

# 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



16 April 2023



*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 Paula Ea
<b>Worship</b>	Whitney Hammaker Annelise Pipkin Chelsea Schleifer

# Reflection

Our Creator would never have made such lovely days, and have given us the deep hearts to enjoy them, above and beyond all thought, unless we were meant to be immortal.

— Nathaniel Hawthorne  
*The Old Manse*

There is in the human heart an unquenchable longing for beauty. And I am persuaded that the reason it is there is because God is the ultimately Beautiful One and he made us to long for himself. Even the most perverted desire for beauty—say the desire to watch the excellence of strength and speed and skill as gladiators hack each other to death—even this desire is a distorted remnant of a good yearning which God put within us to lure us to himself. And we can know that our desires are remnants of this urge for God because everything less than God leaves us unsatisfied. He alone is the All-Satisfying Object of Beauty. Only one vision will be sufficient for our insatiable hearts—the glory of God. For that we have been made. And it is for this we long, whether we know it or not.

— John Piper  
Sermon on 2 Corinthians 3:7–11  
“Jesus Is Precious Because We Yearn for Beauty”

# We Prepare to Meet with God

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## Prelude

## Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts,  
Thou fount of life, thou light of men,  
From the best bliss that earth imparts  
We turn unfilled to thee again.

Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood;  
Thou savest those that on thee call;  
To them that seek thee thou art good,  
To them that find thee all in all.

We taste thee, O thou living bread,  
And long to feast upon thee still;  
We drink of thee, the fountainhead,  
And thirst our souls from thee to fill.

Our restless spirits yearn for thee,  
Where'er our changeful lot is cast;  
Glad when thy gracious smile we see,  
Blest when our faith can hold thee fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay,  
Make all our moments calm and bright;  
Chase the dark night of sin away,  
Shed o'er the world thy holy light.  
*Shed o'er the world thy holy light.*

# 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 96:7–10a

Minister: Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!  
**All: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;**  
**bring an offering, and come into his courts!**  
Minister: Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;  
tremble before him, all the earth!  
**All: Say among the nations, “The LORD reigns!”**

⬆ **Hymn 140**    O Word of God Incarnate    *Trinity Hymnal*

## ⬆ Prayer of Petition and Adoration

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⬆ Congregation stands as able

# God Cleanses Us

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## Call to Confession of Sin

Romans 3:10b–12, 23

“None is righteous, no, not one;  
no one understands; no one seeks for God.  
All have turned aside; together they have become worthless;  
no one does good, not even one.”  
For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

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

Based on Psalm 25:6–8, 11, 16–18 <sup>NIV</sup>

Remember, LORD, your great mercy and love,  
for they are from of old.  
Do not remember the sins of my youth  
and my rebellious ways;  
according to your love remember me,  
for you, LORD, are good.  
Good and upright is the LORD;  
therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.

For the sake of your name, LORD,  
forgive my iniquity, though it is great.

Turn to me and be gracious to me,  
for I am lonely and afflicted.  
Relieve the troubles of my heart  
and free me from my anguish.  
Look on my affliction and my distress  
and take away all my sins.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## ⬆ **Declaration of Forgiveness**

John 1:12–13

But to all who did receive him [Jesus], who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

## ⬆ **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

Genesis 1 (p. 1)

## ▲ Hymn      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.

*All glory be to the Father,  
All glory be to the Son,  
All glory be to the Spirit,  
The Blessed Three in One.*

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.

*All glory be to the Father,  
All glory be to the Son,  
All glory be to the Spirit,  
The Blessed Three in One.*

*Continues...*

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.

