

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



1 December 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	MJ Canales Pam Mayo
Worship	Mary Jo Canales Whitney Hammaker Mikaelan Martinez

Reflection

In the Christian story God descends to reascend. He comes down; ... down to the very roots and sea-bed of the Nature he has created. But He goes down to come up again and bring the whole ruined world up with Him.

— C. S. Lewis
Miracles

The Son of God became a man to enable men to become sons of God.

— C. S. Lewis
Mere Christianity

“It seems then,” said Tirian, smiling himself, “that the Stable seen from within and the Stable seen from without are two different places.”

“Yes,” said the Lord Digory. “Its inside is bigger than its outside.”

“Yes,” said Queen Lucy. “In our world too, a Stable once had something inside it that was bigger than our whole world.”

— C. S. Lewis
The Last Battle

We Prepare to Meet with God

Prelude

To Us a Child of Hope Is Born

To us a child of hope is born,
to us a son is giv'n,
him shall the tribes of earth obey,
him all the hosts of heav'n.

His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
forevermore adored,
the Wonderful, the Counselor,
the great and mighty Lord.

His pow'r, increasing, still shall spread,
his reign no end shall know;
justice shall guard his throne above,
and peace abound below.

To us a child of hope is born,
to us a son is giv'n,
the Wonderful, the Counselor,
the mighty Lord of heav'n.

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: May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you. *Jude 2*

All: Amen.

Call to Worship

Based on Luke 1:46–50

Leader: Our souls magnify the Lord!

All: Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

Leader: The mighty One has done great things for us!

All: Holy is God's name!

Leader: Let us worship God.

**All: For God is our Maker and our Redeemer;
from generation to generation God gives mercy.**

▲ **Hymn 32** Great Is Thy Faithfulness *Trinity Hymnal*

▲ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

▲ Congregation stands as able

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession of Sin

Isaiah 30:15, 18

In repentance and rest is your salvation,
in quietness and trust is your strength,
but you would have none of it.

Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you;
therefore he will rise up to show you compassion.

For the LORD is a God of justice.

Blessed are all who wait for him! ^{NIV}

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

Lord Christ,

we confess our willingness to be loved
but also our reluctance to love.

We confess our readiness to accept your forgiving love
but also our refusal to forgive.

We confess our eagerness to grasp your offer of redeeming love
but also our resistance to follow you without question.

In this Advent time, forgive us our failure
to respond as we should.

Come to us anew, and by your grace, assist us to receive you
with joy, as the shepherds;
with gratitude, as Simeon;
with obedience, as Mary;
with love, as you have loved us.

Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

⬆ Declaration of Forgiveness

Isaiah 40:1–2

“Comfort my people,” says our God. “Comfort them! Encourage the people of Jerusalem. Tell them they have suffered long enough and their sins are now forgiven. I have punished them in full for all their sins.” ^{GNT}

⬆ *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

Luke 1:1–25 (p. 855)

⬆ Psalm 42:1-5

Trinity Psalter

¹In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. ²The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. ³But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, ⁵and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

⁶Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the Lord had visited his people and given them food. ⁷So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. ⁸But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go, return each of you to her mother’s house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. ⁹The Lord grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!” Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. ¹⁰And they said to her, “No, we will return with you to your people.” ¹¹But Naomi said, “Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? ¹²Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, ¹³would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the Lord has gone out against me.” ¹⁴Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

¹⁵And she said, “See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.” ¹⁶But Ruth said, “Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall

be my people, and your God my God. ¹⁷ Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you.” ¹⁸ And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

¹⁹ So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. And when they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them. And the women said, “Is this Naomi?” ²⁰ She said to them, “Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me. ²¹ I went away full, and the Lord has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi, when the Lord has testified against me and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?”

²² So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabite her daughter-in-law with her, who returned from the country of Moab. And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest.

Prayer of Intercession

Rejoice, believer, in the Lord, who makes your cause his own;
The hope that's built upon his word shall ne'er be overthrown.

Though many foes beset your road, and feeble is your arm,
Your life is hid with Christ in God beyond the reach of harm.

Weak as you are, you shall not faint or fainting shall not die!
For Jesus, strength of ev'ry saint, will aid you from on high.

Though unperceived by mortal sense, faith sees him always near!
A guide, a glory, sure defense; then what have you to fear?

As surely as he overcame and triumphed once for you,
So surely you that love his name shall in him triumph too.

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

See, amid the winter's snow,
born for us on earth below,
see the tender Lamb appears,
promised from eternal years.

Refrain:

*Hail, thou ever blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.*

Lo, within a manger lies
He who built the starry skies;
He who, throned in height sublime,
sits amid the cherubim! [Refrain]

Say, ye holy shepherds, say,
what's your joyful news today?
Wherefore have ye left your sheep
on the lonely mountain steep? [Refrain]

"As we watched at dead of night,
Lo! we saw a wondrous light;
angels singing 'Peace on earth'
told us of the Savior's birth." [Refrain]

Sacred Infant, all divine,
what a tender love was Thine,
thus to come from highest bliss
down to such a world as this! [Refrain]

Teach, O teach us, Holy Child,
by Thy face so meek and mild,
teach us to resemble Thee,
in Thy sweet humility! [Refrain]

Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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 199

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death
(congregation stands on last verse)

What is our hope in life and death?
Christ alone, Christ alone.
What is our only confidence?
That our souls to him belong.
Who holds our days within his hand?
What comes, apart from his command?
And what will keep us to the end?
The love of Christ, in which we stand.

O sing, Hallelujah!
Our hope springs eternal;
O sing, Hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess
Christ, our hope in life and death.

What truth can calm the troubled soul?
God is good, God is good.
Where is his grace and goodness known?
In our great Redeemer's blood.
Who holds our faith when fears arise?
Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

O sing, Hallelujah!
Our hope springs eternal;
O sing, Hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess
Christ, our hope in life and death.

Continues...

Unto the grave, what will we sing?
“Christ, he lives! Christ, he lives!”
And what reward will heaven bring?
Everlasting life with him.
There we will rise to meet the Lord,
Then sin and death will be destroyed,
And we will feast in endless joy,
When Christ is ours forevermore.

O sing, Hallelujah!
Our hope springs eternal;
O sing, Hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess
Christ, our hope in life and death. (Repeat chorus.)

✠ **The Benediction**

Sermon Notes

Ruth 1

The Story Behind the Story

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 Resumes in January
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 • 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