

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**

Biblical **Confessional** **Reformed**

10 May 2020

Reflection

I sometimes wonder whether the church needs new members one-half as much as she needs the old bunch made over.

— Author unknown

For him who confesses, shams are over, and realities have begun.

— William James

The Varieties of Religious Experience

Conversion is the individual equivalent of revolution.

— Henri J. M. Nouwen

The Wounded Healer

If we are to better the future, we must disturb the present.

— Author unknown

People wish to be settled; only as far as they are unsettled is there any hope for them.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

in his essay "Circles"

It is not necessary that we should discover new ideas in our meditation. It is sufficient, and far more important, if the Word, as we read and understand it, penetrates and dwells within us.

— Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Life Together

We Prepare to Meet with God

Prelude

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, thou fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
Hither by thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wand'ring from the fold of God:
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander—Lord I feel it—
Prone to leave the God I love:
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for thy courts above.

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: May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you. *Jude 2*

All: Amen.

Call to Worship

Psalm 9:1–2

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.**

With joy let us sing to the Lord, all you righteous,
For fitting it is that the upright give praise.
And skillfully praise him with harp and with lyre
Make music to God, a new song to him raise.
For upright and true is the word God has spoken;
The works of the Lord his great faithfulness prove.
And he loves true righteousness, justice, and judgment;
The ends of the earth show the Lord's steadfast love.

The Lord by his word has created the heavens;
And he by his breath made the stars come to be.
The depths of the oceans he heaps up together,
And puts in a storehouse the waves of the sea.
So let all the earth and its people revere him,
And in the Lord's presence with awe let them stand.
He spoke, it was done, and continues to stand fast;
It all was accomplished when he gave command.

The Lord brings to nothing the plans of the nations;
He frustrates their counsel and makes their schemes fail.
But all that the Lord in his heart has intended,
The plans he has made, will forever prevail.
The nation the Lord has embraced is most blessed,
Where he is acknowledged to be God alone;
This people he claims, his inherited portion,
The ones he has chosen and calls as his own.

Behold, the Lord's eye is upon all who trust him,
Who hope in his love, and, in awe, him revere.
They trust that from death he will rescue and save them,
And keep them all living when famine comes near.
The Lord we await is our help and protection,
Our heart is glad, trusting in his holy name.
O Lord, let your covenant love be upon us,
As we hold to you and the hope that we claim.

Prayer of Petition and Adoration

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession of Sin

Hebrews 10:19–22

Brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

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

Eternal and merciful God,
you have loved us with a love beyond our understanding,
and you have set us on paths of righteousness
for your name's sake.

Yet we have strayed from your way;
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
through what we have done and what we have left undone.

As we remember the lavish gift of your grace, O God,
displayed before us today in word and sacrament,
we praise you and give you thanks that you forgive us yet again.

Grant us now, we pray, the grace to die daily to sin,
and to rise daily to new life in Christ,
who lives and reigns with you,
and in whose perfect name we pray. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Psalm 130:3-4, 7-8

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.
O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption.
And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

The Doxology (#731)

Trinity Hymnal

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

God Consecrates Us

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture

1 Samuel 4:1–11

¹And the word of Samuel came to all Israel.

Now Israel went out to battle against the Philistines. They encamped at Ebenezer, and the Philistines encamped at Aphek. ²The Philistines drew up in line against Israel, and when the battle spread, Israel was defeated before the Philistines, who killed about four thousand men on the field of battle. ³And when the people came to the camp, the elders of Israel said, “Why has the LORD defeated us today before the Philistines? Let us bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD here from Shiloh, that it may come among us and save us from the power of our enemies.” ⁴So the people sent to Shiloh and brought from there the ark of the covenant of the LORD of hosts, who is enthroned on the cherubim. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of God.

⁵As soon as the ark of the covenant of the LORD came into the camp, all Israel gave a mighty shout, so that the earth resounded. ⁶And when the Philistines heard the noise of the shouting, they said, “What does this great shouting in the camp of the Hebrews mean?” And when they learned that the ark of the LORD had come to the camp, ⁷the Philistines were afraid, for they said, “A god has come into the camp.” And they said, “Woe to us! For nothing like this has happened before. ⁸Woe to us! Who can deliver us from the power of these mighty gods? These are the gods who struck the Egyptians with every sort of plague in the wilderness. ⁹Take courage, and be men, O Philistines, lest you become slaves to the Hebrews as they have been to you; be men and fight.”

¹⁰So the Philistines fought, and Israel was defeated, and they fled, every man to his home. And there was a very great slaughter, for thirty thousand foot soldiers of Israel fell. ¹¹And the ark of God was captured, and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, died.

Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed

p. 845, *Trinity Hymnal*

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

***The Gloria Patri* (#735)**

Trinity Hymnal

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

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.*

Preaching of the Word

Rev. John Canales

Sermon Text: Acts 19:11–20 *Power for True Change*

¹¹And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, ¹²so that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were carried away to the sick, and their diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them. ¹³Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists undertook to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, “I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul proclaims.” ¹⁴Seven sons of a Jewish high priest named Sceva were doing this. ¹⁵But the evil spirit answered them, “Jesus I know, and Paul I recognize, but who are you?” ¹⁶And the man in whom was the evil spirit leaped on them, mastered all of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. ¹⁷And this became known to all the residents of Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. And fear fell upon them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was extolled. ¹⁸Also many of those who were now believers came, confessing and divulging their practices. ¹⁹And a number of those who had practiced magic arts brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted the value of them and found it came to fifty thousand pieces of silver. ²⁰So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily.

Prayer of Intercession

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.**

God Commissions and Blesses Us

Hymn 524

Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ *Trinity Hymnal*

Thy works, not mine, O Christ,
speak gladness to this heart;
they tell me all is done;
they bid my fear depart.

*To whom, save thee,
who canst alone for sin atone,
Lord, shall I flee?*

Thy pains, not mine, O Christ,
upon the shameful tree,
have paid the law's full price
and purchased peace for me.

*To whom, save thee,
who canst alone for sin atone,
Lord, shall I flee?*

Thy cross, not mine, O Christ,
has borne the awful load
of sins that none in heav'n
or earth could bear but God.

*To whom, save thee,
who canst alone for sin atone,
Lord, shall I flee?*

Thy righteousness, O Christ,
alone can cover me:
No righteousness avails
save that which is of thee.

*To whom, save thee,
who canst alone for sin atone,
Lord, shall I flee?*

The Benediction

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.

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

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