

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

JUNE 9, 2024

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP*

from Psalm 22:22b, 97:12, 145:1,3

Minister: In the midst of the congregation, I will praise You. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to God's holy name!

All: I will extol you, my God and King, and bless Your name forever and ever. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION*

HYMN*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty | No. 53

LOBE DEN HERREN

Stanzas 1, 3, and 5

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near,
Join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen sound from His people again,
Gladly forever adore Him.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

from Psalm 103

Minister: What is the scope of God's forgiveness for believers in Christ?

All: The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

SONG OF PRAISE

My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness

Getty, Townend

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who bore my pain,
Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace and gave me life again,
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness and clothed me in His light
And wrote His law of righteousness with pow'r upon my heart.

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who walks beside,
Who floods my weaknesses with strength and causes fears to fly,
Whose ev'ry promise is enough for ev'ry step I take,
Sustaining me with arms of love and crowning me with grace.

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who reigns above,
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace, whose ev'ry thought is love.
For ev'ry day I have on earth is given by the King,
So I will give my life, my all, to love and follow Him.

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

adapted from The Valley of Vision

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

All: O my Savior, help me. I am slow to learn and quick to forget. I am pained by my graceless heart, my prayerless days, and my sullied conscience. I am blind while your grace shines around me: take the scales from my eyes and help me to repent of my unbelief. Make it my highest joy to study thee, meditate on thee, and gaze on thee. Enable me, by your Spirit, to grow in grace so that there may be more fervor in my devotion and more constancy in my zeal. Amen.

PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Romans 8:1-2

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

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 9.1-25

¹ But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. ⁴ And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" ⁵ And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. ⁸ Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. ¹⁶ For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷ So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; ¹⁹ and taking food, he was strengthened.

SCRIPTURE READING* (CONT.)

For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. ²⁰ And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." ²¹ And all who heard him were amazed and said, "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?" ²² But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

²³ When many days had passed, the Jews plotted to kill him, ²⁴ but their plot became known to Saul. They were watching the gates day and night in order to kill him, ²⁵ but his disciples took him by night and let him down through an opening in the wall, lowering him in a basket.

SERMON

From Persecutor to Persecuted

Mr. Chris Coleman

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.

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.

HYMN OF RESPONSE* (CONT.)

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

Jesus, I Come

Stanzas 1, 2 and 4

SLEEPER THOMPSON

Out of my bondage, sorrow, and night,
Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come.
Into Thy freedom, gladness, and light,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of my sickness, into Thy health,
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into Thyself,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

During the bread (cont.)

Out of my shameful failure and loss,
Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm,
Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,
Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come.
Into the joy and light of Thy home,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold,
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
Ever Thy glorious face to behold,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

During the cup

Instrumental

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING HYMN*

***Amazing Grace* | No. 460**

Stanzas 1, 2, 3, 6

AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace! - how sweet the sound - that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we've first begun.

BENEDICTION*

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