PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

JULY 9, 2023

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP*

from Romans 11:33, 36; Revelation 7:12

- Minister: Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. And to Him be the glory forever.
- All: Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION*

HYMN*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty | No. 53 Stanzas 1, 3, and 5

LOBE DEN HERREN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him for he is thy health and salvation! All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near, Join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee; Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee. Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him! Let the Amen sound from his people again; Gladly forever adore him.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

a responsive reading adapted from Romans 8.35-39

Minister: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

All: No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For we are convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SONG OF PRAISE

Across the Lands

You're the Word of God the Father from before the world began. Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet has been fashioned by Your hand. All creation holds together by the power of Your voice. Let the skies declare Your glory; let the land and seas rejoice!

Chorus: You're the Author of creation; You're the Lord of ev'ry man; And Your cry of love rings out across the lands.

Yet You left the gaze of angels, came to seek and save the lost, And exchanged the joy of heaven for the anguish of a cross. With a prayer You fed the hungry; with a word You calmed the sea; Yet how silently You suffered that the guilty may go free!

Chorus

With a shout You rose victorious, wresting vict'ry from the grave, And ascended into heaven, leading captives in Your way. Now You stand before the Father, interceding for Your own; From each tribe and tongue and nation, You are leading sinners home!

Chorus

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

adapted from Valley of Vision

Minister: Let us confess our sin before a righteous and loving God.

All: O my Savior, help me. I am slow to learn and quick to forget. I am pained by my graceless heart, my prayerless days, and my sullied conscience. I am blind while your grace shines around me: take the scales from my eyes and help me to repent of my unbelief. Make it my highest joy to study thee, meditate on thee, and gaze on thee. Enable me, by your Spirit, to grow in grace so that there may be more fervor in my devotion and more constancy in my zeal. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

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*

Revelation 11.1-14

¹ Then I was given a measuring rod like a staff, and I was told, "Rise and measure the temple of God and the altar and those who worship there, ² but do not measure the court outside the temple; leave that out, for it is given over to the nations, and they will trample the holy city for forty-two months. ³ And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth."

⁴ These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. ⁵ And if anyone would harm them, fire pours from their mouth and consumes their foes. If anyone would harm them, this is how he is doomed to be killed. ⁶ They have the power to shut the sky, that no rain may fall during the days of their prophesying, and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague, as often as they desire. ⁷ And when they have finished their testimony, the beast that rises from the bottomless pit will make war on them and conquer them and kill them, ⁸ and their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city that symbolically is called Sodom and Egypt, where their Lord was crucified.

⁹ For three and a half days some from the peoples and tribes and languages and nations will gaze at their dead bodies and refuse to let them be placed in a tomb, ¹⁰ and those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and make merry and exchange presents, because these two prophets had been a torment to those who dwell on the earth. ¹¹ But after the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, and they stood up on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. ¹² Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here!" And they went up to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies watched them. ¹³ And at that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

¹⁴ The second woe has passed; behold, the third woe is soon to come.

SERMON

Two Witnesses

Rev. David Rea

HYMN OF RESPONSE*

The Perfect Wisdom of Our God

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The perfect wisdom of our God, Revealed in all the universe: All things created by His hand, And held together at His command. He knows the mysteries of the seas, The secrets of the stars are His; He guides the planets on their way, And turns the earth through another day.

The matchless wisdom of His ways, That mark the path of righteousness; His word a lamp unto my feet, His Spirit teaching and guiding me. And oh, the mystery of the cross, That God should suffer for the lost So that the fool might shame the wise, And all the glory might go to Christ!

Oh grant me wisdom from above, To pray for peace and cling to love, And teach me humbly to receive The sun and rain of Your sovereignty. Each strand of sorrow has a place Within this tapestry of grace; So through the trials I choose to say: "Your perfect will in your perfect way."

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

My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who bore my pain; Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace and gave me life again; Who crushed my curse of sinfulness and clothed me in His light And wrote His law of righteousness with pow'r upon my heart.

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who walks beside; Who floods my weaknesses with strength and causes fears to fly; Whose ev'ry promise is enough for ev'ry step I take, Sustaining me with arms of love and crowning me with grace.

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who reigns above, Whose wisdom is my perfect peace, whose ev'ry thought is love. For ev'ry day I have on earth is given by the King; So I will give my life, my all, to love and follow Him.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING HYMN*

And Can It Be That I Should Gain | No. 455 Stanzas 1, 3 and 4

And can it be that I should gain an int'rest in the Savior's blood? Died he for me, who caused his pain? For me, who him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God shouldst die for me?

Chorus: Amazing love! How can it be, that thou my God shouldst die for me?

He left his Father's throne above - so free, so infinite his grace! Humbled himself, so great his love, and bled for all his chosen race. 'Tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me. *Chorus*

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night; Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray, I woke, the dungeon flamed with light; My chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went forth and followed Thee. *Chorus*

BENEDICTION*

Numbers 6:24-26

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.

four

Getty, Townend

SAGINA

Revelation 11.15-19

¹⁵ Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever." ¹⁶ And the twenty-four elders who sit on their thrones before God fell on their faces and worshiped God, ¹⁷ saying,

"We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, who is and who was,
for you have taken your great power and begun to reign.
¹⁸ The nations raged, but your wrath came, and the time for the dead to be judged,
and for rewarding your servants, the prophets and saints, and those who fear your name, both small and great,
and for destroying the destroyers of the earth."

¹⁹ Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple. There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail.

SERMON NOTES

Celebration of Birth

We rejoice with Kelly and John Miglicco as they welcome their daughter, Mary Claire, born on June 30!

Way Back Wednesdays - Summer Evening Studies

Way Back Wednesdays are back this summer! We hope you will plan to join us this summer on Wednesday nights, 6:30 – 8 p.m., for dinner and Bible study. The remaining dates are July 12 and July 19. We will have a Bible study for adult men and women on the book of Ruth, as well as Bible studies and activities for our youth students and elementary students (rising Kindergarten - 5th grades). Childcare will be provided for infants and preschoolers by reservation. We would love to have a headcount for dinner, as well as for childcare, for these last two meetings. You can email Allyson Crow at office@providencedallas.com to RSVP for July 12 and July 19.

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!

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