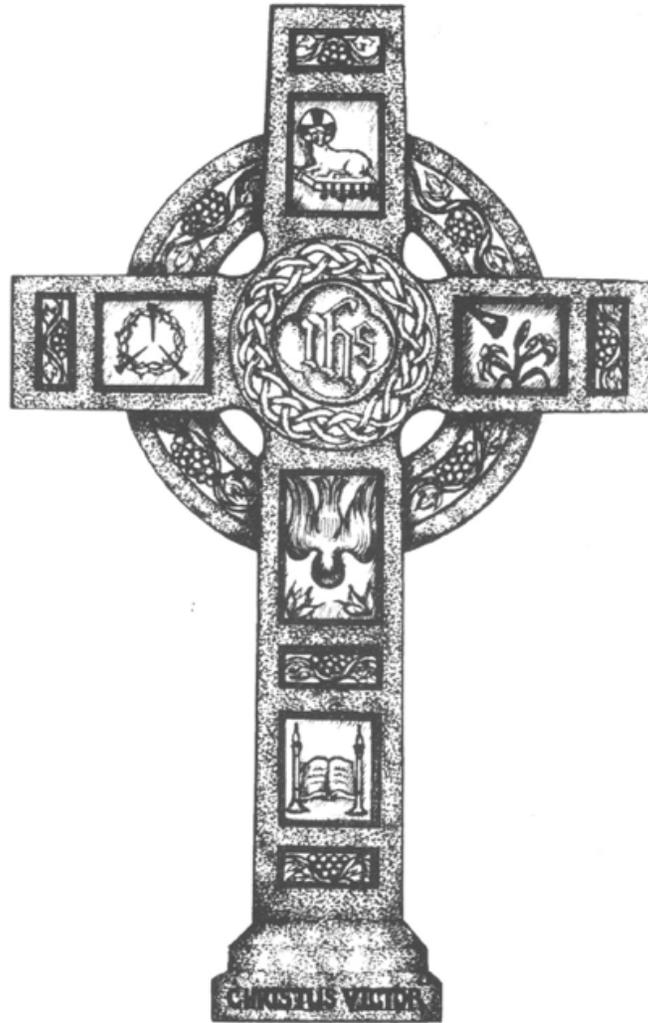


***Exalting Christ through Worship,
Renewal, Community, and Partnership***



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.

Order for the Celebration and Worship of God

Fifth Sunday of Easter; May 15, 2022 1:30pm

* Congregation standing

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE (*Lyrics on Page 2*)

"Come, People of the Risen King"
Keith and Kristen Getty © 2009

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 31:1 (ESV)

Minister: In you, O Lord, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me! Incline your ear to me.

INVITATORY

Minister: Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily!

People: *Be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me!*

Minister: For you are my rock and my fortress.

People: *For your name's sake you lead and guide me. You take me out of the net hidden for me.*

Minister: You are my refuge; I commit my spirit to you.

People: *I will be glad in your steadfast love, for you have seen my affliction and known my soul's distress.*

Minister: O Lord, faithful God, you have redeemed me!

* **HYMN OF PRAISE** (*Lyrics on page 3*)

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"
Steve Ivey © 2008

* PRAYER OF ADORATION

Unison: *Almighty God, to truly know you is everlasting life. Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

COME PEOPLE OF THE RISEN KING

VERSE 1 Come, people of the risen King
 Who delight to bring Him praise
 Come all and tune your hearts to sing
 To the morning star of grace

 From the shifting shadows of the earth
 We will lift our eyes to Him
 Where steady arms of mercy reach
 To gather children in

CHORUS Rejoice, rejoice, let every tongue rejoice
 One heart one voice, oh, church of Christ rejoice

VERSE 2 Come those whose joy is morning sun
 And those weeping through the night
 Come those who tell of battles won
 And those struggling in the fight

 For His perfect love will never change
 And His mercies never cease
 But follow us through all our days
 With the certain hope of peace

CHORUS

VERSE 3 Come, young and old from every land
 Men and women of the faith
 Come those with full or empty hands
 Find the riches of His grace

 Over all the world His people sing
 Shore to shore we hear them call
 The truth that cries through every age
 Our God is all in all

