



Together In Christ
By His Grace
For His Glory

March 22, 2026
10:30 AM Sunday Mornings

Words of Reflection

“We should ask God to increase our hope when it is small, awaken it when it is dormant, confirm it when it is wavering, strengthen it when it is weak, and raise it up when it is overthrown.”

John Calvin

Order of Worship

The story of redemption unfolded in the different elements of our worship service every Lord's Day.

Welcome/Invocation

We ask God's Spirit to make the presence and promises of God real to us.

Call to Worship

God invites and calls us into His presence to worship Him. He enters our busy lives to speak to us.

Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens! Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness! Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD! Psalm 150:1-2, 6

Song of Praise

We sing praises to God and proclaim His glory for what He has done for us through the ministry and work of Jesus Christ. Singing helps us feel the reality of God, connect with Him, and express His truth.

Come Thou Fount

Come Thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.

Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of Thy Redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by Thy Great help I come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

Oh, that day when free from sinning,
I shall see thy loving faith;
Clothed in the blood washed linen,
How I see Thy Wondrous Grace.

Come my Lord, no longer tarry,
Take my Ransomed soul away;
Send Thy angels out to carry,
Me to realms of endless days.

O to grace how great a debtor,
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Her's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Traditional Song, "Come Thou Fount"
Words: Robert Robinson, 1758
Melody: John Wyeth
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Corporate Confession of Sin

God cleanses us and restores us through Jesus' death and resurrection. We willingly acknowledge our sin openly to God, considering God's grace that is ours in Jesus Christ.

Our Father in Heaven, we thank You that You rule and reign over all things, and we praise You for Your promise to be good to Your people. And yet, Lord, we confess that often we don't believe that to be true. We acknowledge that we doubt Your goodness and love, especially in times of suffering. We pray that You would forgive us for our unbelief through the death and resurrection of Your Son and enable us by Your Spirit to trust Your promise and Your providence. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Silent Personal Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:1-2

Intercessory Prayer

We lift up our requests to God knowing that He hears us when we pray. The Lord's prayer is our model.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we also forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Confession of Faith (Second through Fifth Sundays of the Month)

We join the church in history by confessing the basic statements of what Christians believe.

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty

Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,

begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation

came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered, died and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets.

And we believe in the one holy catholic and apostolic church;

we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Song of Response

We respond with thanksgiving and praise for God's redemptive work through Jesus Christ.

Jesus, I Come

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,

Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Into Thy freedom, gladness and light,

Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my sickness into Thy health,

Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,

Out of my sin and into Thyself,

Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm,
Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy blessed will to abide,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love,
Out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the joy and light of Thy home,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold,
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
Ever Thy glorious face to behold,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Words: William True Sleeper; Music: Greg Thompson
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Family Time

We celebrate how God is working in and through us in our families, community, and world.

The Reading of God's Word

God speaks to us primarily by His Word through the power of the Holy Spirit.

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:35-39

Preaching God's Word

The truth of God's Word is explained and proclaimed so that we can respond, delight in it, and seek to be more fully shaped into God's image.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper (Celebrated the First Sunday of Every Month)

The Lord's Supper is not a meal for good people. It's a meal for desperate people who trust in Jesus alone for salvation, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength and grace to live more faithfully with Jesus. Those who receive the Lord's Supper in the right way share in His body and blood with all His benefits, not physically but by faith, and become spiritually stronger and grow in grace.

The Offering

Generosity and stewardship are two of the ways that we respond to God's Word and grace. We invest in God's Kingdom as a step of faith, trusting that He will supply all of our needs. You are also invited to give to Christ Church online through your "Church Center" application or at <https://christchurchsanford.churchcenter.com>. Feel free to use our offering box in the foyer for direct giving on Sunday mornings.

Departing Song of Worship

God blesses us and sends us out to be a part of His mission to Lee County, surrounding areas, and the World.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died
My richest gain I count but a loss
And pour contempt on all my pride

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them through his blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet
Sorrow and love flow mingled down
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown

Were the whole realm of nature mine
That were an offering far too small
Love so amazing, so divine
Demands my soul, my life, my all

Traditional Songs, "When I Survey The Wondrous Cross"
Author: Isaac Watts, 1707
CCLI License #21733601

Announcements

Our announcements remind us of ways that we can connect and support one another as we go.

The Benediction

The people of God are sent out into the world to love God and love others where we live, work, and play.

²⁴ Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, ²⁵ to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen. Jude 24-25

The Sending and Doxology

We close our service with the Doxology, which means “*glory words.*”, a short hymn of praise to God, as we are sent out.

