

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

FEBRUARY 16, 2025

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP*

from Psalm 63.1-3

Minister: O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

All: I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will bring you praise.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION*

HYMN*

Be Thou My Vision | No. 642

SLANE

Stanzas 1, 2, 4, and 5

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art-
Thou my best thought by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word,
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son.
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Adapted from WCF 15 and 2 Corinthians

Minister: Christian, what is true repentance?

All: In true repentance, a sinner recognizes the danger and filthiness of sin before a holy God and turns away from it with grief and hatred, seeking to walk by the power of the Holy Spirit in obedience to God's commands. Therefore, we must not settle for general repentance but diligently turn from our sins, confessing and forsaking each one specifically. Godly sorrow leads to repentance that brings salvation and leaves no regret, while worldly sorrow results in death.

SONG OF PRAISE

Across the Lands

Getty

You're the Word of God the Father from before the world began.
Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet has been fashioned by Your hand.
All creation holds together by the power of Your voice.
Let the skies declare Your glory, let the land and seas rejoice!

*Chorus: You're the Author of creation. You're the Lord of ev'ry man.
And Your cry of love rings out across the lands.*

Yet You left the gaze of angels, came to seek and save the lost,
And exchanged the joy of heaven for the anguish of a cross.
With a prayer You fed the hungry, with a word You calmed the sea,
Yet how silently You suffered that the guilty may go free!

Chorus

With a shout You rose victorious, wresting vict'ry from the grave,
And ascended into heaven, leading captives in Your way.
Now You stand before the Father, interceding for Your own.
From each tribe and tongue and nation, You are leading sinners home!

Chorus

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

adapted from the Valley of Vision, Puritan Prayers

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

All: O Lord, every part of me—my thoughts, desires, senses, and affections—easily becomes a snare to my soul. I envy those above me and look down on those below. I covet honor and riches, yet I am proud and unmerciful. When I see beauty, I lust; when I see brokenness, I judge. Slander, vain words, and careless speech come easily. If I have gifts, I crave praise; if I lack them, I despise what I do not have. Lord, You know my heart and see my sin. My greatest struggle is within myself. Have mercy on me, O God, and deliver me from my sinful nature. Renew my heart and fix my eyes on Christ, that I may walk in humility, love, and righteousness. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Romans 5:1

Hear the promises of God to those who truly repent of their sins and trust in Christ: Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 12.38-42

³⁸ Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, "Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you."

³⁹ But he answered them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰ For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. ⁴¹ The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.

⁴² The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.

HYMN OF RESPONSE*

In Christ Alone

Getty, Townend

In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song,
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all —
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied,
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid —
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave he rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death —
This is the pow'r of Christ in me,
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand,
Till He returns or calls me home —
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

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, Lover of My Soul

THOMPSON

Stanzas 1, 3 and 4

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till life's storm is past;
Safe into the haven guide; receive my soul at last.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want, more than all in thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name, I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am; thou, full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound, make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art, let me take of thee;
Spring thou up within my heart, for all eternity.

During the cup

Instrumental

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING HYMN*

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less | No. 521

SOLID ROCK

Stanzas 1, 2, and 4

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness,
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*Chorus: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace,
In ev'ry high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.

Chorus

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found,
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne.

Chorus

BENEDICTION*

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