

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

JANUARY 14, 2024

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP*

from Psalm 84

Minister: How lovely is your dwelling place, LORD Almighty! My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD. My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young -- a place near your altar, LORD Almighty, my King and my God.

All: Blessed are those who dwell in your house. They are ever praising you. Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere. For the LORD God is a sun and shield. The LORD bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless. LORD Almighty, blessed is the one who trusts in you.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION*

HYMN*

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing | No. 457

NETTLETON

Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace,
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come,
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God:
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

HYMN* (CONT.)

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be,
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love:
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

adapted from Psalm 2

Minister: Christian, how was the Messiah anticipated in the Old Testament?

All: Foretold as a King set upon God's holy hill, the Messiah was destined to reign supreme, anointed by the Lord. He was proclaimed as the Son of God, to inherit the nations and break the chains of the earth's rulers. This King, our Lord Jesus Christ, embodies this divine decree, ruling with a rod of iron, yet offering refuge in His love and righteousness. In Him, we see the fulfillment of God's promise: a sovereign ruler, a sanctuary for all who revere Him.

SONG OF PRAISE

I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130)

Kauflin, Merker, Getty and Townend

Out of the depths I cry to You,
In darkest places I will call.
Incline Your ear to me anew,
And hear my cry for mercy, Lord.

Were you to count my sinful ways,
How could I come before Your throne?
Yet full forgiveness meets my gaze,
I stand redeemed by grace alone.

Chorus:

*I will wait for You, I will wait for You, on your Word I will rely.
I will wait for You, surely wait for You, till my soul is satisfied.*

So put your hope in God alone.
Take courage in His power to save,
Completely and forever won
By Christ's emerging from the grave. *Chorus*

SONG OF PRAISE (CONT.)

Now He has come to make a way,
And God Himself has paid the price,
That all who trust in Him today,
Find healing in His sacrifice.

Final chorus:

*I will wait for You, I will wait for You,
through the storm and through the night.
I will wait for You, surely wait for You,
for Your love is my delight.*

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

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

All: Heavenly Father, we acknowledge as the psalmist did, ‘My guilt has overwhelmed me like a burden too heavy to bear.’ We echo from Your Word, ‘I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!’ We confess, ‘For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing.’ In our need, we cry, ‘Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; blot out my transgressions.’ Therefore, we pray, ‘Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.’ In the name of Jesus, we pray.
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.

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 4.14-21

¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵ He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹ He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” (NIV)

SERMON

Homefield Advantage?

Rev. David Rea

HYMN OF RESPONSE*

Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me

CityAlight

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer,
There is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom,
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus,
For my life is wholly bound to His.
Oh, how strange and divine, I can sing: All is mine!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven,
The future sure, the price it has been paid.
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,
And He was raised to overthrow the grave.

HYMN OF RESPONSE* (CONT.)

To this I hold, my sin has been defeated,
Jesus now and ever is my plea.
Oh, the chains are released, I can sing: I am free!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus,
For He has said that He will bring me home.
And day by day, I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne.

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus,
All the glory evermore to Him.
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

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

The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

BROTHER JAMES AIRE

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want, he makes me down to lie,
In pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by,
He leadeth me, He leadeth me the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again and me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake,
Within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill,
For thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still,
For thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.
My head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me,
And in God's house for evermore my dwelling-place shall be,
And in God's house for evermore my dwelling-place shall be.

During the cup
Instrumental

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING HYMN*

ENGELBERG

All Praise to Christ

All praise to Christ, our Lord and King divine,
Yielding his glory in his love's design,
That in our darkened hearts his grace might shine: Alleluia!

Christ came to us in lowliness of thought,
By him the outcast and the poor were sought,
And by his death was our redemption bought: Alleluia!

And so we see in God's great purpose how
Christ has been raised above all creatures now,
And at his name shall every nation bow: Alleluia!

BENEDICTION*

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

Luke 4.22-30

²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” they asked.

²³ Jesus said to them, “Surely you will quote this proverb to me: ‘Physician, heal yourself!’ And you will tell me, ‘Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.’”

²⁴ “Truly I tell you,” he continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown. ²⁵ I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. ²⁶ Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. ²⁷ And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian.”

²⁸ All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way. (NIV)