

# 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

18 October 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.

### SERVING IN THE NURSERY TODAY

<b>Sunday School</b>	Mary Jo Canales Stephanie Ansell
<b>Worship</b>	Stephanie Ansell Audrey Ansell

# Reflection

God judged it better to bring good out of evil than not to permit any evil to exist.

— Augustine of Hippo  
*Handbook of Faith, Hope, and Love*

Trust the past to God's mercy, the present to God's love, and the future to his providence.

— Augustine of Hippo  
*The City of God*

When once the light of Divine Providence has illumined the believer's soul, he is relieved and set free, not only from the extreme fear and anxiety which formerly oppressed him, but from all care. For as he justly shudders at the idea of chance, so he can confidently commit himself to God.

— John Calvin  
*Institutes of the Christian Religion*

God never does anything to you that isn't for you.

— Author unknown

God's might to direct me,  
God's power to protect me,  
God's wisdom for learning,  
God's eye for discerning,  
God's ear for my hearing,  
God's Word for my clearing.

— St. Patrick  
in his poem "The Guardsman's Cry"

# We Prepare to Meet with God

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## Prelude

## Day by Day and with Each Passing Moment

Day by day and with each passing moment,  
strength I find to meet my trials here;  
Trusting in my Father's wise bestowment,  
I've no cause for worry or for fear.  
He whose heart is kind beyond all measure  
gives unto each day what he deems best—  
lovingly, its part of pain and pleasure,  
mingling toil with peace and rest.

Every day the Lord himself is near me  
with a special mercy for each hour;  
All my cares he fain would bear, and cheer me,  
He whose name is Counselor and Power.  
The protection of his child and treasure  
is a charge that on himself he laid:  
"As your days, your strength shall be in measure,"  
this the pledge to me he made.

Help me then in every tribulation  
so to trust your promises, O Lord,  
that I lose not faith's sweet consolation  
offered me within your holy Word.  
Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting,  
e'er to take, as from a father's hand,  
one by one, the days, the moments fleeting,  
till I reach the promised land.

# 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 149:1-4*

Minister: Praise the LORD!  
Sing to the LORD a new song,  
his praise in the assembly of the godly!

**All: Let Israel be glad in his Maker;  
let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!**

Minister: Let them praise his name with dancing,  
making melody to him with tambourine and lyre!

**All: For the LORD takes pleasure in his people;  
he adorns the humble with salvation.**

## ✠ Hymn 40 God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength

God is our refuge and our strength,  
Our ever-present aid,  
And, therefore, though the earth remove,  
We will not be afraid;  
Though hills amidst the seas be cast,  
Though foaming waters roar,  
Yea, though the mighty billows shake  
The mountains on the shore.

*Continues...*

A river flows whose streams make glad  
The city of our God,  
The holy place wherein the Lord  
Most high has his abode.  
Since God is in the midst of her,  
Unmoved her walls shall stand,  
For God will be her early help,  
When trouble is at hand.

The nations raged, the kingdoms moved,  
But when his voice was heard,  
The troubled earth was stilled to peace  
Before his mighty word.  
The Lord of Hosts is on our side,  
Our safety to secure;  
The God of Jacob is for us  
A refuge strong and sure.

O come, behold what wondrous works  
Jehovah's hand has wrought;  
Come, see what desolation great  
He on the earth has brought.  
To utmost ends of all the earth  
He causes war to cease;  
The weapons of the strong destroyed,  
He makes abiding peace.

“Be still and know that I am God,  
O'er all exalted high;  
The subject nations of the earth  
My name shall magnify.”  
The Lord of Hosts is on our side,  
Our safety to secure;  
The God of Jacob is for us  
A refuge strong and sure.

## ▲ 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*)

Almighty God,  
there is no one like you in heaven above or on the earth below.  
You keep promises like no one else can.  
You listen to us without distraction.  
You answer us with divine wisdom.  
You brought us eternal salvation  
when all seemed lost and hopeless.

