



CHRIST CHURCH  
— PRESBYTERIAN —

ORDER *of* WORSHIP

*First Sunday in Advent*

*November 29, 2020*

# WELCOME *to* CHRIST CHURCH

Thanks for joining us for worship this morning! We gather each week because we believe Jesus Christ is the one true hope for our tired and broken world. So, wherever your walk is with God, we are glad you are here to be part of our celebration of God's generosity to us in Jesus.

Christ Church is an inter-generational congregation rooted in our common faith in Christ and commitment to serving His kingdom. These commitments propel us into the future as we continue our congregation's thirty-year tradition of joyful and reverent worship, dedication to spiritual growth, and passion for advancing the Gospel in Jacksonville and around the world.

If you have any questions about Christ Church, please don't hesitate to ask an usher, a friendly face with a name tag in the lobby, or seek out one of our pastors.

## GUIDELINES *for* WORSHIP

With the spread of disease around our country, it is important for us, as a church, to be responsive to the circumstances. While we have aggressively implemented social distancing protocols and cleaning regimens, we cannot guarantee a non-compromised environment. All common areas of the church building must be used at one's own risk. Please follow these guidelines:

- In keeping with our mayor's order, face masks are required of all attendees over six years of age. If you do not have a mask, or perhaps forget to bring one, we have face coverings available in the Narthex.
- Please allow for six feet of distance between you and others not in your immediate family unit. Additionally, please refrain from physical greetings and congregating in the aisles and Narthex.
- We will not pass offering plates to collect our tithes and offerings. Rather, after the service, gifts can be deposited in the box labeled *Tithes & Offerings* located just outside the sanctuary doors in the Narthex. Also, financial gifts can always be submitted online through the website.

# CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

December 6 (10.30a)	Worship Service
December 6 (5p)	Community Cookout
December 6 (6p)	Alec Cotton Ordination Service
December 7 (6.30p)	Session Meeting
December 13 (10.30a)	Nine Lessons & Carols Service
December 20 (10.30a)	Communion Service
December 24 (5p)	Christmas Eve Service

## FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS & CAROLS SERVICE

By listening to the Scripture story read and sung, we are reminded that all of Scripture points to our Lord, Jesus. Join us on December 13th at 10.30am, to participate in our annual Nine Lessons & Carols service, and celebrate the first advent of Jesus Christ. Nursery will be provided for ages 0-2.

## ALEC COTTON ORDINATION SERVICE & COOKOUT

Please join us on Sunday, December 6 for a community cookout on the front lawn at 5p, followed by Alec Cotton's ordination service at 6p in the Sanctuary.

## DEACONS' FUND OFFERING

Along with Communion, we will have a special Deacons' Fund offering. If you would like to participate, please designate a check for the Deacons' Fund and place it in the offering plates in the Narthex.

## AMAZON SMILE

Did you know that Christ Church is registered as a charity with AmazonSmile? AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to your charity of choice. To sign up and designate Christ Church as your charity, visit <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-2444447>. Contact Charlotte Reeves if you have any questions.

# ORDER *of* WORSHIP

*First Sunday in Advent • November 29, 2020*

———— ENTER *the* PRESENCE *of* GOD ————

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chuck Colson

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

*Please take a moment to prepare your heart for worship, and silence all mobile devices.*

⊕ CALL TO WORSHIP

Let the righteous rejoice in the LORD and take refuge in him!

**Let all the upright in heart exult!**

Light is sown for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart! Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,

**And give thanks to his holy name!**

INVOCATION

## HYMN

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

*Words: Coffin | Music: Neale*

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear

Chorus:

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel,  
Shall come to thee,  
O Israel

O Come, O Rod of Jesse, free  
Thine own from Satan's tyranny  
From depths of hell your people save  
And give them victory o'er the grave

O come, O Key of David, come  
And open wide our heavenly home  
Make safe the way that leads on high  
And close the path to misery

O Come, O Dayspring from on high  
And cheer us by your drawing nigh  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
And death's dark shadows put to flight

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*Prior to the corporate prayer, we take a moment to confess our sins in silence.*

**Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions. For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Against you, you only, we have sinned and done what is evil in your sight. Hide your face from our sins and blot out our iniquity. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and restore to us the joy of your salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

⊕ HYMN

*Thy Mercy, My God*

*Words: Watts | Music: McCracken*

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,  
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue;  
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,  
Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.

