

# 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



24 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

<b>Sunday School</b>	Allie Carpenter Mary Jo Canales
<b>Worship</b>	Mia Lawrenz Allie Carpenter

# Reflection

To all those who love Christ and his gospel...Without the gospel everything is useless and vain; without the gospel we are not Christians; without the gospel all riches is poverty, all wisdom, folly before God; strength is weakness, and all the justice of man is under the condemnation of God. But by the knowledge of the gospel we are made children of God, brothers of Jesus Christ, fellow townsmen with the saints, citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven, heirs of God with Jesus Christ, by whom the poor are made rich, the weak strong, the fools wise, the sinners justified, the desolate comforted, the doubting sure, and slaves free. The gospel is the Word of life.

— John Calvin  
Preface to the translation of the Bible  
by Pierre-Robert Olivétan (1535)

As all humankind are, in the sight of God, lost sinners, we hold that Christ is their only righteousness, since by his obedience he has wiped off our transgressions, by his sacrifice appeased the divine anger, by his blood washed away our stains, by his cross borne our curse, and by his death made satisfaction for us. We maintain that in this way humans are reconciled in Christ to God the Father, by no merit of their own, by no value of works, but by gratuitous mercy.

— John Calvin  
Reply to Cardinal Jacobus Sadoletus (1539)

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

**All: Amen.**

## Call to Worship

*Psalm 150*

Minister: Praise the LORD!

**All: Praise God in his sanctuary;  
praise him in his mighty heavens!**

Minister: Praise him for his mighty deeds;  
praise him according to his excellent greatness!

Minister: **Praise him with trumpet sound;  
praise him with lute and harp!**

**All: Praise him with tambourine and dance;  
praise him with strings and pipe!**

Minister: **Praise him with sounding cymbals;  
praise him with loud clashing cymbals!**

**All: Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!**

Minister: **Praise the LORD!**

## ▲ Psalm 98

O sing a new song to the Lord  
For wonders he has done,  
For wonders he has done.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
The victory have won,  
The victory have won,  
The victory have won.

The great salvation wrought by Him  
Jehovah has made known.  
Jehovah has made known.  
His justice in the nations' sight  
The Lord has clearly shown,  
The Lord has clearly shown,  
The Lord has clearly shown.

He mindful of His grace and truth  
To Israel's house has been.  
To Israel's house has been.  
The great salvation of our God  
All ends of earth have seen,  
All ends of earth have seen,  
All ends of earth have seen.

O all the earth, sing to the Lord  
And make a joyful sound,  
And make a joyful sound.  
Lift up your voice aloud to Him;  
Sing Psalms! Let joy resound!  
Sing Psalms! Let joy resound!  
Sing Psalms! Let joy resound!

With harp make music to the Lord;  
With harp a psalm O sing!  
With harp a psalm O sing!  
With horn and trumpet raise a shout  
Before the Lord, the King,  
Before the Lord, the King,  
Before the Lord, the King.

Let seas in all their vastness roar,  
The world, its living horde,  
The world, its living horde.  
Let rivers clap, let mountains sing  
Their joy before the Lord,  
Their joy before the Lord,  
Their joy before the Lord!

Because He comes, He surely comes  
The judge of earth to be,  
The judge of earth to be!  
With justice he will judge the world  
All men with equity,  
All men with equity,  
All men with equity.

### ⤴ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

# God Cleanses Us

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## Call to Confession of Sin

Jeremiah 23:16–17

Thus says the LORD of hosts: “Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD. They say continually to those who despise the word of the LORD, ‘It shall be well with you’; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, ‘No disaster shall come upon you.’”

2 Timothy 4:3–4

For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

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

Great Triune God,  
we come before you confessing that we have sinned.  
We have despised your word  
and stubbornly followed our own hearts.  
We acknowledge that we have attempted  
to gloss over our sinfulness  
by telling ourselves that we are not so bad.  
We are guilty of having itching ears.  
We have chosen to hear the false “good news”  
of man-centered moralism  
and feel-good complacency  
rather than the true good news  
of Christ’s atonement for our sin on the cross.  
Forgive us, dear God.  
Shine the light of your word  
into our broken and needy hearts and minds.  
Enable us to hear, preach, and live your gospel of saving grace.  
Through Jesus Christ, our crucified Savior and risen Lord, Amen.



