

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



5 January 2025

*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

Worship

Amanda Grimes
Mikaelan Martinez

Reflection

The true recipe for a miserable existence is to quarrel with Providence.

— James W. Alexander

God often takes a course for accomplishing His purposes directly contrary to what our narrow views would prescribe. He brings a death upon our feelings, wishes and prospects when He is about to give us the desire of our hearts.

— John Newton

God never does anything to you that isn't for you.

— Elisabeth Elliott

Knowing that I am not the one in control gives great encouragement. Knowing the One who is in control is everything.

— Alexander Michael

I do not care if I am confined to this wheelchair provided from it I can bring glory to God.

Joni Eareckson Tada and Steve Estes
A Step Further

Trials afford God a platform for his working in our lives. Without them I would never know how kind, how powerful, how gracious he is.

— Hudson Taylor

We Prepare to Meet with God

Prelude

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged:
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful,
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness—
Take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee;
Thou wilt find a solace there.

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 107:1–2, 8–9

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

**All: Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
whom he has redeemed from trouble.**

Leader: Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!

**All: For he satisfies the longing soul,
and the hungry soul he fills with good things.**

▲ **Psalm 136**

Trinity Psalter

▲ **Prayer of Petition and Adoration**

▲ Congregation stands as able

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession of Sin

1 John 1:8–9

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

Our Father, as we close the year behind us
and claim the year ahead,
we need to confess to you those pieces of the past
that persist in pulling us backward.

Through admitting our failures and sharing our sin,
we would like to put away those things
that nibble and nag, de-energize and depress.

With boldness, then, and a certain measure of shame,
we admit to squandering time and talent,
good intentions and better ideas,
opportunities for growth and occasions for grace.

We admit that we have most often taken care of ourselves
while others have stood in line.

We have defined our interests carefully and our goals precisely,
using energy and expertise gainfully
to the detriment of family, friends, community, and church.

We agonize with memories that sit heavily
and images that cause us to blush
and ask that you would grant us your forgiveness
for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord,
in whose name we pray. Amen.

▲ Declaration of Forgiveness

Psalm 103:6–18

Leader: The LORD works righteousness
and justice for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**All: He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

Leader: For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

**All: as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.**

Leader: As a father shows compassion to his children,
so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

**All: For he knows our frame;
he remembers that we are dust.**

Leader: As for man, his days are like grass;
he flourishes like a flower of the field;
for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.

**All: But the steadfast love of the LORD is from
everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him,
and his righteousness to children's children,
to those who keep his covenant
and remember to do his commandments.**

▲ 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 Psalm 121 (p. 516); Matthew 6:25–33 (p. 811)

▲ **Hymn 305** Arise, My Soul, Arise

Trinity Hymnal

Preaching of the Word

Rev. John Canales

Sermon Text: John 11:1–44 (p. 897) *When Life Makes No Sense*

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” ⁴ But when Jesus heard it he said, “This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”

⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” ⁸ The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?” ⁹ Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. ¹⁰ But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.” ¹¹ After saying these things, he said to them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.” ¹² The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.” ¹³ Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus has died, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” ¹⁶ So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

¹⁷ Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰ So when Martha heard

that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

²⁸ When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” ²⁹ And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. ³⁴ And he said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵ Jesus wept. ³⁶ So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸ Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³ When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” ⁴⁴ The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound

with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Prayer of Intercession

▲ **Hymn 585** Take My Life and Let It Be

Trinity Hymnal

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

Jesus, lover of my soul,
Let me to thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high:
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,
Till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide,
O receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none,
Hangs my helpless soul on thee;
Leave, ah! Leave me not alone,
Still support and comfort me!
All my trust on thee is stayed,
All my help from thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head
With the shadow of thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
More than all in thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name;
I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am,
Thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with thee is found,
Grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound,
Make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art,
Freely let me take of thee;
Spring thou up within my heart,
Rise to all eternity.

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me...”

“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live...”

“These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”

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 444 O Zion, Haste, Your Mission High Fulfilling *Trinity Hymnal*
(congregation stands on last verse)

⤴ The Benediction

Sermon Notes

John 11:1–44

When Life Makes No Sense

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 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 • 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