CHORUS x2

CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS

Crown him with many crowns
The Lamb upon his 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 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 love
Behold his hands and side
Those wounds yet visible above
In beauty glorified
All hail Redeemer, hail
For thou has died for me

Thy praise and glory shall not fail through all eternity
Thy praise and glory shall not fail through all eternity

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Westminster Confession of Faith I.8-10

Unison: The Old Testament in Hebrew (the native language of the ancient people of God), and the New Testament in Greek (the language most widely known at the time of the writing), were directly inspired by God and have been kept pure in all ages by His singular care and providence. They are therefore authentic and are to be the church's ultimate source of appeal in all controversies of religion.

The original languages of the Bible, however, are not understood by all the people of God. But all of God's people have a right to and an interest in the Scriptures, and are commanded to read and search them thoroughly with reverence for God. Consequently the Bible should be translated into the native language of every people to whom it is introduced. Then, the Word of God will dwell fully in all, everyone will be able to worship God in an acceptable manner; and all believers may have hope through patience and comfort of the Scriptures.

The infallible rule of interpretation of Scripture is the Scripture itself and therefore, when there is a question about the true and full sense of any Scripture (which is a united whole), it must be searched and known by other places that speak more clearly.

The supreme judge by which all controversies of religion are to be determined, and all decrees of councils, opinions of ancient writers, doctrines of men, and private spirits, are to be examined, and in whose sentence we are to rest, can be no other but the Holy Spirit speaking in the Scripture.

● **NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**

John 1:43-51 (ESV)

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

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 of unchanging power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church and by the providential and effectual working of your Holy Spirit, carry out the plan of salvation. Let the whole world see and know that things which were dead are being made alive, things which were cast down are being raised up, things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by Him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Minister: O Creator God, we humbly ask that you would be pleased to make your ways known to people of every description and bring your saving grace to all nations. We especially pray for your Church that it may be guided by your good and Holy Spirit.

People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Minister: O Everlasting Lord, we pray for all who profess faith in Christ that they may be led continually in the way of truth, and hold the apostolic faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life.

People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Minister: O Heavenly Father, we commend to your goodness and care all those who are in any affliction or distress, in mind, body, or circumstance. We ask that it may please you to comfort and relieve them according to their need, giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy result out of all their troubles.

People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Minister: O Gracious God, in the course of this busy life, give us times of refreshment and peace. Grant that we may so use our leisure to rebuild our bodies and renew our minds, that our spirits may be nurtured by the goodness of your creation.

People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Minister: O Sovereign King, as we anticipate your promised return to restore all things and to reign over the new heavens and earth, fill us with awe and joy to worship you and stir our souls with compassion for those who are lost and enslaved by sin.

People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13 (ESV)

*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 also 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 GRACE** (Lyrics on pg. 8) "The Church's One Foundation"
Indelible Grace © 2008

- **OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** Genesis 28:10-22 (ESV)

¹⁰ Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹ And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. ¹² And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! ¹³ And behold, the Lord stood above it and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. ¹⁴ Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed. ¹⁵ Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶ Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it." ¹⁷ And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

¹⁸ So early in the morning Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹ He called the name of that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first. ²⁰ Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, ²¹ so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the Lord shall be my God, ²² and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house. And of all that you give me I will give a full tenth to you."

Minister: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

People: Thanks be to the Lord!

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

*The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord
She is his new creation by water and the word
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride
With his own blood he bought her and for her life he died*

*Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth
Her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food
And to one hope she presses with every grace endued*

*Mid toil and tribulation and tumult of her war
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore
Til with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blessed
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest*

*Yet she on earth hath union with God the three in one
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell
That we will dwell, that we will dwell with thee*

*** PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

SERMON

Reverend Johnathan B. Keenan
"Hope of Heaven's Gate"

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"
Ed Gerhard ©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.

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

TABLE ADMINISTRATION

- *Believers who have publicly professed faith in Jesus Christ, have been baptized, and are members in good standing of an Evangelical 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.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

Unison: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

1 John 1:10—2:2 (ESV)

Minister: “If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives. My dear children, I write this that you may not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.”

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.

