

The Covenant Renewal Service

Providence Reformed
Presbyterian Church

9124 Sappington Road, St. Louis, MO 63126
314-843-7994 www.providencestlouis.com



Easter Sunday

April 4, 2021

Welcome

If you are **visiting** our church today, we welcome you to our worship service and Christian community. Please find the registration book in the foyer of the church and help us serve you better by leaving your name and contact information. We promise to keep this information confidential and only use it for personal contact with you and your family.

We have suspended **Christian education** classes for all ages for a time because of the virus pandemic.

If you are unfamiliar with **our form of worship**, please feel free to speak with one of the Pastors or Elders. We have resources that will help you understand the biblical rationale for why we worship the way we do. Pastor Meyers has written a short guide to our worship. You can find a copy at the Guest Book table in the foyer. Visit our website for articles, essays, and other helpful information on our worship and life at www.providencestlouis.com.

The **Lord's Supper** is observed every Sunday as the climax of covenant renewal worship. We invite to the Lord's Table all those who are baptized disciples of Jesus Christ, under the authority of Christ and his body, the Church. By eating the bread and wine with us as a visitor, you are acknowledging to the elders of this local church that you are in covenant with God as an active member of a congregation in which the Gospel is faithfully confessed, taught, and believed. If you have any doubt about your participation, please speak to one of the elders or the pastor before or after the service. **Note:** The middle circle of cups in each tray contains grape juice, the larger outer ring contains wine (the grape juice has a darker color than the wine).

Jesus Christ Victor (*Front Cover*)



The traditional monograms **IC** and **XC** are ancient Latin abbreviations for **Jesus** (*IHCOCYX*, a Latinized form of his Greek name) and **Christ** (*XRICTOC*). **NIKA** means Victor or Conqueror. Jesus Christ was born to conquer sin, death, and the Devil. The cross in the center of the world reminds us that Jesus has conquered by means of his suffering, death, and resurrection. Jesus now reigns *because* he died for us.

Today our Pulpit and Table paraments are **white**. White symbolizes the promise of the glorious transfiguration of our flesh because of the glorification of Jesus in his resurrection from the dead.

The Morning Service

The Lord's Day — April 4, 2021

Easter Sunday

Preparation For Worship: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Organ – Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements – Pastor Jeff Meyers

The Entrance

Prelude	Mr. Bill Hoover
Welcome & Announcements	Pastor Jeff Meyers
Silent Preparation [kneeling]	
†Call to Worship	Pastor Jeff Meyers

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Congregation: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Hymn #198 "Jesus Christ is risen today" *Trinity Hymnal*

†Salutation & Responsive Scripture Pastor Caleb Skogen

Pastor: In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit!

Congregation: **Amen!** *Matthew 28:19*

The Lord be with you! *Ruth 2:4*

And also with you!

Thanks be to God! *1 Corinthians 15:57*

Who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

†Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord:

Almighty God, our Father, grant, we ask, that we who celebrate the glorious feast of Easter, may honor and praise you, who through your only-begotten Son has overcome death, and opened to us the gate of everlasting life; in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, age after age. Amen!

Purification

†Pastor: Dearly beloved brethren, let us draw near to God our Father with a honest heart and confess our sins, asking him to forgive us for Christ's sake: [Congregation Kneels]

Search me, O God, and know my heart; *Psalms 139:23-24*

Test me and know my thoughts!

See if there is any wicked way in me,
And lead me in the way everlasting.

O Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor miserable sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you. I justly deserve your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for my sins, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you of your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious to me, a poor sinful being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of your Holy Spirit that I may genuinely amend my sinful life and earnestly persevere in doing your will. Lord, be gracious to me, for Jesus sake I pray. Amen.

†Pastor: Now lift up your heads, arise, and hear the good news. . . !



Ascension

†Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord!

†Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

It is proper and right to do so.

†It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe. At your word the earth was made a glorious home for mankind. Your hand formed us from the dust of the earth and set us over all your creatures to love and serve you. When we were unfaithful to you, you kept faith with us, your love remained steadfast. When we were slaves in Egypt, you broke the bonds of our oppression, brought us through the sea to freedom, and graciously covenanted to be our God. By a pillar of fire you led us through the desert to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life. You gave your Word to take on our flesh and in him you lived among us, manifesting your glory.

He died that we might live, and has risen to raise us to new life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your Name. . .

†The Sanctus

with vigor
fff Ho - ly! Ho - ly! Ho - ly! Lord, God of Hosts! Hea-ven and earth are
 full of Your glo - ry! Ho - san - na in the High - est! Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the High - est.

Choral anthem "Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing" Choir

Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!
 Now is the triumph of our King!
 To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia!

The Lord of life is ris'n this day;
 Bring flow'rs of song to strew his way;
 Let all the world rejoice and say: Alleluia!

Praise we in songs of victory
 That love, that life which cannot die,
 And sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia!

Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
 And sing today with one accord
 The life laid down, The life restored: Alleluia!

Text: Cyril A. Alington (1872-1955), alt. Miriam Drury, 1970, © 1958, renewal 1986 by Hope Publishing Co.
 All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-710580.
 Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, ca. 1570-1615, arr. Donald Busarow, 1998.
 Joanie Harris, organ; Adrianna Howden, oboe; Bob Wooldridge, recorder.

