

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

DECEMBER 3, 2023

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP*

from Isaiah 40.1-5

Minister: Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice of one calling: In the desert prepare the way for the LORD. Make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God.

All: Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low. The rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION*

HYMN*

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel | No. 194
Stanzas 1, 3 and 5

VENI EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

*Chorus: Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny,
From depths of hell thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Chorus*

O come, thou Key of David, come and open wide our heav'nly home,
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. *Chorus*

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Isaiah 9.6-7

Minister: How does the Old Testament Gospel foretell the promises we find in Christ?

All: 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. 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.

SONG OF PRAISE

Angels We Have Heard on High | No. 214

GLORIA

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echo back their joyous strains.

Chorus: Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song?

Chorus

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing,
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Chorus

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, you are a covenant-keeping God, but we are not a covenant-keeping people. Though you have always been faithful to us, we are not always faithful to you. We sin many times each day in our thoughts, and with our words and actions. Forgive us, we pray. We thank you for Jesus, who was faithful in all things, keeping the covenant on our behalf. Cause us to see Him as the one great treasure that we seek above all else, and enable us to persevere until that wonderful day when we bask in the light of His presence. 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

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***Luke 1.1-4, 26-38**

¹ Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, ² just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, ³ it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴ that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² 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, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy -- the Son of God. ³⁶ And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

SERMON**Nothing is Impossible with God***Mr. Chris Coleman***HYMN OF RESPONSE***

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus | No. 196
Stanzas 1, 2, and 4

HYFRYDOL

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free,
 From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
 Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,
 Dear Desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, appear,
 Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear!
 O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth:
 "Go to him, your praises bringing, Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
 Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
 By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone,
 By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

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

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!

During the cup

Instrumental

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING HYMN*

Joy to the World | No. 195

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.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

CLOSING HYMN* (CONT.)

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.

BENEDICTION*

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School Break

We are taking a Sunday School break for the Christmas season, and classes will resume in early January. More details will be coming after the holidays!

Christmas Eve Children's Choirs: Pre-K and Elementary

All PPC children, ages 4 – kindergarten and 1st – 5th grades, are invited to sing in our Christmas Eve service! Rehearsals will immediately follow worship today, as well as December 10 and 17. If possible, we encourage you to try to attend at least two rehearsals. Please register so we can have materials prepared for you kiddos. Pre-K will be led by Stefani Rea, and they will meet in the children's wing in the Giraffes room #113; and the elementary choir will be led by Jill Smith, and they will meet in room #135 near the offices. To register, please email Kristi Breed at childrensministry@providencedallas.com. Thank you for helping lead our Christmas Eve service!

Christmas Eve Services

Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year! We will have our normal Lord's Day worship service that morning at 10:10. Childcare for infants to pre-K will be provided as usual, as well as a lesson for kindergarteners – 3rd graders during the sermon. We will have our Christmas Eve service later that day at 4 p.m. Childcare will not be provided for that service, as it is a family service. We look forward to this wonderful Sunday and worshipping together!

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!

Year-End Giving

If you are considering a year-end gift to the church, there are several ways that you can do that:

- You can give online. Visit our website: www.providencedallas.com, and then click on the "giving" tab. You can set up a one-time or a recurring gift. If you would like to consider covering the processing fee for your gift, you can check the box on that page to do so.
- You can use one of white offering boxes in the lobby just outside the sanctuary on the gray tables. Sunday, December 31 would be the last day to bring a giving check for 2023 tax purposes.
- You can mail a check to the church office. Please make sure it is postmarked on or before December 31 for 2023 tax purposes.
(10727 Midway Road, Dallas, TX 75229)
- If you would like to donate a gift of stock, you can contact Dorothy Edwards (dorothy.edwards@providencedallas.com), and she can provide the necessary information.
- You can scan the QR code below, and it will take you directly to the giving page on our website.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PPC's Christmas Giving Tree

This year, for our PPC Christmas Giving Tree, we are going to send gifts of support to Grace and Knowledge Academy, a Christian school in Nigeria. (You may remember Jackson and Blessing, missionaries at GKA, from their visit to our church this summer). Nigeria has more children not in school than any other country in the world. GKA provides education, meals, and medical care for children who otherwise would not have access to school. We will have a tree with tags that give information about how to give a Christmas gift towards GKA starting today. For more information, you can go to: <https://www.childrensrelief.org/gka>.

An Advent Resource for You: "Christmas Uncut"

We would like to provide you with a wonderful resource to prepare your heart this Advent season: "Christmas Uncut" by Carl Laferton, a faithful read written in a creative fashion with insightful perspectives on the Christmas story. You may pick up your free copy from the foyer table this morning.

Carols and Cocoa

We hope you will plan to join us for a special time of worship and fellowship on Sunday, December 10, at 4:30 p.m. We will meet in the sanctuary to sing Christmas hymns together, and then we will enjoy a time of fellowship with hot chocolate afterwards in the lobby. All are welcome! Childcare will not be provided, as this will be a time for families to sing and enjoy fellowship together.

Jung Choi, Oboe
Brent Buemi, Clarinet
Leslie Massenburg, 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
Robby Rucker	<i>Director of Shepherding & Worship</i>	214.270.1221		robby@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
Jonathan Smith	<i>Worship Coordinator</i>	214.270.1221		jsmith@cplalaw.com
Jill Smith	<i>Pianist</i>	214.270.1221		jilljonathan1@sbcglobal.net
Dave Clelland	<i>Minister in Residence</i>	214.270.1221		david.clelland@sbcglobal.net
Olivia Costanza	<i>Ministry Intern</i>	214.270.1221		oliviacostanza48@gmail.com
Chris Coleman	<i>Ministry Intern</i>	214.270.1221		colemanchristopher110@gmail.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	