

# PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Order of Worship*

APRIL 28, 2024

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP\*

*from 1 Chronicles 16.31-34*

Minister: Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad. Let them say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!" Let the sea and everything in it shout! Let the fields and everything in them celebrate!

**All: Then the trees of the forest will sing, they will sing for joy before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever!**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION\*

HYMN\*

***Come, Christians, Join to Sing | No. 302***

MADRID

Come, Christians, join to sing, Alleluia! Amen!  
Loud praise to Christ our King, Alleluia! Amen!  
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice,  
Praise is his gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!  
Let praises fill the sky, Alleluia! Amen!  
He is our Guide and Friend, to us he'll condescend,  
His love shall never end. Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen!  
Life shall not end the strain, Alleluia! Amen!  
On heaven's blissful shore, his goodness we'll adore,  
Singing forevermore, "Alleluia! Amen!"

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

*a responsive reading from John 10.11-15*

Minister: Jesus said, I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

**All: The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So, when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it.**

Minister: The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

**All: Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me – just as the Father knows me and I know the Father – and I lay down my life for the sheep."**

## SONG OF PRAISE

### *Good Shepherd of My Soul*

*Getty, Townend*

Good Shepherd of my soul, come dwell within me,  
Take all I am and mould Your likeness in me.  
Before the cross of Christ, this is my sacrifice:  
A life laid down and ready to follow.

The troubled find their peace in true surrender,  
The prisoners their release from chains of anger.  
In springs of living grace, I find a resting place  
To rise refreshed, determined to follow.

I'll walk this narrow road with Christ before me,  
Where thorns and thistles grow and cords ensnare me.  
Though doubted and denied, He never leaves my side,  
But lifts my head and calls me to follow.

And when my days are gone, my strength is failing,  
He'll carry me along through death's unveiling.  
Earth's struggles overcome, Heav'n's journey just begun  
To search Christ's depths and ever to follow.

## PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

*adapted from Prone to Wander*

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

**All:** Heavenly Father, forgive us for our pervasive lack of trust in You. Just as You called Abraham out of his country into unknown circumstances, You often call us to walk through difficult and frightening times. In response, we frequently turn to other sources for hope and comfort. Like sheep, we are prone to wander; each of us has turned to our own way. Yet, the Lord Jesus, the Great Shepherd of the sheep, laid down His life for a wayward people. Father, help us to trust that You always use the suffering of Your children for good, as we see so clearly in the cross of Christ. 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."

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*Louisa May Josephine Rimann*

## 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\*

### **Acts 3.1-10**

<sup>1</sup> Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. <sup>2</sup> And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask alms of those entering the temple. <sup>3</sup> Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. <sup>4</sup> And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." <sup>5</sup> And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them.

SCRIPTURE READING\*

<sup>6</sup> But Peter said, “I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!” <sup>7</sup> And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. <sup>8</sup> And leaping up he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. <sup>9</sup> And all the people saw him walking and praising God, <sup>10</sup> and recognized him as the one who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, asking for alms. And they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

SERMON

**Crucifying the Author of Life:  
The Mystery of the Cross**

*Rev. David Rea*

HYMN OF RESPONSE\*

***Jesus, Strong and Kind***

*CityAlight*

Jesus said that if I thirst, I should come to Him.  
No one else can satisfy, I should come to Him.

Jesus said, if I am weak, I should come to Him.  
No one else can be my strength, I should come to Him.

*Chorus: For the Lord is good and faithful,  
He will keep us day and night.  
We can always run to Jesus - Jesus, strong and kind.*

Jesus said that if I fear, I should come to Him.  
No one else can be my shield, I should come to Him.

*Chorus*

Jesus said, if I am lost, He will come to me.  
And He showed me on that cross, He will come to me.

*Chorus*

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*

### ***In the Darkness God Will Keep Me***

CityAlight

In the darkness God will keep me.  
He will stay and never sleep.  
In the darkness God is brighter,  
Though the night is long and deep.

*Chorus:*

*All this day Your hand has held me,  
God of Heaven by my side.  
Thank you, Father, for Your goodness.  
You will hold me through the night.*

In the shadows You are with me,  
And you know my every fear.  
In the shadows none can harm me  
For the mighty King is here.

*Chorus*

So I find my rest in Jesus,  
He who came to rescue me.  
Jesus saved me from the darkness,  
I will rise to life with him.

*Chorus*

*During the cup*  
*Instrumental*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**CLOSING 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.

**BENEDICTION\***

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