“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.”

Sermon Notes
Live by the Spirit
More than Conquerors

Romans 8:35-39

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

For I am sure...we will face lots of challenges

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

For I am sure...I have a new identity in Christ

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

For I am sure...God's love overcomes all challenges

³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Conclusion:

For I am sure...there is no condemnation...not now...not ever

For I am sure...there is no separation...not now...not ever

Announcements

Our announcements remind us of ways that we can connect with and support one another as we go.

Easter Potluck March 29th---Plan on sticking around after worship for a family meal and a fun Easter Egg Hunt for the little ones with a gospel presentation through the Resurrection Eggs. If you are a parent of small children, bring 12 plastic eggs filled with goodies to share. All of us need to bring a fun side or dessert. The church will provide additional plastic eggs, protein, drinks, and paper products.

Office Elections--- Please make it a priority to be present for our officer election and installation services. Save the Dates: Officer elections are May 31st. The officer installations are June 7th. Questions: See Ralph.

Leadership Training---Note: Add May 3rd to catch up on the snow day! Please pray for our ongoing leadership training this winter and spring. We are asking God for 5-7 new officers by our June 7th installation service. Here are the dates: tonight, 4/12, 4/26, and May 3rd. All meetings are from 4:00-6:00 PM.

Men's & Women's Bible Studies---First and Third Weeks Each Month. Women meet on Thursday nights at Delancy's house. Men will continue to meet on Friday mornings at Family Grounds from 7:00-8:30 am.

LIFE Groups---Second and Fourth Weeks Each Month. Dinner, short Bible study, and prayer.

- Bostrom/Auler Group meets at 6:00 on Tuesday every other week in various homes.
- Delancy/Thomas Group meets at 6:30 on Thursdays every other week at Randy & Lauren's house.
- Questions: See your Church Center App or call Melanie at 910-366-4452.

Anchor Student Ministry---Middle and High School students meet the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 7:00-8:30 PM at Thomas's house. Our time together will include fun games, Bible study, prayer, and snacks. For questions, call Kate Blackburn at 919-530-9270.

Church Wide Prayer---We will meet for prayer at 10:00 AM every Sunday morning before church. Feel free to join us! All are invited.

Church Center App---To access more information about Christ Church, view calendar/events, announcements, giving, join groups, volunteer sign-ups, directory, etc. please scan the Church Center QR code at the information table. Questions about the Church Center App or Webpage please contact Melanie (910)366-4452.

For bulletin updates, please contact Melanie Lasley at melanie.lasley@me.com or 910-366-4452.

For more information about Christ Church Sanford: Check out our webpage at www.christchurchsanfordpca.com. Contact Ralph Johnston at rwjtarheel@gmail.com or 770-530-2714.

Last Week's Attendance: 49---Last Month's Giving: \$10,237, Year to Date: \$19,597.00

Children in Worship

¹³ Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, ¹⁴ but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 19:13-14

We value worship.

We value worshipping as a whole family together.

We value worship in the context of a community of families known as the local church.

We believe in additional training and discipleship for our children which begins in the home and is supplemented by the church through special events, Sunday School, and children's membership.

Feel free to utilize our nursery (0-3) until your children are ready and able to sit quietly in the worship service.

For those of us who have small children, how can we include our children in worship while respecting others who may or may not have children?

7 Steps to help your children worship well on Sundays.

1. Train and teach your children about the value of worship and clarify your expectations for them ahead of time. Saturday evenings are a great time to rehearse these values and get prepared as a family.
2. Arrive early enough to get bathroom and snack breaks out of the way before worship begins.
3. We ask that kids arrive on Sunday mornings with an attitude of worship. We want them to connect with their friends, but we ask that they be respectful in anticipation of the beginning of the worship service.
4. Please escort younger children when using the bathrooms for the safety and security of our kids.
5. We know that sometimes children need to wiggle and cry. If your child becomes distracting for others, please use the nursery or front foyer as a way for you to continue to enjoy and care for your child while being respectful of others as they worship.
6. We are grateful that God has given us a wonderful facility. We encourage our kids to run, jump, and play, but we ask that they be respectful of others and the building. Children need to stay in the area around the worship space and should not wander the halls at any time. Parents, please enjoy great conversation and a second cup of coffee while keeping an eye on your kids.
7. We value honest and open communication, and this is a wonderful area of community where we can work together as families and love one another. If you have any questions or concerns, let's apply Matthew 18:15-17, the Peacemakers Pledge, and feel free to contact Ralph at any time.