Without thy sweet mercy I could not live here;  
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;  
But, through thy free goodness, my spirits revive,  
And he that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,  
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;  
Dissolved by thy goodness, I fall to the ground,  
And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies, thy goodness I own,  
And the covenant love of thy crucified Son;  
All praise to the Spirit, whose whisper divine  
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.**

**And, in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our LORD, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit; born of the virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 "holy catholic Church" refers to the entire company of God's redeemed people throughout the world and across the centuries.*



HEAR *the* WORD of GOD

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 37

- <sup>1</sup> Fret not yourself because of evildoers;  
    be not envious of wrongdoers!
- <sup>2</sup> For they will soon fade like the grass  
    and wither like the green herb.
- <sup>3</sup> Trust in the Lord, and do good;  
    dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.
- <sup>4</sup> Delight yourself in the Lord,  
    and he will give you the desires of your heart.
- <sup>5</sup> Commit your way to the Lord;  
    trust in him, and he will act.
- <sup>6</sup> He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,  
    and your justice as the noonday.
- <sup>7</sup> Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him;  
    fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way,  
    over the man who carries out evil devices!
- <sup>8</sup> Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath!  
    Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.
- <sup>9</sup> For the evildoers shall be cut off,  
    but those who wait for the Lord shall inherit the land.
- <sup>10</sup> In just a little while, the wicked will be no more;  
    though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there.
- <sup>11</sup> But the meek shall inherit the land  
    and delight themselves in abundant peace.
- <sup>12</sup> The wicked plots against the righteous  
    and gnashes his teeth at him,
- <sup>13</sup> but the Lord laughs at the wicked,  
    for he sees that his day is coming.

- <sup>14</sup> The wicked draw the sword and bend their bows  
to bring down the poor and needy,  
to slay those whose way is upright;
- <sup>15</sup> their sword shall enter their own heart,  
and their bows shall be broken.
- <sup>16</sup> Better is the little that the righteous has  
than the abundance of many wicked.
- <sup>17</sup> For the arms of the wicked shall be broken,  
but the Lord upholds the righteous.
- <sup>18</sup> The Lord knows the days of the blameless,  
and their heritage will remain forever;
- <sup>19</sup> they are not put to shame in evil times;  
in the days of famine they have abundance.
- <sup>20</sup> But the wicked will perish;  
the enemies of the Lord are like the glory of the pastures;  
they vanish—like smoke they vanish away.
- <sup>21</sup> The wicked borrows but does not pay back,  
but the righteous is generous and gives;
- <sup>22</sup> for those blessed by the Lord shall inherit the land,  
but those cursed by him shall be cut off.
- <sup>23</sup> The steps of a man are established by the Lord,  
when he delights in his way;
- <sup>24</sup> though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong,  
for the Lord upholds his hand.
- <sup>25</sup> I have been young, and now am old,  
yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken  
or his children begging for bread.
- <sup>26</sup> He is ever lending generously,  
and his children become a blessing.
- <sup>27</sup> Turn away from evil and do good;  
so shall you dwell forever.

- <sup>28</sup> For the Lord loves justice;  
    he will not forsake his saints.  
They are preserved forever,  
    but the children of the wicked shall be cut off.
- <sup>29</sup> The righteous shall inherit the land  
    and dwell upon it forever.
- <sup>30</sup> The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom,  
    and his tongue speaks justice.
- <sup>31</sup> The law of his God is in his heart;  
    his steps do not slip.
- <sup>32</sup> The wicked watches for the righteous  
    and seeks to put him to death.
- <sup>33</sup> The Lord will not abandon him to his power  
    or let him be condemned when he is brought to trial.
- <sup>34</sup> Wait for the Lord and keep his way,  
    and he will exalt you to inherit the land;  
    you will look on when the wicked are cut off.
- <sup>35</sup> I have seen a wicked, ruthless man,  
    spreading himself like a green laurel tree.
- <sup>36</sup> But he passed away, and behold, he was no more;  
    though I sought him, he could not be found.
- <sup>37</sup> Mark the blameless and behold the upright,  
    for there is a future for the man of peace.
- <sup>38</sup> But transgressors shall be altogether destroyed;  
    the future of the wicked shall be cut off.
- <sup>39</sup> The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord;  
    he is their stronghold in the time of trouble.
- <sup>40</sup> The Lord helps them and delivers them;  
    he delivers them from the wicked and saves them,  
    because they take refuge in him.

*After the Psalm, we respond:*

All men are like grass and all their glory is like the flowers of the field.

