

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

DECEMBER 5, 2021

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP*

2 Samuel 7:12-13; Luke 1.31-33

Minister: "When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever."

All: "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION*

HYMNS*

Joy to the World | No. 195
Stanzas 1, 3 and 4

ANTIOCH

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates! | No. 198
Stanzas 1, 2, and 6

TRURO

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!
Behold, the King of glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near,
The Savior of the world is here.

A helper just he comes to thee,
His chariot is humility,
His kingly crown is holiness,
His scepter, pity in distress.

So come, my Sovereign, enter in!
Let new and nobler life begin!
Thy Holy Spirit, guide us on,
Until the glorious crown be won.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

a responsive reading from Philippians 2

Minister: Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

All: Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

Minister: And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death -- even death on a cross!

All: Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

SONG OF PRAISE

Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor | No. 230 QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGREABLE
Stanzas 1-3

Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becomest poor;
Thrones for a manger didst surrender, sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becomest poor.

Thou who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becomest man;
Stooping so low, but sinners raising, heav'n-ward by thine eternal plan.
Thou who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becomest man.

Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship thee.
Emmanuel, within us dwelling, make us what thou wouldst have us be.
Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship thee.

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

adapted from Streams of Mercy: Prayers of Confession and Celebration

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

All: Heavenly Father, this morning we confess that our hearts are full of darkness, blinded by self-love. We are a people often consumed with jealousy and anger toward our brothers and sisters, sinning against them in our hearts. We also frequently sin against you, dear Lord, in thought, word and deed. Forgive us, we pray. We thank you that amidst the darkness of our hearts we see a great Light. We see Jesus who entered the darkness of the Father's wrath so that our sins would be forgiven. Lord, help us to walk as children of light who have been rescued from the grip of darkness. Help us to become people who want to obey because of Jesus. In his matchless name, we pray. Amen.

PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Ephesians 1:7, Romans 4:7

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace. Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

NEW MEMBER VOWS

Misty and Scott Birdsong;
George and Grant
Joe Coker
Brady Moore
Emily and Theo Muschany

Carol and Dave Redfield
Aubrey Smith
Kora Smith
Wendell Smith

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Children's Time

After the intercessory prayer, children in kindergarten through 3rd grade and their teachers may exit the sanctuary through the north doors of the sanctuary. Teachers will return with the children after the sermon. Parents may meet them by the north entrance, or children may join their parents at their seats.

SCRIPTURE READING*

Isaiah 8.5-22

⁵The LORD spoke to me again: ⁶“Because this people has refused the waters of Shiloah that flow gently, and rejoice over Rezin and the son of Remaliah, ⁷therefore, behold, the Lord is bringing up against them the waters of the River, mighty and many, the king of Assyria and all his glory. And it will rise over all its channels and go over all its banks, ⁸and it will sweep on into Judah, it will overflow and pass on, reaching even to the neck, and its outspread wings will fill the breadth of your land, O Immanuel.”

⁹Be broken, you peoples, and be shattered;
give ear, all you far countries;
strap on your armor and be shattered;
strap on your armor and be shattered.

¹⁰Take counsel together, but it will come to nothing;
speak a word, but it will not stand,
for God is with us.

¹¹For the LORD spoke thus to me with his strong hand upon me, and warned me not to walk in the way of this people, saying: ¹²“Do not call conspiracy all that this people calls conspiracy, and do not fear what they fear, nor be in dread. ¹³But the LORD of hosts, him you shall honor as holy. Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. ¹⁴And he will become a sanctuary and a stone of offense and a rock of stumbling to both houses of Israel, a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. ¹⁵And many shall stumble on it. They shall fall and be broken; they shall be snared and taken.”

¹⁶Bind up the testimony; seal the teaching among my disciples. ¹⁷I will wait for the LORD, who is hiding his face from the house of Jacob, and I will hope in him.

¹⁸Behold, I and the children whom the LORD has given me are signs and portents in Israel from the LORD of hosts, who dwells on Mount Zion. ¹⁹And when they say to you, “Inquire of the mediums and the necromancers who chirp and mutter,” should not a people inquire of their God? Should they inquire of the dead on behalf of the living? ²⁰To the teaching and to the testimony! If they will not speak according to this word, it is because they have no dawn. ²¹They will pass through the land, greatly distressed and hungry. And when they are hungry, they will be enraged and will speak contemptuously against their king and their God, and turn their faces upward. ²²And they will look to the earth, but behold, distress and darkness, the gloom of anguish. And they will be thrust into thick darkness.

