

The Celtic Cross is an ancient Christian symbol. The cross proper recalls the death of Christ for the sins of his people, while the circle is a historic symbol of God's eternal nature. Jesus' name is at the center, depicted by the Greek letters "Ιης" and is surrounded by the vine and branches, representing our relationship to Him. At the bottom, CHRISTUS VICTOR, "Christ is Victorious," testifies to his triumph over sin and death on the cross. This Celtic cross is used by permission of Saint Paul's Presbyterian Church in Orlando, Florida. Each of the five panels represents a significant event in Christ's life.

Exalting Christ through Worship, Renewal, Community, and Partnership



HIS REIGN

The wounded lamb as Christ reclining on the book of seven seals is a historic symbol of the reigning Christ. The three-rayed nimbus is an ancient symbol of deity. (Revelation 5:9-12)

HIS RESURRECTION

Lilies traditionally represent the resurrection; the trumpet heralds Christ's certain and triumphal return. (1 Corinthians 15:54; Matthew 24:31; Luke 12:27)



HIS ATONEMENT

The crown of thorns and nails testify to Christ's sacrificial death on the cross. (Hebrews 2:17; John 19:2; 20:27)

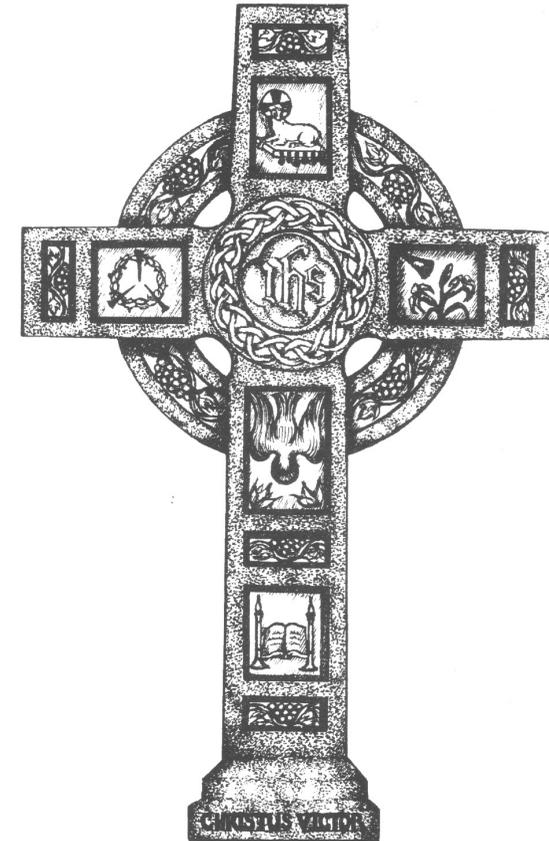
HIS BAPTISM

The dove and tongues of fire symbolically portray the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 3:10; Acts 2:3)



HIS INCARNATION

The open Bible is the Word of God. The double lighted candlesticks represent the dual nature of Christ—his deity and his humanity. (John 1:1-14)



CHRIST CHURCH VENTURA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire hope; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and yearn for home; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whoever will come; this church offers a genuine welcome in the name of the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

WHAT IS OUR MESSAGE?

The great good news is that God has taken it upon Himself to do something for us that we are powerless to do for ourselves. The Gospel is simply this: sinners are forgiven and accepted by God because of the work of Jesus Christ. Trust in Christ's finished work is not just the beginning of the Christian life, but the means and end as well. The Gospel is what must be applied more and more deeply in order to live as a Christian. The power of the Gospel is not merely about forgiveness and improvement, but renewal and wholeness.

A GOSPEL-SHAPED MINISTRY

- **The Gospel changes people** — Through the continual application of the Gospel we become more like Christ.
- **The Gospel produces joy** — Grace frees us from both condemnation and self-righteousness to enjoy God fully.
- **The Gospel defines community** — In union with Christ, we become God's sons and daughters—His new people.
- **The Gospel points outward** — Grace disengages approval seeking, engenders authenticity, and curbs pride.
- **The Gospel informs attitudes** — As Christians, we desire the peace and wellbeing of our communities and cities.
- **The Gospel removes barriers** — Reconciliation humbles us so that we may become agents to reconcile others.
- **The Gospel renews culture** — All of life matters to God and we are to pursue all vocations with excellence.
- **The Gospel builds momentum** — Church planting is the result of and the means to fulfilling the great commission.

WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

We embrace the **historic Christian faith** — believing the timeless truths held in common by the church in all ages and places. We wholeheartedly affirm the classic doctrines defined by the Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasian Creeds.

- **The Trinity** — There is only one God eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- **The Incarnation** — The person Jesus Christ is the only Son of God who is both fully God and fully human.
- **The Atonement** — Jesus died on a cross and was raised from the dead in order to redeem us from our sins.

We also embrace the **Reformed Christian faith** — believing the biblical teachings that were restated during the Protestant Reformation. This great renewal of the church in the 16th century has given us a common heritage in the classic "solas".

- **Scripture Alone** — The Bible is the one source of divine revelation and the only completely reliable guide for faith and life.
- **Christ Alone** — Salvation is accomplished by the substitutionary atonement of the historical and sinless Christ alone.
- **Grace Alone** — We are rescued from God's anger, freed from sin's bondage and lifted to new life by His grace alone.
- **Faith Alone** — Christ's righteousness is imputed to us as the only possible satisfaction of God's justice by faith alone.
- **God Alone** — The sole purpose of our creation and redemption is to enjoy God's presence and live for His glory.

**CHRIST CHURCH VENTURA IS A CONGREGATION
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

Alive by God's grace, we aim to know, love, and follow Jesus through historic worship, gospel renewal, genuine community, and global partnership to the end that God's people are gathered and Christ's Kingdom is extended throughout Ventura County and beyond.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Teaching Elder Roy R. Bennett (ojairoyb@gmail.com)
Ruling Elder David Sveiven (dsevend@yahoo.com)
Ruling Elder David Blank (cosmos.psa19@rocketmail.com)
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CONTACT INFORMATION

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WORSHIP LOCATION

Christ Church Ventura has resumed public worship services outside on the back lawn on Sundays at 1:30pm (196 North Ashwood Ave) Bring your family, friends, lawn chairs, blankets, play pens, snacks, etc. Christ Church Ventura continues to stream services live on YouTube.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NURSERY (Available for parents with young children)
MEN'S STUDY GROUP — The Book of Job, (Contact Brad Durant)
WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP — Westminster Shorter Catechism (Online)
Begins October 24th (Contact Rebecca Durant)
WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP — Meets online (Contact Karen Rivas)

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Order for the Celebration & Worship of God

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost: October 10, 2021, 1:30 pm

* Congregation standing

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Not of This World"
Petra © 1983

CALL TO WORSHIP

1 Peter 4:7-11 (ESV)

Minister: The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATORY

Minister: O Lord, open our lips.
People: And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.
Minister: Let us humble ourselves under God's mighty hand.
People: So that at the proper time he may exalt us,
Minister: Casting all our anxieties on him,
People: Because he cares for you.
Minister: Exalt the Lord our God and worship his holiness.
People: Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Unison: To him be glory and dominion forever. Amen.

* **HYMN OF PRAISE** (*Lyrics on page 2*)

"All Creatures of Our God and King"
2nd Chapter of Acts @ 1991

NOT OF THIS WORLD

We are pilgrims in a strange land
We are so far from our homeland
With each passing day it seems so clear
This world will never want us here
We're not welcome in this world of wrong
We are foreigners who don't belong
We are strangers, we are aliens
We are not of this world
We are envoys, we must tarry
With this message we must carry
There's so much to do before we leave
With so many more who may believe
Our mission here can never fail
And the gates of hell will not prevail
Jesus told us men would hate us
But we must be of good cheer
He has overcome this world of darkness
And soon we will depart from here

* PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Unison: *Almighty God, you have guaranteed to us your rich mercy and immeasurable goodness in this sacred communion. Grant the gracious assistance of your Holy Spirit to enable us to live in Christ Jesus as we have received him. So inhabit our affections that our manner of life may adorn the gospel and that no man may take our joy, confidence, and hope. Send us with your salvation and joy into all the world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

* BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26 (ESV)

Minister: "The LORD bless you and keep you;
The LORD make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you;
The LORD lift up the light of his countenance
and give you peace."

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the risen Lord Jesus!

People: *Thanks be to God!*

POSTLUDE

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"
Selah ©1998

DID CHRIST OVER SINNERS WEEP?