We confess that our prayers fall short of what they should be.  
We admit that our lives fall short of what they could be.  
Yet you call us to repentance  
and in you we find the abundance of life.  
Forgive us, Lord, for our failures and lack of trust,  
and grant us the precious gift of your loving grace.  
In the name of Jesus, our Savior we pray. *Amen.*

## ▲ Declaration of Forgiveness

Romans 8:1

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

## ▲ 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

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## Prayer for Illumination

### Reading of Scripture

Romans 1:1–16

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup> which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, <sup>3</sup> concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup> and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup> through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, <sup>6</sup> including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

<sup>7</sup> To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>8</sup> First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world. <sup>9</sup> For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I mention you <sup>10</sup> always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God's will I may now at last succeed in coming to you. <sup>11</sup> For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you— <sup>12</sup> that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. <sup>13</sup> I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that I have often intended to come to you (but thus far have been prevented), in order that I may reap some harvest among you as well as among the rest of the Gentiles. <sup>14</sup> I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. <sup>15</sup> So I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome.

<sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.



▲ Hymn 128    God Moves in a Mysterious Way

God moves in a mysterious way  
his wonders to perform;  
he plants his footsteps in the sea,  
and rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines  
of never-failing skill;  
he treasures up his bright designs,  
and works his sovereign will.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;  
the clouds ye so much dread;  
are big with mercy, and shall break,  
in blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,  
but trust him for his grace;  
behind a frowning providence,  
he hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast,  
unfolding every hour;  
the bud may have a bitter taste,  
but sweet will be the flow'r.

Blind unbelief is sure to err,  
and scan his work in vain.  
God is his own interpreter,  
and he will make it plain.

**Sermon Text:** Acts 28:1–28 *Many Paths; One Savior*

<sup>1</sup> After we were brought safely through, we then learned that the island was called Malta. <sup>2</sup>The native people showed us unusual kindness, for they kindled a fire and welcomed us all, because it had begun to rain and was cold. <sup>3</sup>When Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and put them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat and fastened on his hand. <sup>4</sup>When the native people saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, “No doubt this man is a murderer. Though he has escaped from the sea, Justice has not allowed him to live.” <sup>5</sup>He, however, shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm. <sup>6</sup>They were waiting for him to swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But when they had waited a long time and saw no misfortune come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god.

<sup>7</sup>Now in the neighborhood of that place were lands belonging to the chief man of the island, named Publius, who received us and entertained us hospitably for three days. <sup>8</sup>It happened that the father of Publius lay sick with fever and dysentery. And Paul visited him and prayed, and putting his hands on him, healed him. <sup>9</sup>And when this had taken place, the rest of the people on the island who had diseases also came and were cured. <sup>10</sup>They also honored us greatly, and when we were about to sail, they put on board whatever we needed.

<sup>11</sup>After three months we set sail in a ship that had wintered in the island, a ship of Alexandria, with the twin gods as a figurehead. <sup>12</sup>Putting in at Syracuse, we stayed there for three days. <sup>13</sup>And from there we made a circuit and arrived at Rhegium. And after one day a south wind sprang up, and on the second day we came to Puteoli. <sup>14</sup>There we found brothers and were invited to stay with them for seven days. And so we came to Rome. <sup>15</sup>And the brothers there, when they heard about us, came as far as the Forum of Appius and Three Taverns to meet us. On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage. <sup>16</sup>And when we came into Rome, Paul was allowed to stay by himself, with the soldier who guarded him.

<sup>17</sup>After three days he called together the local leaders of the Jews, and when they had gathered, he said to them, “Brothers, though I

had done nothing against our people or the customs of our fathers, yet I was delivered as a prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans. <sup>18</sup>When they had examined me, they wished to set me at liberty, because there was no reason for the death penalty in my case. <sup>19</sup>But because the Jews objected, I was compelled to appeal to Caesar—though I had no charge to bring against my nation. <sup>20</sup>For this reason, therefore, I have asked to see you and speak with you, since it is because of the hope of Israel that I am wearing this chain.” <sup>21</sup>And they said to him, “We have received no letters from Judea about you, and none of the brothers coming here has reported or spoken any evil about you. <sup>22</sup>But we desire to hear from you what your views are, for with regard to this sect we know that everywhere it is spoken against.”

<sup>23</sup>When they had appointed a day for him, they came to him at his lodging in greater numbers. From morning till evening he expounded to them, testifying to the kingdom of God and trying to convince them about Jesus both from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets. <sup>24</sup>And some were convinced by what he said, but others disbelieved. <sup>25</sup>And disagreeing among themselves, they departed after Paul had made one statement: “The Holy Spirit was right in saying to your fathers through Isaiah the prophet:

<sup>26</sup> ““Go to this people, and say,  
“You will indeed hear but never understand,  
and you will indeed see but never perceive.”

