

# 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



7 May 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

**Sunday School** MJ Canales

Paula Ea

**Worship** MJ Canales

Paula Ea

Mia Lawrenz

# Reflection

Jesus Christ is the centre of everything and the object of everything, and he who does not know him knows nothing of the order of nature and nothing of himself.

— Blaise Pascal

17<sup>th</sup>-c. French mathematician, physicist and theologian

The name of Christ excludes all merit of our own.

— John Calvin

16<sup>th</sup>-c. French reformer

As the light of the moon is swallowed up by the brightness of the sun, so the shining achievements of men and women are swallowed up by the glory of God.

— Janice Wise

The Scotch catechism says that man's chief end is "to glorify God and enjoy Him forever". But we shall then know that these are the same thing. Fully to enjoy is to glorify. In commanding us to glorify Him, God is inviting us to enjoy Him.

— C. S. Lewis

*Reflections on the Psalms*

# We Prepare to Meet with God

---

## Prelude

## I Need Thee Every Hour

I need thee ev'ry hour,  
most gracious Lord;  
no tender voice like thine  
can peace afford.

*I need thee, O I need thee,  
ev'ry hour I need thee;  
O bless me now, my Savior,  
I come to thee.*

I need thee ev'ry hour;  
stay thou near by;  
temptations lose their pow'r  
when thou art nigh.

*I need thee, O I need thee,  
ev'ry hour I need thee;  
O bless me now, my Savior,  
I come to thee.*

I need thee ev'ry hour,  
in joy or pain;  
come quickly, and abide,  
or life is vain.

*I need thee, O I need thee,  
ev'ry hour I need thee;  
O bless me now, my Savior,  
I come to thee.*

# 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!** *Psalms 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 *Isaiah 12:4–5*

Minister: Give thanks to the LORD,  
call upon his name,

**All: make known his deeds among the peoples,  
proclaim that his name is exalted.**

Minister: Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be made known in all the earth.

**All: Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

▲ **Hymn 111**      This Is My Father's World      *Trinity Hymnal*

▲ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

---

▲ Congregation stands as able

# God Cleanses Us

---

## Call to Confession of Sin

Romans 6:12–14

Let not sin reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

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

*from Strasbourg liturgy*

Almighty, eternal God and Father,  
we confess and acknowledge in your presence  
that we were conceived in unrighteousness  
and are full of sin and transgression all our life.  
We do not fully believe your Word as we ought,  
nor do we follow your holy commandments.

Remember your goodness, we beseech you,  
and for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
be gracious unto us, and forgive us our iniquity  
which, alas, we admit is great.  
We ask this through the merit of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## ⬆ Declaration of Forgiveness

Isaiah 12:1–2

“I will give thanks to you, O LORD,  
for though you were angry with me,  
your anger turned away,  
that you might comfort me.

“Behold, God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation.”

## ⬆ 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

---

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Reading of Scripture**

Isaiah 54 (p. 614)

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

## Preaching of the Word

Rev. Imad Aubrey

**Sermon Text:** John 3:22–36 (p. 888)    *He Must Increase*

<sup>22</sup> After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he remained there with them and was baptizing. <sup>23</sup> John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming and being baptized <sup>24</sup> (for John had not yet been put in prison).

<sup>25</sup> Now a discussion arose between some of John’s disciples and a Jew over purification. <sup>26</sup> And they came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him.” <sup>27</sup> John answered, “A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. <sup>28</sup> You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, ‘I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.’ <sup>29</sup> The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom’s voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. <sup>30</sup> He must increase, but I must decrease.”

<sup>31</sup> He who comes from above is above all. He who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks in an earthly way. He who comes from heaven is above all. <sup>32</sup> He bears witness to what he has seen and heard, yet no one receives his testimony. <sup>33</sup> Whoever receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true. <sup>34</sup> For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. <sup>35</sup> The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. <sup>36</sup> Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

## Prayer of Intercession

### Reception of New Members

Mike and Pam Mayo

▲ **Hymn 188**    Jesus, I Am Resting, Resting



## 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

I need thee, precious Jesus, for I am full of sin;  
My soul is dark and guilty, my heart is dead within.  
I need the cleansing fountain where I can always flee,  
The blood of Christ most precious, the sinner's perfect plea.

I need thee, precious Jesus, for I am very poor;  
A stranger and a pilgrim, I have no earthly store.  
I need the love of Jesus to cheer me on my way,  
To guide my doubting footsteps, to be my strength and stay.

I need thee, precious Jesus, and hope to see thee soon,  
Encircled with the rainbow and seated on thy throne.  
There, with thy blood-bought children, my joy shall ever be,  
To sing my Jesus' praises, to gaze, O Lord, on thee.

Scripture Reading — During the cup

Colossians 1:15–20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

***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**      Forever Jesus  
(congregation stands on last verse)

My hymn of praise shall be forever Jesus:  
My firm foundation in shifting sands.  
My strength and hope through many fears and failures,  
The disappointments of the past;  
His constant love has held me fast.

*So for all my days I will sing my praise  
to the King, forever Jesus.  
Though the storms may rage he is strong to save.  
He's the King, forever Jesus.*

My song of joy shall be forever Jesus  
Who bore my suffering, who made a way.  
His life a gift, His death a precious ransom  
That wipes the sinner's guilt away,  
And turns our night to glorious day.

*So for all my days I will sing my praise  
to the King, forever Jesus.  
Though the storms may rage he is strong to save.  
He's the King, forever Jesus.*

My final breath shall be forever Jesus  
When shadows lengthen before my eyes.  
My Lord and Friend, Companion through the valley  
When dearest ones are left behind,  
His hand will lead me to the light.

*Continues...*

*So for all my days I will sing my praise  
to the King, forever Jesus.  
Though the storms may rage he is strong to save.  
He's the King, forever Jesus.*

*When I meet His gaze I will sing my praise  
to the King, forever Jesus.  
All my sorrows past, I am home at last  
with my King, forever Jesus.  
With my King, forever Jesus.*

## ▲ **The Benediction**

---

▲ Congregation stands as able

# Sermon Notes

John 3:22–36  
*He Must Increase*

## 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<br>Teen Trek | 469.441.6306 | Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.    |

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.



3410 Peters Colony Road • Flower Mound, Texas 75022 • 972-355-5892  
[www.ChristPresbyterian.org](http://www.ChristPresbyterian.org) • [email@ChristPresbyterian.org](mailto:email@ChristPresbyterian.org)  
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