

# PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Order of Worship*

**MARCH 2, 2025**

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP\***

*from Psalm 72.12-15, 17-19*

Minister: For he delivers the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no helper. He has compassion on the weak and the poor and saves their lives. He rescues them from oppression and violence, for their blood is precious in his sight.

**All: Long may he live! May his name endure forever; may it shine as long as the sun. Praise be to the Lord God, the God of Israel, who alone does marvelous deeds. Praise be to his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen!**

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION\***

**HYMN\***

***All Creatures of Our God and King | No. 115***

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Stanzas 1, 4, and 5*

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam!  
O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And all ye men of tender heart, forgiving others, take your part,  
O sing ye! Alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, praise God and on Him cast your care!  
O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless, and worship Him in humbleness,  
O praise Him! Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three in One!  
O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

*adapted from Hebrews 11*

Minister: Christian, what is faith?

**All:** Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. By faith, Abraham obeyed when called to a place he would later receive as his inheritance. He went, not knowing where he was going. By faith, he lived as a stranger in the promised land, looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. Those who live by faith declare that they seek a homeland. If they had been thinking of the country they left, they could have returned. But they long for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

## SONG OF PRAISE

***Jesus, I Come***

SLEEPER THOMPSON

*Stanzas 1, 2 and 4*

Out of my bondage, sorrow, and night,  
Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come.  
Into Thy freedom, gladness, and light,  
Jesus, I come to Thee.  
Out of my sickness, into Thy health,  
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,  
Out of my sin and into Thyself,  
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss,  
Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come.  
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross,  
Jesus, I come to Thee.  
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm,  
Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,  
Out of distress into jubilant psalm,  
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,  
Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come.  
Into the joy and light of Thy home,  
Jesus, I come to Thee.  
Out of the depths of ruin untold,  
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,  
Ever Thy glorious face to behold,  
Jesus, I come to Thee.

## 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, You have brought me to the valley of vision, where I live in the depths yet see You in the heights. Surrounded by the mountains of my sin, I behold Your glory. Teach me that the way down is the way up, that brokenness leads to healing, and that true joy is found in repentance. Show me that to have nothing is to possess everything, that to bear the cross is to wear the crown, and that surrender leads to victory. Let me see that the valley is where Your grace shines brightest, where weakness becomes strength, and sorrow gives way to joy. When I am weak, remind me that in You I am strong; when I am empty, remind me that in You I am full; and when I die to myself, remind me that in You I truly live. Keep my eyes fixed on Christ, that I may walk in humility, trust in Your wisdom, and rest in Your unfailing love. Amen.

## PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Ephesians 2:8-9*

Hear the promises of God to those who truly repent of their sins and trust in Christ: For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast.

## 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 14.22-36**

<sup>22</sup> Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup> And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup> but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup> And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. <sup>26</sup> But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

## SCRIPTURE READING\* (CONT.)

<sup>28</sup> And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup> He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." <sup>31</sup> Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup> And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup> And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

<sup>34</sup> And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret. <sup>35</sup> And when the men of that place recognized him, they sent around to all that region and brought to him all who were sick <sup>36</sup> and implored him that they might only touch the fringe of his garment. And as many as touched it were made well.

SERMON

**A Savior for Life's Storms**

*Dr. Mark McDowell*

## 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***

#### ***Come to Jesus (Rest in Him)***

*Kauflin, Merker*

Are you weary, heavy laden? Come and lay your burdens down.  
Jesus calls you, Jesus draws you; rest in Him.  
He is gentle, He is lowly, He delights to bring us peace,  
Tender Shepherd, mighty Savior: rest in Him.

*Chorus: How sure His compassion for us!  
Oh how deep is His love.  
So come, come to Jesus and rest in Him.*

Are you hopeless, are you guilty? Caught in shame for all your sin?  
He pursues you to forgive you; rest in Him.  
He has paid for every failure, mercy flows in endless streams,  
Come and follow, freedom calls you: rest in Him.   *Chorus*

Are you waiting in your sorrows for this broken world to heal?  
He is coming, soon returning; rest in Him.  
We will see Him, we will know Him, O what heights of grace revealed,  
From His kindness, every promise then fulfilled.  
Trust in Jesus, He will keep us to the end.   *Chorus*

*During the cup  
Instrumental*

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## CLOSING HYMN\*

### ***Lift High the Cross | No. 263***

CRUCIFER

*Stanzas 1, 3, and 5*

*Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,  
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

Come, brethren, follow where our Savior trod,  
Our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

*Refrain*

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
As thou hast promised, draw men unto thee.

*Refrain*

For thy blest cross which doth for us atone,  
Creation's praises rise before thy throne.

*Refrain*

## BENEDICTION\*

Minister: May the blessing of God Almighty, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, be  
with you all now and forever.