<sup>27</sup> For this people’s heart has grown dull,  
and with their ears they can barely hear,  
and their eyes they have closed;  
lest they should see with their eyes  
and hear with their ears  
and understand with their heart  
and turn, and I would heal them.’

<sup>28</sup>Therefore let it be known to you that this salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles; they will listen.”

## Prayer of Intercession

▲ Hymn 554 From Depths of Woe I Raise to Thee

From depths of woe I raise to Thee the voice of lamentation;  
Lord, turn a gracious ear to me and hear my supplication:  
If Thou iniquities dost mark, Our secret sins and misdeeds dark,  
*O who shall stand before Thee? (Who shall stand before Thee?)*  
*O who shall stand before Thee? (Who shall stand before Thee?)*

To wash away the crimson stain, grace, grace alone availeth;  
Our works, alas! are all in vain; in much the best life faileth:  
No man can glory in thy sight, all must alike confess thy might,  
*and live alone by mercy. (And live alone by mercy.)*  
*and live alone by mercy. (And live alone by mercy.)*

Therefore, my trust is in the Lord, and not in mine own merit;  
On him my soul shall rest, his Word upholds my fainting spirit:  
His promised mercy is my fort, my comfort, and my sweet support;  
*I wait for it with patience. (I wait for it with patience.)*  
*I wait for it with patience. (I wait for it with patience.)*

What though I wait the livelong night, and till the dawn appeareth,  
My heart still trusteth in his might; it doubteth not nor feareth:  
Do thus, O ye of Israel's seed, ye of the spirit born indeed;  
*and wait till God appeareth. (And wait till God appeareth.)*  
*and wait till God appeareth. (And wait till God appeareth.)*

Though great our sins and sore our woes,  
his grace much more aboundeth;  
His helping love no limit knows, our utmost need it soundeth.  
Our Shepherd good and true is he, who will at last his Israel free  
*from all their sin and sorrow. (From all their sin and sorrow.)*  
*from all their sin and sorrow. (From all their sin and sorrow.)*

# God Communes with Us

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## ▲ **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

Jesus, thy blood and righteousness  
my beauty are, my glorious dress;  
'midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,  
with joy shall I lift up my head.

Bold shall I stand in that great day;  
For who aught to my charge shall lay?  
Fully absolved through these I am  
from sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

When from the dust of death I rise  
to claim my mansion in the skies,  
e'en then this shall be all my plea,  
Jesus hath lived, hath died, for me.

Jesus, be endless praise to thee,  
whose boundless mercy hath for me—  
for me a full atonement made,  
an everlasting ransom paid.

O let the dead now hear thy voice;  
Now bid thy banished ones rejoice;  
Their beauty this, their glorious dress,  
Jesus, thy blood and righteousness.

“Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”

Psalm 147:2–6

The LORD builds up Jerusalem;  
    he gathers the outcasts of Israel.  
He heals the brokenhearted  
    and binds up their wounds.  
He determines the number of the stars;  
    he gives to all of them their names.  
Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;  
    his understanding is beyond measure.  
The LORD lifts up the humble;  
    he casts the wicked to the ground.

### ***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

**Psalm 27:1–6**

Tune: BEVAN

The Lord's my shining light  
And my salvation sure;  
Who can fill me with fright  
Or move my heart secure?  
The Lord's my stronghold ever near;  
Of Whom then shall I stand in fear?

When adversaries came  
To eat my flesh away,  
Those wicked tripped in shame,  
And fell to their dismay.  
Though hosts surround, I will not quail;  
And still I trust, though war assail.

My one desire has been,  
Still to the Lord I'll pray,  
That all my days within  
The Lord's house I may stay,  
The Lord's own beauty to admire,  
And in His temple to inquire.

When troubles fill my day,  
When fears and dangers throng,  
Securely hid I'll stay  
In his pavilion strong.  
He'll hide me in His tent always;  
And high upon a rock me raise.

*Continues...*

My head shall lifted be  
Above my enemies.  
Within his tent with glee  
I'll offer sacrifice.  
With shouts of joy my song I'll bring;  
There praises to the Lord I'll sing.

## ▲ **The Benediction**

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▲ Congregation stands as able

# **Sermon Notes**

Acts 28:1–28

*Many Paths; One Savior*

# 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