▲ **Declaration of Forgiveness**

2 Timothy 1:8–10

Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

▲ **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

1 John 4

<sup>1</sup> Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup> By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup> and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. <sup>4</sup> Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup> They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup> We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup> So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. <sup>17</sup> By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. <sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he

who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. <sup>21</sup> And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

▲ **Hymn 472**    Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Wretched

Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched,  
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;  
Jesus ready stands to save you,  
Full of pity, grace, and power:  
He is able, he is able,  
He is willing, doubt no more.

Come, you needy, come and welcome,  
God's free bounty glorify;  
True belief and true repentance,  
Every grace that brings you nigh,  
Without money, without money,  
Come to Jesus Christ and buy.

Come, you weary, heavy laden,  
Bruised and broken by the fall;  
If you tarry till you're better,  
You will never come at all:  
Not the righteous, not the righteous—  
Sinners Jesus came to call.

Let not conscience make you linger,  
Nor of fitness fondly dream;  
All the fitness he requireth  
Is to feel your need of him;  
This he gives you, this he gives you;  
'Tis the Spirit's rising beam.

Lo! the incarnate God, ascended,  
Pleads the merit of his blood;  
Venture on him, venture wholly,  
Let no other trust intrude:  
None but Jesus, none but Jesus  
Can do helpless sinners good.

*Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched,  
He is willing, doubt no more.*

## Preaching of the Word

Rev. John Canales

**Sermon Text:** 1 Corinthians 1:18–2:5 *The Centrality of the Gospel*

<sup>1:18</sup> For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

<sup>26</sup> For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup> And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup> so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

<sup>2:1</sup> And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup> For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup> And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, <sup>4</sup> and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup> that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

## Prayer of Intercession

▲ Hymn 141     God, in the Gospel of His Son

God, in the gospel of his Son,  
makes his eternal counsels known;  
where love in all its glory shines,  
and truth is drawn in fairest lines.

Here sinners of a humble frame  
may taste his grace, and learn his name;  
may read, in characters of blood,  
the wisdom, pow'r, and grace of God.

The pris'ner here may break his chains;  
the weary rest from all his pains;  
the captive feel his bondage cease;  
the mourner find the way of peace.

Here faith reveals to mortal eyes  
a brighter world beyond the skies;  
here shines the light which guides our way  
from earth to realms of endless day.

O grant us grace, almighty Lord,  
to read and mark your holy Word;  
its truths with meekness to receive,  
and by its holy precepts live.

## 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

I am not skilled to understand  
What God has willed, what God has planned;  
I only know at his right hand  
Is One who is my Savior!

I take him at his word indeed:  
“Christ died for sinners,” this I read;  
And in my heart I find a need  
Of him to be my Savior!

That he should leave his place on high  
And come for sinful man to die,  
You count it strange? So once did I,  
Before I knew my Savior!

Yes, living, dying, let me bring  
My strength, my solace from this spring:  
That he who lives to be my King  
Once died to be my Savior!  
*That he who lives to be my King  
Once died to be my Savior!*

“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.  
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.  
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.



“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
and do not return there but water the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

“For you shall go out in joy  
and be led forth in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall break forth into singing,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.  
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;  
and it shall make a name for the LORD,  
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

### ***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

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,  
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

Come, brethren, follow where our Savior trod,  
Our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God.  
*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,  
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
The hosts of God in conquering ranks combine.  
*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,  
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
As thou hast promised, draw men unto thee.  
*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,  
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

Thy kingdom come, that earth's despair may cease  
Beneath the shadow of its healing peace.  
*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,  
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

For thy blest cross which doth for us atone,  
Creation's praises rise before thy throne.  
*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,  
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

## ▲ The Benediction

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▲ Congregation stands as able

# **Sermon Notes**

1 Corinthians 1:18–2:5

*The Centrality of the Gospel*

# 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