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Joy Has Dawned

GETTY AND TOWNEND

Joy has dawned upon the world, promised from creation:
God's salvation now unfurled, hope for ev'ry nation.
Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of glory,
But a humble gift of love: Jesus born of Mary.

Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the songs of angels,
As the mighty Prince of Life shelters in a stable.
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in darkness,
Cling now to a mother's breast, vuln'erable and helpless.

Shepherds bow before the Lamb, gazing at the glory;
Gifts of men from distant lands prophesy the story.
Gold, a King is born today; incense, God is with us,
Myrrh, His death will make a way, and by His blood He'll win us.

Son of Adam, Son of Heaven, given as a ransom;
Reconciling God and man, Christ, our mighty champion!
What a Savior! What a Friend! What a glorious myst'ry!
Once a babe in Bethlehem, now the Lord of hist'ry.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S TABLE

All those who trust in Christ alone for their salvation, are baptized, and belong to a Bible believing church are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper together, feeding on the grace of God by faith. If you have not put your trust in Christ, please allow the elements to pass you by and take this opportunity to meditate on the meaning of the Gospel.

Please hold the bread, and we will partake together. Please drink the cup as you receive it.

A word to parents: *Baptized children are invited to the table after they have made a profession of faith and been received as communing members by the Session of the church to which their parents belong.*

During the bread

Instrumental

During the cup

Instrumental

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING HYMN*

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen | No. 211

GOD REST YE MERRY

Stanzas 1-3

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray;

Chorus:

*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

From God our heavenly Father, a blessed angel came;
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same:
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.

Chorus

"Fear not, then," said the angel, "let nothing you affright;
This day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in him from Satan's pow'r and might."

Chorus

BENEDICTION*

Minister: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you from this time forth and forevermore.

Isaiah 9.1-7

¹ But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.

³ You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christian Education Holiday Break

Sunday School: Our Sunday School classes have ended for the semester. We will take a break for the Christmas season, and classes will resume on Sunday, January 9.

Bible Studies: Fall Bible studies are wrapping up for the semester but will start back up in January. More details to come!

Christmas Eve Children's Choir

Children ages 4 – kindergarten and children in 1st – 5th grades are invited to participate in the Christmas Eve service! Brief rehearsals will be held after worship. Interested 1st – 5th graders will meet with Jonathan and Jenna Smith in room #136 (adult Sunday school room). Children ages 4 – kindergarten will meet with Stefani Rea in room #133 (adult Sunday school room). Please contact Kristi Breed at childrensministry@providencedallas.com with any questions.

Mercy Street Angel Tree

We have an exciting opportunity to serve our community this Christmas by providing gifts for students in the Mercy Street mentoring, leadership and sports programs. We received new tags this week, so you can stop by the Angel Tree and pick one up. We are collecting wrapped and labeled gifts through Sunday, December 12. If you have any questions, email Chris Bennett at chris.bennett@providencedallas.com.

Christmas Eve Service

Our Christmas Eve service will be at 4 p.m. Childcare will not be provided as this is a family service.

Yesenia Campos, violin

David Rea	<i>Pastor</i>	214.270.1222 david.rea@providencedallas.com
Chris Bennett	<i>Pastor to Young Adults</i>	214.270.1220 chris.bennett@providencedallas.com
Nate Libby	<i>Youth Pastor</i>	214.270.1224 nate.libby@providencedallas.com
Alyson Averitt	<i>Women's Ministry</i>	214.270.1223 alyson.averitt@providencedallas.com
Kristi Breed	<i>Children's Ministry</i>	214.270.1226 childrensministry@providencedallas.com
Allyson Crow	<i>Ministry Coordinator</i>	214.270.1221 office@providencedallas.com
Dorothy Edwards	<i>Church Accountant</i>	214.270.1225 dorothy.edwards@providencedallas.com
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PROVIDENCE
Presbyterian Church

Ruling Elders

Graham Averitt	Jeff Crow	Tom McCabe
Wes Boyd	John Heath	
Michael Breed	Joshua Kipp	

Deacons

Dan Bowers	Jack Mechem	David Sibley
Teddy Chu	Casey Plummer	
T.J. Edwards	Will Schoellkopf	