

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

APRIL 26, 2020

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 84.1-4

Minister: How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD Almighty! My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young – a place near your altar, O LORD Almighty, my King and my God. Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.

HYMN

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

Come, Christians, join to sing Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
Praise is his gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!
He is our Guide and Friend; to us he'll condescend;
His love shall never end. Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore, his goodness we'll adore,
Singing forevermore, "Alleluia! Amen!"

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CONFESSION OF FAITH

adapted from Westminster Shorter Catechism, Questions 27-28

Minister: How was Christ humiliated?

All: Christ was humiliated by being born as a man into poverty; by being made subject to the law and suffering the miseries of this life, the anger of God, and the curse of death on the cross; and by being buried and remaining under the power of death for a time.

Minister: How is Christ exalted?

All: Christ is exalted by His rising from the dead on the third day, His going up into heaven, His sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and His coming to judge the world at the Last Day.

SONG OF PRAISE

From the Squalor of a Borrowed Stable

IMMANUEL

From the squalor of a borrowed stable, by the Spirit and a virgin's faith;
To the anguish and the shame of scandal came the Savior of the human race!
But the skies were filled with the praise of heav'n, shepherds listen as the angels tell
Of the Gift of God come down to man at the dawning of Immanuel.

King of heaven now the Friend of sinners, humble servant in the Father's hands,
Filled with power and the Holy Spirit, filled with mercy for the broken man.
Yes, He walked my road and He felt my pain, joys and sorrows that I know so well;
Yet His righteous steps give me hope again—I will follow my Immanuel!

Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal, He was lifted on a cruel cross;
He was punished for a world's transgressions, He was suffering to save the lost.
He fights for breath, He fights for me, loosing sinners from the claims of hell;
And with a shout our souls set free—death defeated by Immanuel!

Now He's standing in the place of honor, crowned with glory on the highest throne,
Interceding for His own beloved till His Father calls to bring them home!
Then the skies will part as the trumpet sounds hope of heaven or the fear of hell;
But the Bride will run to her Lover's arms, giving glory to Immanuel!

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

adapted from Prone to Wander: Prayers of Confession and Celebration

Minister: Let us confess our sins before our righteous and holy God.

All: Heavenly Father, we thank you for the wisdom through which you made this world. You order our personal lives by that same wisdom, bringing into them exactly the right combination of joys and sorrows, trials and blessings, to shape us after the image of your beloved Son. Father, we confess that often we grumble about your providence and the circumstances of our lives. Forgive us, we pray. We thank you for Jesus, who is the wisdom of God. Show us how true wisdom always leads us back to the cross, on to obedience, and upward toward our heavenly home. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Romans 5:1

Hear the promises of God to those who truly repent of their sins and trust in Christ: Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Ruling Elder, Mr. Jeff Crow

HYMN

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

ST COLUMBA

The King of love my Shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.

And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 1.1-11

¹ In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ² until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

⁴ And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." ⁹ And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹ and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

SERMON

Addition by Subtraction

Rev. Nate Libby

BENEDICTION

Minister: May the blessing of God Almighty, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, be with you all now and forever.

Jenna Smith, voice
Marco Jerez, flute