

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP*

from 1 Corinthians 1.27; Psalm 113.7-9

Minister: People of God, God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise. God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

All: He lifted the poor from the dust, and the needy from the ash heap. He set them with princes, even with the princes of His own people. He settles the childless woman in her home as a happy mother of children. Praise the LORD!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION*

HYMN*

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation | No. 342
Stanzas 1, 2, and 5

REGENT SQUARE

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the Church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever, and her confidence alone.

All that dedicated city, dearly loved of God on high,
In exultant jubilation pours perpetual melody,
God the One in Three adoring in glad hymns eternally.

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One,
One in might and One in glory, while unending ages run.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

from Ephesians 2:4-9

Minister: How can we describe the grace God has generously bestowed upon us?

All: But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

SONG OF PRAISE

Before the Throne of God

Bancroft, Cook

Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea.
A great high Priest whose Name is Love who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart.
I know that while in heaven He stands, no tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free.
For God the just is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me,
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there the risen Lamb, my perfect spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace,
One with Himself I cannot die. My soul is purchased with His blood,
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my God,
With Christ my Savior and my God!

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

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

All: Heavenly Father, your law is clear, yet we repeatedly choose our own way. While all of nature follows your design, we are often defiant. Regardless of our spiritual maturity, we frequently sin, turning to fleeting comforts, and projecting false righteousness. Forgive us, we pray. Holy Spirit, anchor us in Christ's love. Help us to hold dear the grace you've given, and strive to live in the likeness of Christ. We long for the day when our intentions and deeds fully align with your character and purposes. Grant us strength and perseverance on this path. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Psalm 32:5

I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I did not hide. I said, "I will confess my transgression to the Lord. And You did forgive the guilt of my sin."

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.

¹² And the people of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD strengthened Eglon the king of Moab against Israel, because they had done what was evil in the sight of the LORD. ¹³ He gathered to himself the Ammonites and the Amalekites, and went and defeated Israel. And they took possession of the city of palms. ¹⁴ And the people of Israel served Eglon the king of Moab eighteen years.

¹⁵ Then the people of Israel cried out to the LORD, and the LORD raised up for them a deliverer, Ehud, the son of Gera, the Benjaminite, a left-handed man. The people of Israel sent tribute by him to Eglon the king of Moab. ¹⁶ And Ehud made for himself a sword with two edges, a cubit in length, and he bound it on his right thigh under his clothes. ¹⁷ And he presented the tribute to Eglon king of Moab. Now Eglon was a very fat man. ¹⁸ And when Ehud had finished presenting the tribute, he sent away the people who carried the tribute. ¹⁹ But he himself turned back at the idols near Gilgal and said, "I have a secret message for you, O king." And he commanded, "Silence." And all his attendants went out from his presence. ²⁰ And Ehud came to him as he was sitting alone in his cool roof chamber. And Ehud said, "I have a message from God for you." And he arose from his seat. ²¹ And Ehud reached with his left hand, took the sword from his right thigh, and thrust it into his belly. ²² And the hilt also went in after the blade, and the fat closed over the blade, for he did not pull the sword out of his belly; and the dung came out. ²³ Then Ehud went out into the porch and closed the doors of the roof chamber behind him and locked them.

²⁴ When he had gone, the servants came, and when they saw that the doors of the roof chamber were locked, they thought, "Surely he is relieving himself in the closet of the cool chamber." ²⁵ And they waited till they were embarrassed. But when he still did not open the doors of the roof chamber, they took the key and opened them, and there lay their lord dead on the floor.

²⁶ Ehud escaped while they delayed, and he passed beyond the idols and escaped to Seirah. ²⁷ When he arrived, he sounded the trumpet in the hill country of Ephraim. Then the people of Israel went down with him from the hill country, and he was their leader. ²⁸ And he said to them, "Follow after me, for the LORD has given your enemies the Moabites into your hand." So they went down after him and seized the fords of the Jordan against the Moabites and did not allow anyone to pass over. ²⁹ And they killed at that time about 10,000 of the Moabites, all strong, able-bodied men; not a man escaped. ³⁰ So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel. And the land had rest for eighty years.

