

# 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



15 October 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>	Evangeline Grimes Whitney Hammaker Tegan Thacker

# Reflection

It has been said that when human beings stop believing in God they believe in nothing. The truth is much worse: they believe in anything.

— Malcolm Muggeridge  
British journalist and apologist (1903–90)

An atheist can't find God for the same reason a thief can't find a policeman.

— Adrian Rogers  
Baptist pastor (1931–2005)

In an attempt to be reasonable, man has become irrational. In an attempt to deify himself, he has defaced himself. In an attempt to be free, he has made himself a slave. And like Alexander the Great, he has conquered the world around him but has not yet conquered himself.

— Ravi Zacharias  
sermon: "The Lostness of Humankind"

It is a terrible thing to be grateful and have no one to thank, to be awed and have no one to worship.

— Philip Yancey  
article "Open Windows," *Marriage Partnership* magazine

# **We Prepare to Meet with God**

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## **Prelude**

## **Approach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat**

Approach, my soul, the mercy seat  
Where Jesus answers prayer;  
There humbly fall before his feet,  
For none can perish there.

Thy promise is my only plea;  
With this I venture nigh:  
Thou call-est burdened souls to thee,  
And such, O Lord, am I.

Bowed down beneath a load of sin,  
By Satan sorely pressed,  
By war without and fears within,  
I come to thee for rest.

Be thou my shield and hiding place,  
That, sheltered near thy side,  
I may my fierce accuser face,  
And tell him thou hast died.

O wondrous love! to bleed and die,  
To bear the cross and shame,  
That guilty sinners, such as I  
Might plead thy gracious name!

# 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 95:6–7

Leader: Oh come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

**All: For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of his hand.**

⬆ **Hymn 125**    Let All Things Now Living *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

Psalm 139:1–4

Leader: O LORD, you have searched me and known me!

**All: You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.**

Leader: You search out my path and my lying down  
and are acquainted with all my ways.

**All: Even before a word is on my tongue,  
behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.**

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

O Lord our God,  
you know us better than we know ourselves.

As we come before you now,  
believers and doubters alike,  
we all share a deep need,  
for we are all lost without your grace.

Search us, O God, and know our hearts,  
test us and know our troubled thoughts.

Give us true repentance.

Forgive us all our wrongs.

Transform us by your Spirit to live for you each day,  
to learn to serve one another  
and, through the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to come at last to heaven.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

## ⬆ **Declaration of Forgiveness**

Colossians 1:21–23a

And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, [Jesus] has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven.

## ⬆ **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

Psalm 14 (p. 453)

- <sup>1</sup> The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.”  
They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds;  
there is none who does good.
- <sup>2</sup> The LORD looks down from heaven on the children of man,  
to see if there are any who understand,  
who seek after God.
- <sup>3</sup> They have all turned aside;  
together they have become corrupt;  
there is none who does good,  
not even one.
- <sup>4</sup> Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers  
who eat up my people as they eat bread  
and do not call upon the LORD?
- <sup>5</sup> There they are in great terror,  
for God is with the generation of the righteous.
- <sup>6</sup> You would shame the plans of the poor,  
but the LORD is his refuge.
- <sup>7</sup> Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion!  
When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people,  
let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

2 Corinthians 10:1–6 (p. 968)

<sup>1</sup> I, Paul, myself entreat you, by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—I who am humble when face to face with you, but bold toward you when I am away!—<sup>2</sup> I beg of you that when I am present I may not have to show boldness with such confidence as I count on showing against some who suspect us of walking according to the flesh. <sup>3</sup> For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. <sup>4</sup> For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. <sup>5</sup> We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, <sup>6</sup> being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete.

**Sermon Text:** Romans 1:16–23 (p. 939)

*Confronting the Sovereign Self: God Isn't Optional*

<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. <sup>17</sup> For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

<sup>18</sup> For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. <sup>19</sup> For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. <sup>20</sup> For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. <sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they became fools, <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

## **Prayer of Intercession**

▲ **Psalm 119: 97–104**      O How I Love Your Holy Law, O Lord

O how I love your holy law, O Lord!  
All day I meditate upon your word;  
It makes me wiser than my enemies,  
For your commands are ever with me, Lord.

I have more wisdom than my teachers, Lord,  
For on your laws I meditate each day.  
I have more insight than the aged ones,  
For all your testimonies I obey.

I keep my feet from ev'ry evil path,  
For I desire to follow all your word;  
Since you have taught me all your wise decrees,  
From them I do not turn aside, O Lord.

How sweet your words are, Lord, unto my taste—  
Sweeter than honey is upon my tongue.  
Through your commandments I will understand,  
Therefore, O Lord, I hate each path that's wrong.

## 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

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in thee;  
Let the water and blood  
From thy riven side which flowed  
Be of sin the double cure:  
Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands  
Can fulfill thy law's demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know,  
Could my tears forever flow,  
All for sin could not atone:  
Thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,  
Simply to thy cross I cling;  
Naked, come to thee for dress;  
Helpless, look to thee for grace;  
Foul, I to the Fountain fly;  
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,  
When my eyelids close in death,  
When I soar to worlds unknown,  
See thee on thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in thee.

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

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## The Collection of Alms and Tithes

### Hymn     In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my all in all—  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh—  
Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones he came to save:  
Till on that cross, as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied—  
For every sin on him was laid;  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay—  
Light of the world by darkness slain!  
Then, bursting forth in glorious day,  
Up from the grave he rose again!  
And as he stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am his and he is mine:  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

*Continues...*



No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath.  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till he returns or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

*No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till he returns or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.*

*(congregation stands on last verse)*

## ⬆ **The Benediction**

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⬆ Congregation stands as able

# **Sermon Notes**

Romans 1:16–23

*Confronting the Sovereign Self: God Isn't Optional*

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.

# 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