*All glory be to the Father,  
All glory be to the Son,  
All glory be to the Spirit,  
The Blessed Three in One.*

## **Preaching of the Word**

**Sermon Text:** John 1:1–18 (p. 886)

Rev. Imad Aubrey  
*In the Beginning...*

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup> The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup> (John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) <sup>16</sup> For from his fullness we have all

received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

## **Prayer of Intercession**

▲ **Hymn 163**      At the Name of Jesus

*Trinity Hymnal*

## 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

Of the Father's love begotten  
Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega,  
He the Source, the Ending he  
Of the things that are, that have been,  
And that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessed,  
When the virgin, full of grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
Bore the Savior of our race;  
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,  
First revealed his sacred face,  
Evermore and evermore!

This is he whom heaven-taught singers  
Sang of old with one accord;  
Whom the scriptures of the prophets  
Promised in their faithful word;  
Now he shines, the long expected,  
Let creation praise its Lord,  
Evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heaven adore him;  
Angel hosts, his praises sing;  
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before him,  
And extol our God and King!  
Let no tongue on earth be silent,  
Every voice in concert ring,  
Evermore and evermore!

Christ, to thee, with God the Father,  
And, O Holy Ghost, to thee,  
Hymn and chant with high thanksgiving,  
And unwearied praises be:  
Honor, glory, and dominion,  
And eternal victory,  
Evermore and evermore!

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.”

### ***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 518**    Christ, of All My Hopes the Ground    *Trinity Hymnal*  
(congregation stands on last verse)

## ⬆ The Benediction

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⬆ Congregation stands as able



# Sermon Notes

John 1:1–18

*In the Beginning...*

## HOME FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Group Leader	Contact	Meeting Day/Time
Leng Ea	817.412.8625	Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.
Timothy Skaggs	209.403.6767	Sundays 1:00 p.m.
Adam Grimes	214.226.1251	Saturdays 4:00 p.m.
Brandon Luter Teen Trek	469.441.6306	Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

## **2023 Machen Spring Singles Conference Memorial Day Weekend (26-29 May 2023)**

Come and enjoy fellowship and biblical teaching with other reformed singles in the beautiful spring weather in the mountains of western Virginia! This will be the first spring singles conference in recent years. There is also an extra day for more time to get to know each other!

This conference will include speaking sessions by Rev. Bill Shishko on “The Church Before the Modern Watching World.” In addition, there will be free time to enjoy hiking/recreational activities of your choice (feel free to bring your own recreational equipment and board games). *Attendance will be limited to 40 registrations.*

### **Registration**

Register on-line at [machen.org](http://machen.org).

The registration fee includes lodging in a bunkhouse, all meals, and use of the main lodge facilities. Tent sites are also available if you would rather bring your own tent and sleep in it.

For any questions regarding the singles conference, please contact the organizer, Ken Barnes, at [kbarnes670@gmail.com](mailto:kbarnes670@gmail.com).

### **Speaker**

Rev. Bill Shishko is pastor of The Haven at Commack (OPC) in Suffolk County, Long Island, NY. Bill also serves as the Program Director for Reformation Metro NY, Inc., an agency of the Presbytery of Connecticut and Southern New York (OPC).

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Early Bird Registration Fee - \$85.00 (20 March - 30 April 2023)

Late Registration Fee - \$115 (1 - 30 May 2023)

Our Senior Pastor Rev. John Canales has been approved to serve as a missionary to the Pacific Islands, training and coaching pastors and church leaders. His wife, Mary Jo, will be engaged in discipling women and children. John continues as our Senior Pastor while actively pursuing raising the support needed for them to be released to the Pacific. During this time, Rev. Imad Aubrey, a Lebanese missionary, is assisting Christ Presbyterian Church over the next few weeks by filling our pulpit, freeing Pastor Canales to plan and prepare for the mission field and to visit supporting churches as needed.

# 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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Christ OPC on Twitter • Christ OPC on Instagram

### Staff

**Senior Pastor** – Rev. John Canales

**Chief Musician** – Sharon Miller

**Coordinator of Church Ministries** – Mary Jo Canales

**Elders:** Rod Alexander (Emeritus), Adam Grimes, Scott Peterson

**Deacons:** Doug Boswell, Leng Ea, Brandon Luter, Rod Miller