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

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.*

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!*

COMMUNION MUSIC

(Lyrics on Page 12) "Come to the Table" Michael Card © 1994

(Lyrics on Page 13) "What Wondrous Love Is This" Ortega © 2005

Regarding participation in the Lord's Supper

- *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.*

COME TO THE TABLE

*VERSE 1 Come to the table and savor the sight
 The wine and the bread that was broken
And all have been welcomed to come if they might
 Accept as their own these two tokens
 The bread is His body, the wine is the blood
 And the one who provides them is true
 He freely offers, we freely receive
 To accept and believe Him is all we must do*

*CHORUS Come to the table and taste of the glory
 And savor the sorrow, He's dying tomorrow
The hand that is breaking the bread, soon will be broken
 And here at the table, sit those who have loved him
 One is a traitor and one will deny
Though He's lived his life for them all and for all be crucified
 Come to the table He's prepared for you
 The bread of forgiveness, the wine of release
 Come to the table and sit down beside him
 The Savior wants you to join in the feast*

*VERSE 2 Come to the table and see in his eyes
 The love that the Father has spoken
And know you are welcome, whatever your crime
 Though every commandment you've broken
 For He's come to love you and not to condemn
 And He offers a pardon of peace
If you'll come to the table, you'll feel in your heart
 The greatest forgiveness, the greatest release*

CHORUS

*REPEAT x2. Come to the table He's prepared for you
 The bread of forgiveness, the wine of release
 Come to the table and sit down beside Him
 The Savior wants you to join in the feast*

WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul
What wondrous love is this, O my soul
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing
While millions join the theme, I will sing

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be
And through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on
And through eternity, I'll sing on

*** PRAYER OF COMMITMENT**

Unison: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior, Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with your Word and by your Spirit. We give you thanks and rejoice in the gospel of our salvation. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through 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 his countenance upon you
and give you peace."

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

People: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

"Jerusalem"

Phil Keaggy © 2002

THE CHURCH MUST UPHOLD CHRISTIAN STANDARDS

The Christian concept of discipline regards the nurture, instruction, and training procedures that disciple-making requires. Reformed theology highlights the importance of church discipline, insisting that there is no spiritual health without it and that it is a vital mark of a true church. Only where the personal disciplines of learning and devotion, worship and fellowship, righteousness and service are being steadily taught in a context of care and accountability is there a meaningful place for judicial correctives. The New Testament clearly shows, however, that in that context judicial correctives have a significant place in the maturing of churches and individuals

Jesus instituted church discipline by authorizing the apostles to declare sins remitted or retained. The “keys of the kingdom,” first given to Peter and defined as power to bind and loose have usually been understood as authority to formulate doctrine and impose discipline, an authority now given by Christ to the church in general and to commissioned pastors in particular.

Church censures may have to escalate from bare admonition through exclusion from the Lord’s Supper to expulsion from the congregation (excommunication), which is described as handing a person over to Satan, the prince of this world (Matt. 18:15–17; 1 Cor. 5:1–5, 11; 1 Tim. 1:20; Titus 3:10–11). Public sins (i.e., those that are open to the whole church’s view) should be publicly corrected in the church’s presence (1 Tim. 5:20; cf. Gal. 2:11–14). Jesus teaches a procedure for dealing privately with those who have given personal offense, in hope that it will not be necessary to ask for the church’s public censure of them (Matt. 18:15–17).

The purpose of church censure in all its forms is not to punish for punishment’s sake but to call forth repentance and so recover the straying sheep. Ultimately there is only one sin for which a church member is excommunicated—impenitence. When repentance is apparent, the church is to declare the sin remitted and receive the offender into fellowship once again.

J. I. Packer, *Concise Theology*

**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)
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www.christchurchventura.org***

WORSHIP LOCATION

***Christ Church Ventura meets in person for public worship
On Sundays at 1:30pm (196 North Ashwood Avenue)
Christ Church Ventura also livestreams worship services on YouTube***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Children's Education (ages 2-18) – Class dismissed indefinitely
Men's Study Group – Online class (Contact David Blank)
Women's Study Group – Online class (Contact Rebecca Durant)***

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