

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

DECEMBER 11, 2022

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP*

from Luke 1:68; 2:25; 2:30-32

Minister: Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his people, for those who have been waiting for the consolation of Israel.

All: For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION*

HYMN*

The First Noel

The first Noel the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Chorus: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

They lookèd up and saw a star,
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night. *Chorus*

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
Who hath made heaven and earth of nought,
And with his blood mankind hath bought. *Chorus*

CONFESSION OF FAITH

from Micah 5:1-5

Minister: Marshal your troops, O city of troops, for a siege is laid against us and they will strike Israel's ruler on the cheek with a rod.

All: "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

Minister: Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor gives birth and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites.

All: He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. And he will be their peace.

SONG OF PRAISE

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

BOSWELL/PAPA

Come behold the wondrous mystery, in the dawning of the King.
He the theme of heaven's praises, robed in frail humanity.
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come!
Look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, He the perfect Son of Man.
In His living, in His suffering, never trace nor stain of sin.
See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man.
Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law; in Him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, Christ the Lord upon the tree.
In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory.
See the price of our redemption, see the Father's plan unfold.
Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, slain by death the God of life.
But no grave could e'er restrain Him; praise the Lord; He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope.
Christ in power resurrected as we will be when he comes.

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 confess that we are easily distracted, constantly diverted from your ways, and quick to follow our own sinful hearts. We often focus more on our sinfully defined desires and aspirations than we do of living for the sake of your kingdom. Thank you, Lord Jesus, that you did not guard your own interests, but chose to leave the comfort and richness of heaven for us. You willingly gave up the fellowship you had shared with your Father from all eternity, to make your rebellious enemies into your adopted and redeemed sons and daughters. Change our selfish hearts, we pray. Enlarge them with love and gratitude so that following you will be our greatest joy and delight. Amen.

PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Romans 3:22 and the Heidelberg Catechism Q. 21

Righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. Out of sheer grace earned for us by Christ, we have had our sins forgiven, have been made forever right with God, and have been granted salvation.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Moses John Williamson

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 7.10-17

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz: ¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.”

¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.”

¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria!”

SERMON

God With Us

Rev. David Rea

HYMN OF RESPONSE*

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing | No. 203
Stanzas 1-3

MENDELSSOHN

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th’incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. *Refrain*

Hail the heav’nborn Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth. *Refrain*

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.

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.*

*Please hold the bread, and we will partake together. Please drink the cup as you receive it.
The outer ring is grape juice and the inner rings are wine.*

During the bread

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.

During the cup

Instrumental

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING HYMN*

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen | No. 211
Stanzas 1-3

GOD REST YE MERRY

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:

○ *tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,*
○ *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: May the blessing of God Almighty, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, be with you all now and forever.

SERMON NOTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Opportunity to Tour Israel

There is an upcoming opportunity to join Park Cities Presbyterian Church on a trip to Israel. The dates are April 25 - May 7, 2023, and registration is due by December 15. For more information, including the itinerary, costs and tour leaders, please go to this website: www.morningstartours.com/pcp1334/.

Weekly Update

If you would like to receive our weekly email that includes announcements, information about Bible studies, and details about upcoming events, please email office@providencedallas.com. We would be happy to include you!

Church Offering

We have two white offering boxes in the lobby outside the sanctuary, one on each of the gray tables. Our hope is that these boxes will provide a place for you and your family to thoughtfully, cheerfully and discreetly bring your offerings to worship on Sunday mornings. If you have been giving online through our church's website or mailing a check to the office, please feel free to continue doing so if that is your preference.

Nursing & Comforting Rooms for Families during Worship Hour

Providence has both a nursing room and a comforting room for families. These rooms are fully equipped with a streaming television and volume control that allows for the service to be seen and heard perfectly, and they can accommodate toddlers and other children who might be struggling to stay quiet in the service. The nursing room, around the corner from the children's desk, has a changing station and privacy blinds. Room #136 is close to the sanctuary and is in the same hallway as the church offices. We encourage families to make use of these rooms as they are intended to be a help to all church attendees in allowing the Word of the Lord to be clearly heard and reflected upon during worship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Young Adults Christmas Brunch

All young adults are invited to a Christmas Brunch following worship today at the home of Amy and Chris Bennett. We will enjoy breakfast casserole, Christmas themed activities and fellowship. Please reach out to Chris with any questions.

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 the Smiths in room #135 (adult Sunday school room). Children ages 4 – kindergarten will meet with Stefani Rea in room #136 (adult Sunday school room). If you have any questions, please email Kristi Breed at childrensministry@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.

Family Christmas Morning Service

This year, as Christmas is on a Sunday morning, we will have a family friendly service that is one hour long. We will not provide childcare during the service (which is a change from previous communication), but we will have preschool friendly activity bags available. We look forward to a warm and wonderful Christmas morning all together!

Jung Choi, oboe
Allison Crabb, Oboe/English Horn
Laura Bennett Cameron, Bassoon

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
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Chris Coleman	<i>Ministry Intern</i>	214.270.1221		chris.coleman@providencedallas.com



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	