Did Christ over sinners weep
And shall our cheeks be dry
Let floods of penitential grief
Burst forth from every eye
Burst forth from every eye

Chorus Behold the Son of God in tears
The angels wondering see
Hast thou no wonder, O my soul
He shed those tears for thee

He wept that we might weep,
Might weep over sin and shame
He wept to show his love for us
And bid us love the same
And bid us love the same

Chorus

Then tender be our hearts
Our eyes in sorrow dim
Til every tear from every eye
Be wiped away by him
Be wiped away by him
Be wiped away by him

Chorus

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam!
O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heavn along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!

Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice!
O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their creator bless,
And worship him in humbleness.
The whole the earth is full of his glory.
The whole the earth is full of his glory.
The whole the earth is full of his glory.
Holy is the Lord!

And all ye men of tender heart,
Forgiving others take your part.
O sing out! Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit three in one.
O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*** PRAYER OF ADORATION**

Unison: *Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and that we may continually be given to good works through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Westminster Confession XVI.4-7

Minister: What do we believe concerning good works?

Unison: *They who, in their obedience, attain to the greatest height which is possible in this life, are so far from being able to supererogate, and to do more than God requires, as that they fall short of much which in duty they are bound to do.*

We cannot by our best works merit pardon of sin, or eternal life at the hand of God, by reason of the great disproportion that is between them and the glory to come; and the infinite distance that is between us and God, whom, by them, we can neither profit, nor satisfy for the debt of our former sins, but when we have done all we can, we have done but our duty, and are unprofitable servants: and because, as they are good, they proceed from His Spirit; and as they are wrought by us, they are defiled, and mixed with so much weakness and imperfection, that they cannot endure the severity of God's judgment.

Notwithstanding, the persons of believers being accepted through Christ, their good works also are accepted in Him; not as though they were in this life wholly unblameable and unreproveable in God's sight; but that He, looking upon them in His Son, is pleased to accept and reward that which is sincere, although accompanied with many weaknesses and imperfections.

JERUSALEM, HEAVENLY HOME

Chorus Jerusalem, heavenly home, city of truth and grace
Oh when shall we come to thee, city of sweet embrace

There shall the curse no more be known
And we no more complain
There God is seen upon his throne
And there the lamb shall reign

Chorus

We shall behold the savior's face
And all his glories see
And love in every feature trace
How sweet the sight shall be

Chorus

His perfect likeness we shall wear
With all his image blessed
His name upon our foreheads bear
Indelibly impressed

Chorus 2X

Bridge 3X Oh when shall we come to thee
Jerusalem, Jerusalem

Chorus

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29

Minister: "Jesus is God's Lamb, who takes away the world's sin!"
People: *Have mercy on us, O Lord and grant us your peace.*

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Minister: Christ our Passover, sacrificed for us.
People: *Therefore, let us keep the feast!*
Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God.
People: *Thanks be to the Lord!*

* Regarding participation the Lord's Supper

- *Those who have publicly professed faith in Jesus Christ, have been baptized, and are committed to a Gospel proclaiming church, are welcome to celebrate in the Lord's Supper with us. If these particular facts do not describe you, we respectfully ask you to refrain from participating in the sacrament.*
- *Please come forward to receive the sacrament at the table. You are encouraged to repent, rest, and rejoice in the finished work of Christ as the Lord's Supper is observed. The consecrated bread and wine are served in separate cups. After you have partaken, please dispose of empty cups in the white collection containers at the table.*

COMMUNION MUSIC

(Lyrics on page 13)

"Jerusalem, Heavenly Home"
Jeremy Casella © 2015

(Lyrics on Page 14)

"Did Christ Over Sinners Weep"
Matthew Smith © 2012

Works done by unregenerate men, although for the matter of them they may be things which God commands; and of good use both to themselves and others: yet, because they proceed not from an heart purified by faith; nor are done in a right manner according to the Word; nor to a right end, the glory of God, they are therefore sinful, and cannot please God, or make a man meet to receive grace from God: and yet, their neglect of them is more sinful and displeasing unto God.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Proverbs 1:1-19 (ESV)

- 1 The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel:
- 2 To know wisdom and instruction,
to understand words of insight,
- 3 to receive instruction in wise dealing,
in righteousness, justice, and equity;
- 4 to give prudence to the simple,
knowledge and discretion to the youth—
- 5 Let the wise hear and increase in learning,
and the one who understands obtain guidance,
- 6 to understand a proverb and a saying,
the words of the wise and their riddles.
- 7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge;
fools despise wisdom and instruction.
- 8 Hear, my son, your father's instruction,
and forsake not your mother's teaching,
- 9 for they are a graceful garland for your head
and pendants for your neck.
- 10 My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent.
- 11 If they say, "Come with us, let us lie in wait for blood;
let us ambush the innocent without reason;
- 12 like Sheol let us swallow them alive,
and whole, like those who go down to the pit;
- 13 we shall find all precious goods,
we shall fill our houses with plunder;

14 throw in your lot among us; we will all have one purse"—
15 my son, do not walk in the way with them;
hold back your foot from their paths,
16 for their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed blood.
17 For in vain is a net spread in the sight of any bird,
18 but these men lie in wait for their own blood;
they set an ambush for their own lives.
19 Such are the ways of everyone who is greedy for unjust gain;
it takes away the life of its possessors.

