

# 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



17 January 2021

*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 DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL AND WORSHIP**

- Lori Peterson
- Mary Jo Canales

# *Reflection*

Incomprehensible and immutable is the love of God. For it was not after we were reconciled to him by the blood of his Son that he began to love us, but he loved us before the foundation of the world, that with his only begotten Son we too might be sons of God before we were any thing at all.

— Augustine of Hippo

Continue seeking Him with seriousness.  
Unless he wanted you, you would not be wanting Him.

— C. S. Lewis  
private letter (13 June 1951)

# We Prepare to Meet with God

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## Prelude

## My Song is Love Unknown

My song is love unknown,  
My Savior's love to me;  
Love to the loveless shown  
That they might lovely be.  
O who am I, that for my sake  
My Lord should take frail flesh and die?

He came from his blest throne,  
Salvation to bestow:  
But men cared not, and none  
The longed-for Christ would know.  
But oh, my Friend, my Friend indeed,  
Who at my need his life did spend!

In life, no house, no home  
My Lord on earth might have;  
In death, no friendly tomb  
But what a stranger gave.  
What may I say? Heav'n was his home,  
But mine the tomb wherein he lay.

Here might I stay, and sing,  
No story so divine;  
Never was love, dear King,  
Never was grief like thine.  
This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise  
I all my days could gladly spend.

# 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 9:1–2*

Minister: I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart;

**All: I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.**

Minister: I will be glad and exult in you;

**All: I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.**

## ▲ Hymn 76      Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,  
To his feet your tribute bring;  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
Who, like me, his praise should sing?  
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him,  
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor  
To our fathers in distress;  
Praise him, still the same forever,  
Slow to chide and swift to bless;  
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him,  
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Fatherlike, he tends and spares us;  
Well our feeble frame he knows;  
In his hands he gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes;  
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him,  
Widely as his mercy goes.

Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish,  
Blows the wind and it is gone;  
But while mortals rise and perish,  
God endures unchanging on.  
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him,  
Praise the High Eternal One.

Angels, help us to adore him;  
You behold him face to face;  
Sun and moon, bow down before him,  
Dwellers all in time and space,  
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him,  
Praise with us the God of grace.

## ▲ Prayer of Petition and Adoration

# God Cleanses Us

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## Call to Confession of Sin

Psalm 130:1–4

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord!  
O Lord, hear my voice!  
Let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of my pleas for mercy!  
If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,  
O Lord, who could stand?  
But with you there is forgiveness,  
that you may be feared.

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

Merciful Father, we cry to you out of the depths.  
We confess that we have sinned against you  
and against each other.  
We have been prodigal, disobedient,  
ungrateful, rebellious children.  
We acknowledge that we have no standing before you  
except through the saving blood of our Lord Jesus.  
We now return to you in repentance,  
clinging to you alone for pardon,  
cleansing, and restoration.  
Forgive us, we pray,  
and pour out your grace in our lives.  
Through Christ our Savior and perfect Elder Brother, Amen.

⬆ **Declaration of Forgiveness**

Isaiah 44:21–22

Remember these things, O Jacob,  
and Israel, for you are my servant;  
I formed you; you are my servant;  
O Israel, you will not be forgotten by me.  
I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud  
and your sins like mist;  
return to me, for I have redeemed you.

⬆ **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

Hosea 11:1–11

- <sup>1</sup> When Israel was a child, I loved him,  
and out of Egypt I called my son.
- <sup>2</sup> The more they were called,  
the more they went away;  
they kept sacrificing to the Baals  
and burning offerings to idols.
- <sup>3</sup> Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk;  
I took them up by their arms,  
but they did not know that I healed them.
- <sup>4</sup> I led them with cords of kindness,  
with the bands of love,  
and I became to them as one who eases the yoke on their jaws,  
and I bent down to them and fed them.
- <sup>5</sup> They shall not return to the land of Egypt,  
but Assyria shall be their king,  
because they have refused to return to me.
- <sup>6</sup> The sword shall rage against their cities,  
consume the bars of their gates,  
and devour them because of their own counsels.
- <sup>7</sup> My people are bent on turning away from me,  
and though they call out to the Most High,  
he shall not raise them up at all.
- <sup>8</sup> How can I give you up, O Ephraim?  
How can I hand you over, O Israel?  
How can I make you like Admah?  
How can I treat you like Zeboiim?  
My heart recoils within me;  
my compassion grows warm and tender.

- 9 I will not execute my burning anger;  
I will not again destroy Ephraim;  
for I am God and not a man,  
the Holy One in your midst,  
and I will not come in wrath.
- 10 They shall go after the Lord;  
he will roar like a lion;  
when he roars,  
his children shall come trembling from the west;
- 11 they shall come trembling like birds from Egypt,  
and like doves from the land of Assyria,  
and I will return them to their homes, declares the Lord.

