

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

MAY 5, 2024

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP*

from Psalm 145

Minister: I will exalt you, my God the King. I will praise your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise. His greatness no one can fathom. One generation will tell the next about your mighty works.

All: They will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty, and I will meditate on your wonderful works. They will tell of the power of your awesome works, and I will proclaim your great deeds.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION*

HYMN*

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!

CONFESSION OF FAITH

from 1 Corinthians 1.18-24

Minister: Christian, what seems foolish to the world but is life to those who believe?

All: For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. Jews demand signs, and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

SONG OF PRAISE

Only a Holy God

CityAlight

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven?
Who else could make ev'ry king bow down?
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles?
Only a Holy God.

What other beauty demands such praises?
What other splendor outshines the sun?
What other majesty rules with justice?
Only a Holy God.

Chorus:
Come and behold Him,
The One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy,
Forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God.

What other glory consumes like fire?
What other power can raise the dead?
What other name remains undefeated?
Only a Holy God. *Chorus*

Who else could rescue me from my failing?
Who else would offer His only Son?
Who else invites me to call Him Father?
Only a Holy God. *Chorus*

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

adapted from Prone to Wander

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

All: Heavenly Father, we thank you for the wisdom with which you created this world. You order our lives by your wisdom, carefully arranging the perfect proportion of joys and sorrows, trials and blessings, in order to mold us into the image of Christ. However, we are a people who frequently struggle with contentment. In spite of your graciousness and kindness to us, we often grumble about your Providence in our lives. Forgive us, we pray. Jesus, we thank you for being the wisdom of God. Teach us how true wisdom always guides us back to the cross, leads us into obedience, and lifts us toward our heavenly home. 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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Marshall Elias Ozanne

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 5.25-42

²⁵ Then someone came and said, "Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple courts teaching the people." ²⁶ At that, the captain went with his officers and brought the apostles. They did not use force, because they feared that the people would stone them.

²⁷ The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. ²⁸ "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name," he said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood."

SCRIPTURE READING* (CONT.)

²⁹ Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than men! ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead-- whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. ³¹ God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins. ³² We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

³³ When they heard this, they were furious and wanted to put them to death. ³⁴ But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, who was honored by all the people, stood up in the Sanhedrin and ordered that the men be put outside for a little while. ³⁵ Then he addressed the Sanhedrin: “Men of Israel, consider carefully what you intend to do to these men. ³⁶ Some time ago Theudas appeared, claiming to be somebody, and about four hundred men rallied to him. He was killed, all his followers were dispersed, and it all came to nothing. ³⁷ After him, Judas the Galilean appeared in the days of the census and led a band of people in revolt. He too was killed, and all his followers were scattered. ³⁸ Therefore, in the present case I advise you: Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail. ³⁹ But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God.”

⁴⁰ His speech persuaded them. They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus and let them go.

⁴¹ The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. ⁴² Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah. (NIV)

SERMON

The Unstoppable Gospel

Rev. David Rea

HYMN OF RESPONSE*

We Will Glorify

PARIS

We will glorify the King of Kings, we will glorify the Lamb.
We will glorify the Lord of Lords who is the Great I Am.

Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty, we will bow before His throne.
We will worship Him in righteousness, we will worship Him alone.

He is Lord of Heaven, Lord of Earth, He is Lord of all who live.
He is Lord above the universe, all praise to Him we give.

Hallelujah to the King of Kings, hallelujah to the Lamb!
Hallelujah to the Lord of Lords, who is the Great I Am.

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

Fairest Lord Jesus | No. 170

Stanzas 1, 2, and 4

CRUSADER'S HYMN

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Thee will I cherish, thee will I honor,
Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be thine.

During the cup

Instrumental

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING HYMN*

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing | No. 164

AZMON

Stanzas 1, 4, and 5

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace.

He breaks the power of reigning sin, he sets the pris'ner free,
His blood can make the foulest clean, his blood availed for me.

He speaks and, listening to his voice, new life the dead receive;
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice; the humble poor believe.

BENEDICTION*

Numbers 6:24-26

Minister: The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.