

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

JANUARY 28, 2024

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP*

from Jeremiah 29.11-13

Minister: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

All: Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you," declares the LORD.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION*

HYMN*

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah | No. 59

CWM RHONDDA

Stanzas 1-3

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty, hold me with thy pow'ful hand.
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliv'rer, strong Deliv'rer, be thou still my strength and shield,
Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises, I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

Minister: Who is the redeemer of God's people, and how does He fulfill His kingly role?

All: The sole redeemer of God's chosen people is the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the eternal Son of God who took on human form, thus existing forever as both God and man, united in two distinct natures yet one person. As a king, Christ fulfills His role by bringing us under His rule, guiding and protecting us, and by overcoming and subduing all adversaries, both His and ours.

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, we come before You, acknowledging our profound and varied sins against You. Our offenses are not just outward but are rooted deeply in inward failings: blindness of heart, unbelief, doubts, despondency, impatience, pride, greed, envy, hatred, and numerous other sinful emotions. Yet, in repentance, we turn to You, recognizing You as a merciful God, a loving and gracious Father to all who seek Your face. We ask that You would treat us not as our sins deserve, but according to Your vast mercy. For the sake of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, forgive us. 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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Beau Christopher Bennett

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*

Mark 3.20-35

²⁰ Then he went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. ²¹ And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, "He is out of his mind."

²² And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is possessed by Beelzebul," and "by the prince of demons he casts out the demons." ²³ And he called them to him and said to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴ If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵ And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶ And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. ²⁷ But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

²⁸ “Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter,
²⁹ but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness but is guilty of an eternal sin” --
³⁰ for they were saying, “He has an unclean spirit.”

³¹ And his mother and his brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him. ³² And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you.”

³³ And he answered them, “Who are my mother and my brothers?”

³⁴ And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵ For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother.”

SERMON

When Helping Hurts

Rev. David Rea

HYMN OF RESPONSE*

God of Grace

Getty, Rea

God of grace, amazing wonder, irresistible and free,
Oh, the miracle of mercy, Jesus reaches down to me.
God of grace, I stand in wonder, as my God restores my soul:
His own blood has paid my ransom, awesome cost to make me whole.

God of grace, who loved and knew me long before the world began,
Sent my Saviour down from heaven: perfect God and perfect man.
God of grace, I trust in Jesus, I'm accepted as His own.
Every day new grace sustains me as I lean on Him alone.

God of grace, I stand astounded, cleansed, forgiven and secure.
All my fears are now confounded, and my hope is ever sure.
God of grace, now crowned in glory, where one day I'll see Your face,
And forever I'll adore You in Your everlasting grace.

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 Risen Christ (O Breath of God)

RISEN CHRIST

O breath of God, come fill this place.
Revive our hearts to know Your grace,
And from our slumber make us rise
that we may know the Risen Christ.

O word of God, so clear and true,
renew our minds to trust in You,
And give to us the bread of life
that we may know the Risen Christ.

O love of God, so unrestrained,
refresh our souls in Jesus' name.
Let us reflect Your sacrifice
that we may know the Risen Christ.

May God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit make us one.
In holiness, let us unite
that we may know the Risen Christ.

During the cup

Instrumental

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING HYMN*

All Authority and Power | No. 453

NEANDER

Stanzas 1, 2, 4

All authority and power, ev'ry status and domain,
Now belongs to him who suffered our redemption to obtain,
Angels, demons, kings and rulers, over all shall Jesus reign!

All the nations owe him worship, ev'ry tongue shall call him Lord,
How are men to call upon him if his name they have not heard?
Therefore go and make disciples, preach his gospel, spread his word.

CLOSING HYMN* (CONT.)

All the time he will be with us, always, to the end of days,
With his own believing people, who keep steadfast in his ways.
God the Father, Son, and Spirit, bless us, and to him the praise!

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.