Minister: The Word of the Lord!

People: *Thanks be to God!*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(The congregation is encouraged to participate both verbally and in silence.)

Unison: *O God, light of the minds that know you, life of the souls that love you, and strength of the hearts that seek you, and in whom to abide is to stand fast forever; you have promised to hear what we ask in the name of your Son: accept and fulfill our petitions, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Minister: We pray for the Church of Jesus Christ that we may become a repentant people marked by grace, truth and joy.

People: *Hear our prayer, O Lord.*

Minister: We pray for all who suffer tribulation that you would extend your fatherly affection and they would find refreshment for their souls and healing for their bodies.

People: *Hear our prayer, O Lord.*

Minister: We pray for inspiration in our several callings to do the work you have given us to do with singleness of heart as your servants, and for the common good.

People: *Hear our prayer, O Lord.*

THE SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Psalm 118:26 (ESV)

Minister: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!"

People: *"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
We bless you from the house of the Lord."*

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (ESV)

Minister: "For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

Minister: Therefore, we proclaim the faith!

Unison: *Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.*

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Unison: *We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy; grant us therefore, gracious Lord, that we may so partake of this bread and wine that our sinful bodies may be made clean by Christ's body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.*

* DEDICATION

CONFESSION OF SIN

Unison: *Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us away from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

1 John 3:1-3 (ESV)

Minister: "See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure."

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Minister: The Lord be with you!

People: *And also with you!*

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

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

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord!

People: *It is good and right so to do.*

Minister: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, that we should always give you thanks, O Lord; therefore, with the angels, we exalt and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you.

Minister: We pray for the multitudes of those who do not know Christ's redeeming grace, that they may come to know and worship you as you have been revealed in your Son.

People: *Hear our prayer, O Lord.*

Minister: We pray that you will increase in our hearts true faith and grant us grace to be ever mindful of the merits of Christ, that we may live in great gladness and freedom.

People: *Hear our prayer, O Lord.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13 (ESV)

*Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be thy 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.*

* **HYMN OF TRUST** (*Lyrics on page 8*) "Crown Him with Many Crowns
Keith and Kristyn Getty © 2018

PSALTER LESSON

Psalms 5:1-12 (ESV)

To the choirmaster: for the flutes. A Psalm of David.

- 1 Give ear to my words, O Lord;
consider my groaning.
- 2 Give attention to the sound of my cry,
my King and my God,
for to you do I pray.
- 3 O Lord, in the morning you hear my voice;
in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch.
- 4 For you are not a God who delights in wickedness;
evil may not dwell with you.
- 5 The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers.

CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon the throne.

Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own

Awake, my soul and sing of him who died for thee

And hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity

Crown him the Son of God, before the worlds began,

And ye who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of Man

Who every grief hath known that wrings the human breast

And takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed over the grave

And rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save

His glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high

Who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die

Crown him the lord of heaven enthroned in worlds above

Crown him the king to whom is given the wondrous name of Love

Crown him with many crowns as thrones before him fall

Crown him ye kings with many crowns for he is king of all

- 6 You destroy those who speak lies;
the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.
- 7 But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love,
will enter your house.
I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you.
- 8 Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness
because of my enemies; make your way straight before me.
- 9 For there is no truth in their mouth; their inmost self is destruction;
their throat is an open grave; they flatter with their tongue.
- 10 Make them bear their guilt, O God;
let them fall by their own counsels;
because of the abundance of their transgressions cast them out,
for they have rebelled against you.
- 11 But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy,
and spread your protection over them,
that those who love your name may exult in you.
- 12 For you bless the righteous, O Lord;
you cover him with favor as with a shield.

Minister: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Reverend Roy R. Bennett

"A Morning Perspective on Life"

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY

"Not Blind in Heaven"
(Ed Gerhardt 2006)

* DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen