PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

AUGUST 18, 2024

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP* from Philippians 2.8-11

Minister: And being found in appearance as a man, Jesus humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross! Therefore, God exalted Him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

All: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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. Minister: Christian, what do you believe?

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church*, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

Before the Throne of God

Bancroft, Cook

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea.
A great high Priest whose Name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands,
My name is written on His heart.
I know that while in heaven He stands,
No tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

^{*}meaning the universal Christian church – all believers in Jesus Christ.

SONG OF PRAISE (CONT.)

When Satan tempts me to despair And tells me of the guilt within, Upward I look and see Him there Who made an end to all my sin. Because the sinless Savior died, My sinful soul is counted free. For God the just is satisfied To look on Him and pardon me, To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there the risen Lamb, My perfect spotless righteousness, The great unchangeable I AM, The King of glory and of grace, One with Himself I cannot die. My soul is purchased with His blood, My life is hid with Christ on high, With Christ my Savior and my God, With Christ my Savior and my God!

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

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

All: Heavenly Father, we confess that we often treasure many things more than our Savior, seeking our salvation, joy, and identity in them instead of in Him. When You give us good gifts, we are prone to loving them more than we love You. Father, forgive us. Teach us to delight more in the spiritual riches You have given us in Christ: the wealth of His righteousness given to us, the riches of His grace and kindness poured out on us, and the inheritance He has earned for us by His perfect obedience and death. Help us to love and value The Triune God above everything else in all creation. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

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."

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 21.1-14

¹ And when we had parted from them and set sail, we came by a straight course to Cos, and the next day to Rhodes, and from there to Patara. ² And having found a ship crossing to Phoenicia, we went aboard and set sail. ³ When we had come in sight of Cyprus, leaving it on the left we sailed to Syria and landed at Tyre, for there the ship was to unload its cargo. ⁴ And having sought out the disciples, we stayed there for seven days. And through the Spirit they were telling Paul not to go on to Jerusalem. ⁵ When our days there were ended, we departed and went on our journey, and they all, with wives and children, accompanied us until we were outside the city. And kneeling down on the beach, we prayed ⁶ and said farewell to one another. Then we went on board the ship, and they returned home.

¹⁰ While we were staying for many days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. ¹¹ And coming to us, he took Paul's belt and bound his own feet and hands and said, "Thus says the Holy Spirit, 'This is how the Jews at Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.'"

¹² When we heard this, we and the people there urged him not to go up to Jerusalem. ¹³ Then Paul answered, "What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be imprisoned but even to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." ¹⁴ And since he would not be persuaded, we ceased and said, "Let the will of the Lord be done."

SERMON

Providence on the Road Less Traveled

Rev. David Rea

⁷ When we had finished the voyage from Tyre, we arrived at Ptolemais, and we greeted the brothers and stayed with them for one day. ⁸ On the next day we departed and came to Caesarea, and we entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him. ⁹ He had four unmarried daughters, who prophesied.

HYMN OF RESPONSE*

I Will Glory in My Redeemer

Cooke

I will glory in my Redeemer Whose priceless blood has ransomed me. Mine was the sin that drove the bitter nails And hung Him on that judgment tree.

I will glory in my Redeemer Who crushed the pow'r of sin and death, My only Savior before the Holy Judge, The Lamb who is my righteousness, The Lamb who is my righteousness.

I will glory in my Redeemer. My life He bought, my love He owns. I have no longings for another, I'm satisfied in Him alone.

I will glory in my Redeemer, His faithfulness, my standing place, Though foes are mighty and rush upon me, My feet are firm, held by His grace, My feet are firm, held by His grace.

I will glory in my Redeemer Who carries me on eagle's wings. He crowns my life with loving kindness, His triumph song I'll ever sing.

I will glory in my Redeemer Who waits for me at gates of gold And when He calls me it will be paradise, His face forever to behold, His face forever to behold.

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

Lamb of God

Your only Son no sin to hide, But You have sent Him from Your side, To walk upon this guilty sod, And to become the Lamb of God.

Your gift of love they crucified.

They laughed and scorned Him as He died.

The humble King, they named a fraud,

And sacrificed the Lamb of God.

Chorus: Oh Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the Holy Lamb of God.
Oh wash me in His precious blood,
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God.

I was so lost I should have died, But You have brought me to Your side, To be led by Your staff and rod, And to be called a lamb of God.

Chorus

During the cup
Instrumental

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING HYMN*

Who Shall Ascend the Mountain of the Lord | No. 292

ENGELBERG

Stanzas 1, 2, and 5

Who shall ascend the mountain of the Lord, To search the mystery in heaven stored, The knowledge of the Holy One adored? Alleluia!

One King alone, whose hands and heart are pure, One Servant of the Lord with purpose sure, Can enter in that glory to endure. Alleluia!

He shall ascend the mountain of the Lord, The King of glory, whose own blood outpoured Paid that dear price that mercy did afford. Alleluia!

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.