

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

MAY 12, 2024

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP*

from Hebrews 12:1-2

Minister: Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us,

All: Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. Who, for the joy set before Him, endured the cross, despising its shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION*

HYMN*

I Sing the Almighty Power of God | No. 119

FOREST GREEN

Stanzas 1-3

I sing th' almighty power of God, that made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full at his command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food,
He formed the creatures with his word, and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how your wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye,
If I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky.

There's not a plant or flower below, but makes your glories known,
And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from your throne;
While all that borrows life from you is ever in your care.
And everywhere that man can be, you, God art present there.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

from Romans 8

Minister: Christian, can anything separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus?

All: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SONG OF PRAISE

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.

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.

SONG OF PRAISE (CONT.)

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

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

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

All: Heavenly Father, Your steadfast love greets us each morning, and Your faithfulness is ever present. Your mercies are new every day, and we thank You for personal blessings: health, food, and protection for ourselves and our loved ones. Yet, we often find more joy in Your creation than in You, turning to idols for happiness. Father, forgive us for our sins. Help us to rediscover the joy and wonder of our salvation: Christ has been faithful for us, ensuring Your everlasting faithfulness to us. 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.

RECOGNITION AND COMMISSION OF GRADUATING SENIORS

Lisle Duwall

Luke West

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 6.1-7

¹ Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. ² And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. ³ Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴ But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

⁵ And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶ These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷ And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

SERMON

Deacons: Enabling Gospel Proclamation

Rev. David Rea

HYMN OF RESPONSE*

Speak, O Lord

Getty, Townsend

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your holy Word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us,
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All Your purposes, for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail,
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

HYMN OF RESPONSE* (CONT.)

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds,
Help us grasp the heights of Your plan for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises,
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

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*

***Be Thou My Vision* | No. 642**

SLANE

Stanzas 1, 2, 4, and 5

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art-
Thou my best thought by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word,
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son.
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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.