The grass withers and the flowers fall,

**but the word of our God stands forever!**

## EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 8.18-25

<sup>18</sup> For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup> For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. <sup>23</sup> And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup> For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

*After the lesson, we respond:*

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

*Waiting on the Inheritance*  
Chuck Colson

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## RESPOND *to* GOD

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### INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

*After our congregational supplications, we say the prayer our Savior has taught us.*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

*Tithes & Offerings may be deposited after the service in the offering box outside the sanctuary doors. Alternately, gifts can be made online at [www.christchurchpresjax.org](http://www.christchurchpresjax.org) or mailed to the church office.*

### OFFERTORY

#### ⊕ DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him all creatures here below;  
O praise him, alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son;  
And praise the Spirit three in one!  
O Praise him, O Praise him;  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Amen.**

# CELEBRATE *the* LORD'S SUPPER

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

## THANKSGIVING & PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Lift up your hearts!

**We lift them up to the Lord!**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

**It is right to give him thanks and praise!**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might! Heaven and earth are full of Your glory! Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!**

*Then, the pastor continues in prayer by giving thanks to God for our salvation in Jesus Christ and sets apart the bread and wine for the meal.*

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*Ushers will invite the congregation to come forward down the center aisle. Please take your place as a family unit on the designated floor markers. When the minister invites you, step up to the table to receive the bread and cup. Please consume at the table. A trash receptacle will be available as you return to your seat by the outside aisle.*

*All baptized Christians, who are seeking to walk in repentance and faith, are welcome to join us at the table. Children, who are not communing members of the church, are invited to come forward with their families for prayer.*

## HYMN

## *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

*Words: Moultrie*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,  
And with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly minded,  
For with blessing in his hand,  
Christ our God to earth, descendeth;  
Our full homage to demand.

King of kings yet born of Mary,  
As of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of lords in human vesture  
In the body and the blood,  
He will give to all the faithful;  
His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven,  
Spreads its vanguard on the way,  
As the Light of light descendeth  
From the realms of endless day,  
That the powers of hell may vanish,  
As the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph;  
Cherubim with sleepless eye,  
Veil their faces to the presence,  
As with ceaseless voice they cry,  
Alleluia, alleluia;  
Alleluia, Lord Most High!



## HYMN

### *Trinity Song*

*Words & Music: McCracken*

Holy Father, Son and Spirit  
Holy Communion, three-in-one

Come with your peace, with your invitation  
Bind us together in Holy Love

## HYMN

### *In Christ Alone*

*Words & Music: Getty & Townend*

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.  
'Til 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.

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;  
'Til he returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

⊕ HYMN

*At the Mountain of God*  
*Words: Colson & Zipf | Music: Zipf*

When the Lord comes down with the city of Zion,  
Our hearts will find comfort at last.  
We who've sown tears in grief will know laughter once again.  
All his people will shout Amen!

Chorus:

“Great things he has done!”, the redeemed will say.  
“Great things! Great things he has done!”  
We will come to the feast at the mountain of God, Hallelujah!  
He has done great things!

The rolling hills will dance, and the rivers will clap.  
The sea will roar when he bids death to pass.  
We will drink from the fountain of the everlasting God,  
And our thirst will be quenched! Amen!

There will be no need of the sun and moon to shine,  
For the glory of the Lord will give the light.  
The lame will stand and walk, the mute will raise their voice,  
And the blind will see his glorious sight!

## HYMN

*Gloria Patri: World without End*  
*Music: Colson & Zipf*

Glory be to the Father,  
And to the Son,  
And to the Holy Spirit,  
Our God, Three in One;  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end,  
Amen! Amen! Amen!  
World without end,  
Amen!

———— DEPART *in* PEACE ————

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BENEDICTION

## MINISTRY *of the* WEEK

### LOCAL

Brian Thomas serves students on the campus of the University of Florida with Reformed University Fellowship (RUF), which is the denominational college ministry of the PCA. His desire is for God's saving power to be known on the college campus and to raise up mature disciples of Jesus Christ.

### INTERNATIONAL

Juan José Cotto is planting Iglesia Comunción (PCA) in Caguas, Puerto Rico, in partnership with Trinity Church PCA and Iglesia La Travesía (PCA). Juan José has vast experience proclaiming God's word and ministering to the spiritual needs of people in Puerto Rico. He has also been trained under the leadership of Pastor Ronnie García, the first PCA pastor and church planter on the island. Their vision is to see a new generation of Latino men and women raised up and equipped with the gospel of grace in Jesus Christ.

## ITEMS *for* PRAYER

**HEALTH CONCERNS:** Branson Bishop; Barb Day (Cancer); Elizabeth Garnett; Gar Gurganious (Cancer); Hector (Dementia) & V'Elna Harima; Wayne Noble

**DEPLOYMENTS:** Jonathan Waddell (Abigail)







# STAFF *of* CHRIST CHURCH

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# ELDERS *of* CHRIST CHURCH

Carl Ashauer | Steve Beaver | Roger Bosma | Jim Dickenson | Jon Groh | Dave Lowe

David Ristau | Cannon Simpson



**CHRIST CHURCH**  
— PRESBYTERIAN —

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