

# PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Order of Worship*

FEBRUARY 2, 2025

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP\*

*from Jeremiah 29:11-13*

Minister: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

All: "Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you," declares the LORD.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION\*

HYMN\*

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

ODE TO JOY

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Singing bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in Thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus, which the morning stars began;  
Father love is reigning o'er us, brother love binds man to man.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife,  
Joyful music leads us Sunward in the triumph song of life.

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

*from Psalm 33.16-20*

Minister: Christian, where does our true hope and security lie?

**All:** No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength. A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength, it cannot save. But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear Him, on those whose hope is in His unfailing love, to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine. We wait in hope for the LORD; He is our help and our shield. In Him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in His holy name.

## SONG OF PRAISE

### *God of Grace*

*Getty, Rea*

God of grace, amazing wonder, irresistible and free,  
Oh, the miracle of mercy, Jesus reaches down to me.  
God of grace, I stand in wonder, as my God restores my soul:  
His own blood has paid my ransom, awesome cost to make me whole.

God of grace, who loved and knew me long before the world began,  
Sent my Saviour down from heaven: perfect God and perfect man.  
God of grace, I trust in Jesus, I'm accepted as His own.  
Every day new grace sustains me as I lean on Him alone.

God of grace, I stand astounded, cleansed, forgiven and secure.  
All my fears are now confounded, and my hope is ever sure.  
God of grace, now crowned in glory, where one day I'll see Your face,  
And forever I'll adore You in Your everlasting grace.

## PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

*adapted from The Valley of Vision*

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

**All:** Gracious Heavenly Father, you have attributed my sin to my substitute and have imputed his righteousness to my soul, clothing me with a bridegroom's robe, a robe of holiness. But in my daily living, I am still in rags. I have no robe of my own to cover my sins, no loom to weave my own righteousness, and by grace alone do I receive a change of clothes. For you justify the ungodly. Every morning let me wear it, every evening return in it, go out to the day's work in it, be married in it, be wound in death in it, stand before the throne in it, and enter heaven in it shining as the sun. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

## PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Psalm 32:5*

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\*

***Matthew 9.27-34***

<sup>27</sup> And as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David."

<sup>28</sup> When he entered the house, the blind men came to him, and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?"

They said to him, "Yes, Lord."

<sup>29</sup> Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." <sup>30</sup> And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, "See that no one knows about it." <sup>31</sup> But they went away and spread his fame through all that district.

<sup>32</sup> As they were going away, behold, a demon-oppressed man who was mute was brought to him. <sup>33</sup> And when the demon had been cast out, the mute man spoke. And the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel."

<sup>34</sup> But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons."

### SERMON

**Blind Eyes, Seeing Hearts**

*Rev. David Rea*

## HYMN OF RESPONSE\*

### *He Will Hold Me Fast*

Merker

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast.  
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.  
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path,  
For my love is often cold. He must hold me fast.

*Chorus: He will hold me fast. He will hold me fast.  
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.*

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast.  
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.  
He'll not let my soul be lost. His promises shall last.  
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

*Chorus*

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast.  
Justice has been satisfied. He will hold me fast.  
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast,  
'Til our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last!

*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*

**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 Church, Arise***

*Getty, Townend*

O church, arise, and put your armor on,  
Hear the call of Christ our Captain.  
For now the weak can say that they are strong  
In the strength that God has given.  
With shield of faith and belt of truth,  
We'll stand against the devil's lies,  
An army bold, whose battle cry is love,  
Reaching out to those in darkness.

**CLOSING HYMN\* (CONT.)**

Our call to war, to love the captive soul,  
But to rage against the captor,  
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole,  
We will fight with faith and valor.  
When faced with trials on ev'ry side,  
We know the outcome is secure,  
And Christ will have the prize for which He died,  
An inheritance of nations.

So Spirit come, put strength in ev'ry stride,  
Give grace for ev'ry hurdle,  
That we may run with faith to win the prize  
Of a servant good and faithful.  
As saints of old still line the way,  
Retelling triumphs of His grace,  
We hear their calls, and hunger for the day  
When with Christ we stand in Glory.

**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.