

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



21 April 2024

*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	Paula Ea Mary Jo Canales
Worship	MJ Canales Margaret Anne Gunter Tegan Thacker

Reflection

“If you had known me, you would have known my Father also.”

— John 14:7a

No one has ever seen God. The only God, who is nearest to the Father’s heart, he has made him known.

— John 1:18

The saints of the past have never known God otherwise than by looking to him in his Son, as in a mirror.

— John Calvin

It is not only impossible but useless to know God without Christ.

— Blaise Pascal

This is eternal life: to know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

— John 17:3

The tragedy of much modern life is that the abandonment of the knowledge of God means that futility has taken over.

— Leon Morris

In the eyes of the God of the Bible, the loss of life is equivalent to the loss of Himself...

What you will find in the Bible is a personal God who defines life as neverending existence with Him.

— Samuel Ea

Once you become aware that the main business that you are here for is to know God, most of life’s problems fall into place of their own accord.

— J. I. Packer

We Prepare to Meet with God

Prelude

I Am Not Skilled to Understand

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!*

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!** *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 105:1-4

Leader: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!

**All: Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wondrous works!**

Leader: Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

**All: Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually!**

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

▲ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

▲ Congregation stands as able

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession of Sin

1 Timothy 6:20–21

O Timothy, guard the deposit entrusted to you. Avoid the irreverent babble and contradictions of what is falsely called “knowledge,” for by professing it some have swerved from the faith. Grace be with you.

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

God of all wisdom,
we confess that we are sinners.
We have been puffed up by our so-called knowledge.
We have worshiped our own cleverness
and good sense and clear thinking.
We have been idiots, ignorant of our own ignorance.

Forgive us for our idolatry and presumption,
for our arrogance and lack of compassion,
for our cold hearts and hard heads.
We repent and cry to you for mercy.
May we cling to our precious Savior, the Word of truth,
in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.
May his cross be our only boast.
May we long to know him and the power of his resurrection.
In his name we pray. Amen.

▲ Declaration of Forgiveness

James 1:17–18

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures

▲ *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

1 Corinthians 1:18–2:5 (p. 952)

▲ **Hymn 181** We Come, O Christ, to You

Sermon Text: Ecclesiastes 1:12–18; 2:12–17 (p. 553)

Searching for Satisfaction: Wisdom

¹² I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹⁴ I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind.

¹⁵ What is crooked cannot be made straight,
and what is lacking cannot be counted.

¹⁶ I said in my heart, “I have acquired great wisdom, surpassing all who were over Jerusalem before me, and my heart has had great experience of wisdom and knowledge.” ¹⁷ And I applied my heart to know wisdom and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is but a striving after wind.

¹⁸ For in much wisdom is much vexation,
and he who increases knowledge increases sorrow.

* * * * *

²¹² So I turned to consider wisdom and madness and folly. For what can the man do who comes after the king? Only what has already been done. ¹³ Then I saw that there is more gain in wisdom than in folly, as there is more gain in light than in darkness. ¹⁴ The wise person has his eyes in his head, but the fool walks in darkness. And yet I perceived that the same event happens to all of them. ¹⁵ Then I said in my heart, “What happens to the fool will happen to me also. Why then have I been so very wise?” And I said in my heart that this also is vanity. ¹⁶ For of the wise as of the fool there is no enduring remembrance, seeing that in the days to come all will have been long forgotten. How the wise dies just like the fool! ¹⁷ So I hated life, because what is done under the sun was grievous to me, for all is vanity and a striving after wind.

Prayer of Intercession

▲ **Hymn 161** O Christ, Our Hope, Our Heart's Desire

Reception of New Members

- Donna Iavasile
- Rickey and Val Kroening

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

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

*Great is thy faithfulness,
Great is thy faithfulness,
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
All I have needed thy hand hath provided—
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

*Great is thy faithfulness,
Great is thy faithfulness,
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
All I have needed thy hand hath provided—
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

*Great is thy faithfulness,
Great is thy faithfulness,
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
All I have needed thy hand hath provided—
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.*

“I, wisdom, dwell with prudence,
and I find knowledge and discretion.
The fear of the LORD is hatred of evil.
Pride and arrogance and the way of evil
and perverted speech I hate.
I have counsel and sound wisdom;
I have insight; I have strength.
By me kings reign,
and rulers decree what is just;
by me princes rule,
and nobles, all who govern justly.
I love those who love me,
and those who seek me diligently find me.
Riches and honor are with me,
enduring wealth and righteousness.
My fruit is better than gold, even fine gold,
and my yield than choice silver.
I walk in the way of righteousness,
in the paths of justice,
granting an inheritance to those who love me,
and filling their treasuries...

Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.
Leave your simple ways, and live,
and walk in the way of insight.”

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

I Set My Hope

(congregation stands on last verse)

When this life of trials tests my faith,
I set my hope on Jesus.
When the questions come and doubts remain,
I set my hope on Jesus.
For the deepest wounds that time won't heal,
there's a joy that runs still deeper.
There's a truth that's more than all I feel;
I set my hope on Jesus.

***I set my hope on Jesus, my Rock, my only trust,
Who set his heart upon me first,
I set my hope on Jesus.***

Though I falter in this war with sin,
I set my hope on Jesus.
When I fail the fight and sink within,
I set my hope on Jesus.
Though the shame would drown me in its sea,
and I dread the waves of justice,
I will cast my life on Calvary;
I set my hope on Jesus.

***I set my hope on Jesus, my Rock, my only trust,
Who set his heart upon me first,
I set my hope on Jesus.***

Continues...

Though the world calls me to leave my Lord,
I set my hope on Jesus.
Though it offer all its vain rewards,
I set my hope on Jesus.
Though this heart of mine is prone to stray,
give me grace enough to finish.
'Til I worship on that final day,
I set my hope on Jesus.

***I set my hope on Jesus, my Rock, my only trust,
Who set his heart upon me first,
I set my hope on Jesus.***

***I set my hope on Jesus, my Rock, my only trust,
Who set his heart upon me first,
I set my hope on Jesus.
I set my hope on Jesus.***

✠ The Benediction

Sermon Notes

Ecclesiastes 1:12–18; 2:12–17

Searching for Satisfaction: Wisdom

HOME FELLOWSHIP GROUPS		
Group Leader	Contact	Meeting Day/Time
Leng Ea	817.412.8625	Ea's home Fridays at 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Timothy Skaggs	209.403.6767	CPC Sundays
Adam Grimes	214.226.1251	CPC Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
Russ Lawrenz	940.395-9413	SE Denton Saturdays at 4:00 p.m.
Brandon Luter Teen Trek	469.441.6306	CPC Wednesdays at 6:30 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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www.ChristPresbyterian.org • 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,
Russ Lawrence, Scott Peterson

Deacons: Doug Boswell, Leng Ea, Brandon Luter, Rod Miller,
Dennis O'Banion, Timothy Skaggs