

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

JULY 28, 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, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION*

HYMN*

Let All Things Now Living | No. 125

ASH GROVE

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
Who guides us and leads to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us, his light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
'Til shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.

His law he enforces: the stars in their courses,
And sun in its orbit, obediently shine.
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing,
With glad adoration a song let us raise,
'Til all things now living unite in thanksgiving
To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

CONFESSION OF FAITH

from Galatians 5.22-23

Minister: Christian, what is the fruit of the Spirit?

All: The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

SONG OF PRAISE

Speak, O Lord

Getty, Townend

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.

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.

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

from Prone to Wander: Prayers of Confession and Celebration

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

All: Heavenly Father, you are righteous and holy, but we are not. We are not poor in spirit. Rather, all too often, we are proud and self-reliant. We do not properly mourn over our sin: we frequently hide and excuse it, while judging others for their sin. We are not meek but often eager to defend our own rights and reputations, while habitually caring too little for your good name and the name of others. Forgive us, we pray. We thank you and praise you for Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, who lived and died so that we would know the blessings of true forgiveness. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Ephesians 1:7, Romans 4:7

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace. Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

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*

Genesis 1.1-2

¹ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

SERMON

Afraid of Infinity

Rev. Colin Peters

HYMN OF RESPONSE*

Power of the Cross

Getty, Townsend

O to see the dawn of the darkest day,
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then
Nailed to a cross of wood.
This, the pow'r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath,
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh, to see the pain written on Your face,
Bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Ev'ry bitter thought, ev'ry evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow.
This, the pow'r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath,
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Now the daylight flees; now the ground beneath
Quakes as its Maker bows His Head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life,
"Finished!" the victory cry.
This, the pow'r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath,
We stand forgiven at the cross.

O to see my name written in the wounds
For through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live,
Won through Your selfless love!
This, the pow'r of the cross:
Son of God—slain for us.
What a love! What a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross.

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

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Townend

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss,
The Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the chosen One,
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders,
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice,
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished,
His dying breath has brought me life;
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no power, no wisdom,
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer,
But this I know with all my heart,
His wounds have paid my ransom.

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.