

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**

21 June 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.

Reflection

Devote thyself to fasting and prayer.

— Ignatius of Antioch
Epistle to Hero, a Deacon of Antioch

We owe our salvation, in some measure (not to overstate it), to the fasting of Jesus.

— John Piper
A Hunger for God: Desiring God Through Fasting and Prayer

How many personal, domestic, ecclesiastical, and national sins press heavily on us as a people and cry aloud for the judgments of a righteous God! Think of these abounding sins, and think also in how small a degree of multitudes, even of the professing people of God, seem to be awake to the great responsibilities and duties of their high vocation, and then say whether we have not reason for special humiliation and prayer.

— Samuel Miller
Holding Fast the Faithful Word

We Prepare to Meet with God

Prelude

Jesus, Where'er Your People Meet

Jesus, where'er your people meet,
there they behold your mercy-seat;
where'er they seek you, you are found,
and ev'ry place is hallowed ground.

For you, within no walls confined,
are dwelling in the humble mind;
such ever bring you where they come,
and going, take you to their home.

Dear Shepherd of your chosen few,
your former mercies here renew;
here to our waiting hearts proclaim
the sweetness of your saving Name.

Here may we prove the pow'r of prayer
to strengthen faith and sweeten care,
to teach our faint desires to rise,
and bring all heav'n before our eyes.

Lord, we are few, but you art near;
nor short your arm, nor deaf your ear;
O rend the heav'ns, come quickly down,
And make a thousand hearts your own.

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 33:1-5

Minister: Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous!
Praise befits the upright.

**All: Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre;
make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!**

Minister: Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

**All: For the word of the LORD is upright,
and all his work is done in faithfulness.**

Minister: He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

▲ **Hymn 101** Come, Thou Almighty King

Come, thou Almighty King,
Help us thy name to sing,
Help us to praise.
Father, all glorious,
O'er all victorious,
Come, and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.

Come, thou Incarnate Word,
Gird on thy mighty sword,
Our prayer attend.
Come, and thy people bless,
And give thy Word success;
Spirit of holiness,
On us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter,
Thy sacred witness bear
In this glad hour.
Thou who almighty art,
Now rule in every heart,
And ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of power.

To the great One in Three
Eternal praises be,
Hence evermore.
His sovereign majesty
May we in glory see,
And to eternity
Love and adore.

▲ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession of Sin

1 John 4:7–12

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 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. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

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

Our Father in heaven,
we have walked in the ways of our hearts
and in the sight of our eyes,
fulfilling the desires of our flesh.
We have made our hearts as hard as stone
and have refused to listen to you.
We have hated instruction
and our hearts have despised reproof,
and we have not obeyed the voice
of our parents or our teachers.
We have not inclined our ears to them
that have instructed us in your Word.
So we come before your merciful throne
pleading nothing but the blood of Christ
for forgiveness of sins
in the name of our great high priest, Jesus Christ. Amen.

▲ Declaration of Forgiveness

Ephesians 1:7

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

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

Isaiah 58

- ¹“Cry aloud; do not hold back;
lift up your voice like a trumpet;
declare to my people their transgression,
to the house of Jacob their sins.
- ²Yet they seek me daily
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that did righteousness
and did not forsake the judgment of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments;
they delight to draw near to God.
- ³“Why have we fasted, and you see it not?
Why have we humbled ourselves,
and you take no knowledge of it?”
Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure,
and oppress all your workers.
- ⁴Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to hit with a wicked fist.
Fasting like yours this day
will not make your voice to be heard on high.
- ⁵Is such the fast that I choose,
a day for a person to humble himself?
Is it to bow down his head like a reed,
and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?
Will you call this a fast,
and a day acceptable to the LORD?
- ⁶“Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of wickedness,

to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover him,
and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

⁸ Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up speedily;
your righteousness shall go before you;
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

⁹ Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.'
If you take away the yoke from your midst,
the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness,

¹⁰ if you pour yourself out for the hungry
and satisfy the desire of the afflicted,
then shall your light rise in the darkness
and your gloom be as the noonday.

¹¹ And the LORD will guide you continually
and satisfy your desire in scorched places
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters do not fail.

¹² And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to dwell in.

¹³ "If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath,
from doing your pleasure on my holy day,
and call the Sabbath a delight

and the holy day of the LORD honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly;

¹⁴ then you shall take delight in the LORD,
and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

▲ Hymn 634 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.

Preaching of the Word

Rev. Miller Ansell

Sermon Text: Matthew 6:16–18 *Fasting as an Aid to Prayer*

¹⁶“And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

Prayer of Intercession

▲ Psalm 69

Tune: *EVENTIDE*

Thy loving kindness, Lord is good and free,
in tender mercy turn thou unto me;
hide not thy face from me in my distress,
in mercy hear my prayer, thy servant bless.

Needy and sorrowful, to thee I cry;
let thy salvation set my soul on high;
then I will sing and praise thy holy name,
my thankful song thy mercy shall proclaim.

With joy the meek shall see my soul restored,
your heart shall live, ye saints that seek the Lord;
he helps the needy and regards their cries,
those in distress the Lord will not despise.

Let heav'n above his grace and glory tell,
let earth and sea and all that in them dwell;
salvation to his people God will give,
and they that love his name with him shall live.

Presenting New Communing Members

- Annelise Pipkin
- Reece Pipkin

God Communes with Us

▲ 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.

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!

And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is my body.” And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. ²⁴And he said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

Hebrews 9:11–14

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

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 32 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

*Great is thy faithfulness,
Great is thy faithfulness,
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
All I have needed thy hand hath provided—
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

*Great is thy faithfulness,
Great is thy faithfulness,
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
All I have needed thy hand hath provided—
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

*Great is thy faithfulness,
Great is thy faithfulness,
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
All I have needed thy hand hath provided—
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.*

▲ The Benediction

▲ Congregation stands as able

Sermon Notes

Matthew 6:16–18

Fasting as an Aid to Prayer

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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