

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

NOVEMBER 24, 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*

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing | No. 457

NETTLETON

Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace,
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by thy help I'm come,
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God:
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be,
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love:
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

adapted from Hebrews 13:20-21

Minister: Christian, who is the great shepherd that God has raised to lead and care for His people?

All: The great shepherd of the sheep is our Lord Jesus, whom the God of peace brought again from the dead by the blood of the eternal covenant. May He equip us with everything good to do His will, working in us what is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

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

All: Heavenly Father, we thank You for the wisdom by which You made this world and order all nature and history according to Your holy will. You guide our lives with this wisdom, bringing the right mix of joys and sorrows, trials and blessings, to shape us into the image of Your beloved Son. Lord, we confess that we lack wisdom. We often grumble and complain instead of recognizing, and trusting in, Your fatherly wisdom. Forgive us and help us to trust You more each day. In the name of Jesus, we pray. 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*

Zechariah 13

¹ “On that day there shall be a fountain opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness.

² “And on that day, declares the Lord of hosts, I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, so that they shall be remembered no more. And also I will remove from the land the prophets and the spirit of uncleanness. ³ And if anyone again prophesies, his father and mother who bore him will say to him, ‘You shall not live, for you speak lies in the name of the Lord.’ And his father and mother who bore him shall pierce him through when he prophesies.

⁴ “On that day every prophet will be ashamed of his vision when he prophesies. He will not put on a hairy cloak in order to deceive, ⁵ but he will say, ‘I am no prophet, I am a worker of the soil, for a man sold me in my youth.’ ⁶ And if one asks him, ‘What are these wounds on your back?’ he will say, ‘The wounds I received in the house of my friends.’

⁷ “Awake, O sword, against my shepherd,
against the man who stands next to me,”
declares the Lord of hosts.

“Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered;
I will turn my hand against the little ones.

⁸ In the whole land, declares the Lord,
two thirds shall be cut off and perish,
and one third shall be left alive.

⁹ And I will put this third into the fire,
and refine them as one refines silver,
and test them as gold is tested.

They will call upon my name,
and I will answer them.

I will say, ‘They are my people’;
and they will say, ‘The Lord is my God.’ ”

HYMN OF RESPONSE*

His Mercy is More

Boswell, Papa

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
 Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum.
 Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore.
 Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

Chorus:

*Praise the Lord, His mercy is more.
 Stronger than darkness, new every morn,
 Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.*

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
 What Father so tender is calling us home?
 He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor.
 Our sins they are many, His mercy is more. *Chorus*

What riches of kindness He lavished on us.
 His blood was the payment, His life was the cost.
 We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford.
 Our sins they are many, His mercy is more. *Chorus*

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

In the Darkness God Will Keep Me

(Please see page 7 for music.)

CityAlight

In the darkness God will keep me.
He will stay and never sleep.
In the darkness God is brighter,
Though the night is long and deep.

Chorus:

*All this day Your hand has held me,
God of Heaven by my side.
Thank you, Father, for Your goodness.
You will hold me through the night.*

In the shadows You are with me,
And you know my every fear.
In the shadows none can harm me
For the mighty King is here.

Chorus

So I find my rest in Jesus,
He who came to rescue me.
Jesus saved me from the darkness,
I will rise to life with him.

Chorus

During the cup

Instrumental

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING HYMN*

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

*Chorus: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
All I have needed thy hand hath provided—
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Chorus

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Chorus

BENEDICTION*

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