

# 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 September 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

<b>Sunday School</b>	Paula Ea MJ Canales
<b>Worship</b>	Amanda Grimes Evangeline Grimes Tegan Thacker

# Reflection

To understand reality is not the same as to know about outward events. It is to perceive the essential nature of things. The best-informed man is not necessarily the wisest. Indeed there is a danger that precisely in the multiplicity of his knowledge he will lose sight of what is essential. But on the other hand, knowledge of an apparently trivial detail quite often makes it possible to see into the depth of things. And so the wise man will seek to acquire the best possible knowledge about events, but always without becoming dependent upon this knowledge. To recognize the significant in the factual is wisdom.

— Dietrich Bonhoeffer  
20th-c. Lutheran pastor and martyr

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,  
and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

— Proverbs 9:10

Wisdom is knowing what to do next;  
Skill is knowing how to do it,  
and Virtue is doing it.

— David Starr Jordan  
early 20th-c. educator and peace activist

Science is organized knowledge.  
Wisdom is organized life.

— Immanuel Kant  
18th-c. German philosopher

# We Prepare to Meet with God

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Prelude

Psalm 14

Tune: *PASSION CHORALE*

Within his heart the fool spoke,  
And said, “There is no God!”  
Destructive in their vile deeds,  
Not one of them does good.  
The LORD looks down from heaven  
Upon the human race:  
Has anyone shown wisdom,  
Does any seek God’s face?

Together they’re corrupted;  
They all have turned aside.  
Not one for good has labored,  
Not even one has tried.  
Have all of them no knowledge  
Whose deeds are so abhorred?  
Like bread they eat My people,  
And call not on the LORD.

There they will be in terror,  
For God is with the just.  
Though you would shame the wretched,  
The LORD remains his trust.  
From Zion, send salvation,  
And help to Israel bring!  
The LORD restores His captives:  
Let Jacob—Israel—sing!

# 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 34:1-4, 8*

Leader: I will bless the LORD at all times;  
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**All: My soul makes its boast in the LORD;  
let the humble hear and be glad.**

Leader: Oh, magnify the LORD with me,  
and let us exalt his name together!

**All: I sought the LORD, and he answered me  
and delivered me from all my fears.**

Leader: Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!  
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

▲ **Hymn 36** Lord, Thou Hast Searched Me *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

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

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## Prayer for Illumination

## Reading of Scripture

1 Corinthians 1:18–2:5 (p. 952)

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

*Trinity Hymnal*

## Preaching of the Word

Rev. John Canales

**Sermon Text:** Ecclesiastes 9:11–18 (p. 558)

*The Best Strategy for Navigating Life*

<sup>11</sup> Again I saw that under the sun the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent, nor favor to those with knowledge, but time and chance happen to them all. <sup>12</sup> For man does not know his time. Like fish that are taken in an evil net, and like birds that are caught in a snare, so the children of man are snared at an evil time, when it suddenly falls upon them.

<sup>13</sup> I have also seen this example of wisdom under the sun, and it seemed great to me. <sup>14</sup> There was a little city with few men in it, and a great king came against it and besieged it, building great siegeworks against it. <sup>15</sup> But there was found in it a poor, wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city. Yet no one remembered that poor man. <sup>16</sup> But I say that wisdom is better than might, though the poor man's wisdom is despised and his words are not heard.

<sup>17</sup> The words of the wise heard in quiet are better than the shouting of a ruler among fools. <sup>18</sup> Wisdom is better than weapons of war, but one sinner destroys much good.

## Prayer of Intercession

▲ Hymn

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 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 blessèd,  
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!

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.  
The LORD possessed me at the beginning of his work,  
the first of his acts of old.  
Ages ago I was set up,  
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.  
When there were no depths I was brought forth,  
when there were no springs abounding with water.  
Before the mountains had been shaped,  
before the hills, I was brought forth,  
before he had made the earth with its fields,  
or the first of the dust of the world.  
When he established the heavens, I was there;  
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,  
when he made firm the skies above,  
when he established the fountains of the deep,  
when he assigned to the sea its limit,  
so that the waters might not transgress his command,  
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,  
then I was beside him, like a master workman,

and I was daily his delight,  
    rejoicing before him always,  
rejoicing in his inhabited world  
    and delighting in the children of man.

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

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## The Collection of Alms and Tithes

Hymn 642

Be Thou My Vision  
(congregation stands on last verse)

*Trinity Hymnal*

## ⤴ The Benediction

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# Sermon Notes

Ecclesiastes 9:11–18

*The Best Strategy for Navigating Life*

<b>HOME FELLOWSHIP GROUPS</b>		
<b>Group Leader</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Meeting Day/Time</b>
Leng Ea	817.412.8625	Ea's home Fridays at 6:30–8:00 p.m.
Timothy Skaggs	209.403.6767	CPC Sundays after worship
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.

# 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,  
Russ Lawrenz, Scott Peterson

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