▲ **Hymn 535**     How Deep the Father's Love for Us

How deep the Father's love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure,  
That he should give His only Son  
To make a wretch his treasure!  
How great the pain of searing loss!  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross,  
My sin upon his shoulders!  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held him there  
Until it was accomplished!  
His dying breath has brought me life;  
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything:  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,  
His death and resurrection.  
Why should his suffering be my gain?  
I cannot give an answer,  
But this I know with all my heart:  
His wounds have paid my ransom!

<sup>1</sup> Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>11</sup> And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup> And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup> “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.’” <sup>20</sup> And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup> “Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup> And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup> But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, <sup>29</sup> but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a

young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup> And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

## Prayer of Intercession

### ▲ Hymn 186     One There Is, above All Others

One there is, above all others,  
well deserves the name of Friend;  
His is love beyond a brother's,  
costly, free, and knows no end.  
They who once his kindness prove,  
They who once his kindness prove,  
They who once his kindness prove,  
find it everlasting love.

Which of all our friends to save us,  
could or would have shed his blood?  
But our Jesus died to have us  
reconciled in him to God.  
This was boundless love, indeed;  
This was boundless love, indeed;  
This was boundless love, indeed;  
Jesus is a friend in need.

When he lived on earth abas-ed,  
“Friend of sinners” was his name;  
Now above all glory raised,  
He rejoices in the same;  
Still he calls them brethren, friends,  
Still he calls them brethren, friends,  
Still he calls them brethren, friends,  
and to all their wants attends.

Continues...

Could we bear from one another  
what he daily bears from us?  
Yet this glorious Friend and Brother  
loves us though we treat him thus:  
Though for good we render ill,  
Though for good we render ill,  
Though for good we render ill,  
He accounts us brethren still.

O for grace our hearts to soften!  
Teach us, Lord, at length to love;  
We, alas! forget too often  
what a Friend we have above;  
But when home our souls are brought,  
But when home our souls are brought,  
But when home our souls are brought,  
We will love you as we ought.

### **Reception of New Members**

- Russ and Mia Lawrenz

### **Baptism of covenant children**

- Ellamae, Nori and Blake,  
children of Russ and Mia Lawrenz

#### *Congregational prayer for children*

O Lord Jesus Christ, who embraces children with the arms of your mercy, and makes them living members of your Church: Give them grace, we pray, to stand fast in your faith, to obey your word, and to abide in your love; that, being made strong by your Holy Spirit, they may resist temptation and overcome evil, and may rejoice in the life that now is, and dwell with you in the life that is to come. We ask through your merits, O merciful Savior, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit live and reign as one God, time without end. Amen.

## 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

Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,  
See him dying on the tree!  
'Tis the Christ by man rejected;  
Yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he!  
'Tis the long-expected Prophet,  
David's son, yet David's Lord;  
By his Son God now has spoken:  
'Tis the true and faithful Word.

Tell me, ye who hear him groaning,  
Was there ever grief like his?  
Friends thro' fear his cause disowning,  
Foes insulting his distress;  
Many hands were raised to wound him,  
None would interpose to save;  
But the deepest stroke that pierced him  
Was the stroke that Justice gave.

Ye who think of sin but lightly  
Nor suppose the evil great  
Here may view its nature rightly,  
Here its guilt may estimate.  
Mark the sacrifice appointed,  
See who bears the awful load;  
'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed,  
Son of Man and Son of God.

Here we have a firm foundation,  
Here the refuge of the lost;  
Christ's the Rock of our salvation,  
His the name of which we boast.  
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,  
Sacrifice to cancel guilt!  
None shall ever be confounded  
Who on him their hope have built.

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

### ***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 305**      Arise, My Soul, Arise

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears;  
The bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears:  
Before the throne my Surety stands,  
Before the throne my Surety stands,  
My name is written on his hands.

He ever lives above, for me to intercede,  
His all-redeeming love, his precious blood to plead;  
His blood atoned for every race,  
His blood atoned for every race,  
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.

Five bleeding wounds he bears, received on Calvary;  
They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me.  
“Forgive him, O forgive,” they cry,  
“Forgive him, O forgive,” they cry,  
“Nor let that ransomed sinner die!”

My God is reconciled; his pardoning voice I hear;  
He owns me for his child, I can no longer fear;  
With confidence I now draw nigh,  
With confidence I now draw nigh,  
And “Father, Abba, Father!” cry.

## ▲ The Benediction

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▲ Congregation stands as able

# **Sermon Notes**

Luke 15:11–32

Freeness of God's Love

# 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  
**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