SERMON

An Unlikely Savior*Rev. David Rea*

HYMN OF RESPONSE*

Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor*Boswell, Papa**Stanzas 1-3*

Christ the sure and steady anchor, in the fury of the storm,
 When the winds of doubt blow through me, and my sails have all been torn.
 In the suffering, in the sorrow, when my sinking hopes are few,
 I will hold fast to the anchor, it will never be removed.

HYMN OF RESPONSE* (CONT.)

Christ the sure and steady anchor, while the tempest rages on,
When temptation claims the battle, and it seems the night has won.
Deeper still then goes the anchor, though I justly stand accused,
I will hold fast to the anchor, it shall never be removed.

Christ the sure and steady anchor, through the floods of unbelief,
Hopeless somehow, O my soul, now, lift your eyes to Calvary.
This my ballast of assurance, see his love forever proved.
I will hold fast to the anchor, it will never be removed.

Christ the shore of our salvation, ever faithful, ever true!
We will hold fast to the anchor, it shall never be removed.

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
Show Us Christ

Kauflin and Plank

Prepare our hearts, O God. Help us to receive.
Break the hard and stony ground. Help our unbelief.
Plant Your Word down deep in us; cause it to bear fruit.
Open up our ears to hear, lead us in Your truth.

*Chorus: Show us Christ, show us Christ. O God, reveal Your glory
Through the preaching of Your Word, Until every heart confesses Christ is Lord.*

Your Word is living light upon our darkened eyes.
Guards us through temptations, makes the simple wise.
Your Word is food for famished ones, freedom for the slave,
Riches for the needy soul. Come speak to us today.

Chorus

Repeat Chorus

During the cup
Instrumental

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING HYMN*

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past | No. 30
Stanzas 1, 4 and 7

ST. ANNE

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

A thousand ages in your sight
Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come:
O be our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.

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.

FALL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School Classes, 9 a.m.

Sunday school classes for all ages have begun! We hope you will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to study and apply God's Word, enjoy fellowship, and grow in our relationships with one another during this time.

Adult classes:

Generations - a class open to adults of all ages and stages, taught by Robby Rucker in the sanctuary.

30s and 40s - a class intended to foster fellowship and build community at this frenzied stage of life, taught by David Rea in room #136.

Young Adults - a class intended to build community while addressing the unique challenges and opportunities of faith in the 20s and 30s, taught by Chris Bennett in room #135.

Youth classes: Our high school and middle school students will meet in the youth wing in their respective rooms.

Children's classes: A full slate of children's classes for infants, preschoolers and elementary-aged children will be offered in the children's wing.

Women's Bible Studies

Women's Bible Studies - Job: A Story of Severe Mercy

Offered Wednesday mornings, 9:30 - 11 a.m. (with childcare) AND
Wednesday evenings, 7 - 8 p.m. at PPC

Led by Alyson Averitt (alyson.averitt@providencedallas.com)

Men's Bible Studies

Young Adults Men's Study - "Respectable Sins" by Jerry Bridges

Wednesdays from 7 to 8:15 p.m. at PPC

Led by Chris Bennett (chris.bennett@providencedallas.com)

James

Wednesdays from 12 to 1 p.m. at PPC

*Lunch provided

Led by Nate Libby (nate.libby@providencedallas.com)

Jeremiah

Fridays at 7 a.m. at PPC

Led by Bobby Cardone (robertjcardone@gmail.com), Teddy Chu, Christopher Norfleet

Youth Bible Studies

Providence Youth Group: 7-8:30 p.m. at PPC

High school youth group meets on Sunday nights.

Middle school youth group meets on Mondays nights.

Led by Nate Libby (nate.libby@providencedallas.com)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Members Class

If you are interested in joining Providence or just learning more about PPC, then please save the date and plan to join us for our next new members class. We will meet on Sunday, December 3, 8-10 a.m. before worship. For more information and to sign up, email Allyson Crow at office@providencedallas.com.

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!

Aron Jang, mandolin

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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	