is the place  
with Christ within the doors,  
while everlasting love displays  
the choicest of her stores.

While all our hearts and all our songs  
join to admire the feast,  
each of us cries, with thankful tongue,  
“Lord, why was I a guest?”

“Why was I made to hear your voice,  
and enter while there’s room,  
when thousands make a wretched choice,  
and rather starve than come?”

‘Twas the same love that spread the feast  
that sweetly drew us in;  
else we had still refused to taste,  
and perished in our sin.

Pity the nations, O our God,  
constrain the earth to come;  
send your victorious Word abroad,  
and bring the strangers home.

We long to see your churches full,  
that all the chosen race  
may, with one voice and heart and soul,  
sing your redeeming grace.

My beloved, flee from idolatry. I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

Matthew 28:18–20

Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

### ***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 263**    Lift High the Cross

### **▲ The Benediction**

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▲ Congregation stands as able

# **Sermon Notes**

Acts 17:16–34

*Engaging the Culture*

# 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:** Rod Alexander, Scott Peterson  
**Deacons:** Doug Boswell, Leng Ea, Rod Miller  
**Diaconal Aide:** Adam Grimes