The Hebrew Scripture Reading: *Jeremiah 23:1-6*

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

The Epistle Reading: *1 Corinthians 15:1-11*

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

Psalm 16



1 Preserve me O God for in you I take refuge. I say to Yahweh, | “You - are my | Lord;
I have no | good a- | part from | you.” | |

2 As for the saints in the land they are the | ex - cellent | ones,
In whom is | **all** | my de- | light. | |

3 The sorrows of those who run after another | god shall | multiply;
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out,
Or take their | **names** | on my | lips. | |

4 Yahweh is my chosen portion and my cup; you | hold my | lot. | |
The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
Indeed I have a | beau-ti- | ful in- | heritance. | |

5 I bless Yahweh who | gives me | counsel;
in the night also | my heart | instructs | me. | |

6 I have set Yahweh | always be- | fore me;
because he is at my right hand | I shall | not be | shaken. | |

7 Therefore my heart is glad and my whole | being re- | joices;
my flesh | also | dwells se- | cure. | |

8 For you will not abandon my | soul to | Sheol,
or let your | holy - one | see cor- | ruption. | |

9 You make known to me the | path of | life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy;
at your right hand are | pleasures | for - ever- | more

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

†The Gospel Reading: *Luke 23:50–24:12*

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Praise be to you, O Christ!

†We Confess our Faith: *The Nicene Creed* (Luther’s sung version)

1 We all be - lieve in one true God, Who cre - at - ed
 2 We all be - lieve in Je - sus Christ, His own Son, our
 3 We all con - fess the Ho - ly Ghost, Who, in high - est
 earth and heav - en, The Fa - ther, who to us in love
 Lord, pos - sess - ing An e - qual God - head, throne, and might,
 heav - en dwell - ing With God the Fa - ther and the Son,
 Has the right of chil - dren giv - en. He in soul and
 Source of ev - 'ry grace and bless - ing; Born of Mar - y,
 Com - forts us be - yond all tell - ing; Who the Church, His
 bod - y feeds us; All we need His hand pro - vides us;
 vir - gin moth - er, By the pow - er of the Spir - it,
 own cre - a - tion, Keeps in u - ni - ty of spir - it.
 Through all snares and per - ils leads us, Watch - ing that no
 Word made flesh, our el - der broth - er; That the lost might
 Here for - give - ness and sal - va - tion Dai - ly come through
 harm be - tide us. He cares for us by
 life in - her - it, Was cru - ci - fied for
 Je - sus' mer - it. All flesh shall rise, and
 day and night; All things are gov - erned by His might.
 all our sin And raised by God to life a - gain.
 we shall be In bliss with God e - ter - nal - ly.

Sermon Text: *Romans 1:1-7*

Pastor Jeff Meyers

Sermon: **THE RESURRECTION IS EVERYTHING!**

The Tribute Offering

†[Hands Raised] Doxology

Pastor Caleb Skogen

†Offertory Prayer & Congregation: **Amen!**

†An Easter Litany

O Christ, after your resurrection you appeared to your disciples;
 you breathed on them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit.

You gave joy and exultation to the whole creation. Through your victory, we pray to you:

Hear us, Lord of glory!

O Christ, after your resurrection you sent out your disciples to baptize and teach the nations in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; you promised to be with them and us until the end of the world. Through your victory, we pray to you:

Hear us, Lord of glory!

O Christ, through your resurrection you lifted us up, and filled us with rejoicing. Through your salvation you enrich us with your gifts. Renew our lives and fill our hearts with joy. Through your victory, we pray to you:

Hear us, Lord of glory!

O Christ, you are glorified by angels and redeemed saints in heaven, and you are worshiped by your church on earth. On the glorious feast of your resurrection, we pray to you:

Hear us, Lord of glory!

Save us, O Christ our Lord, in your goodness, extend your mercy to your people who await the resurrection at the end of history, and have mercy on us.

Hear us, Lord of glory!

Heavenly Father, we rejoice that the grave could not hold your Son, and that he has conquered death, risen to rule over the powers of this earth. We praise you that he summons us into new life, to follow him with joy and gladness. By your Spirit, lift us from doubt and despair, and set our feet in Christ's holy way, that our lives may be signs of his life, and that all we are and do may show forth his love. Praise, glory, and thanksgiving to you, our God, now and forever more.

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Amen!

The Sacrifice of Peace

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Memorial
The Lord's Supper

†Hymn #201 “The strife is o’er!” (second service) *Trinity Hymnal*

Pastoral Benediction

†The Song of Simeon (*Nunc Dimittis*): *Luke 2:29-32*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy Word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou has prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

†Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

Congregation: **And his mercy endures forever!**

†Pastoral Prayer: Almighty and everlasting God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation: **Amen!**

Benediction

†Hymn #200 “Come, ye faithful, raise the strain” *Trinity Hymnal*

†Easter Charge: *Hebrews 13:20-21*

Pastor Jeff Meyers

†Benediction: *Numbers 6:24-26*

†Three-fold Amen & Postlude

Welcome to Providence Presbyterian Church, especially those who are visiting with us for the first time today. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak with one of the pastors or elders. There will be no evening service tonight. Enjoy your afternoon and evening with feasting and fellowship.

Heidelberg Catechism - Question 45

Q. How does Christ’s resurrection benefit us?

A. First, by his resurrection he has overcome death, so that he might make us share in the righteousness he won for us by his death. Second, by his power we too are already now resurrected to a new life. Third, Christ’s resurrection is a guarantee of our glorious resurrection.

Announcements

Nursery Volunteers Needed! — We have an urgent need for nursery volunteers to help with the nursery reopens on April 11th. Please remember to sign the Nursery Volunteer Sign-up sheet on the WIC table in the church foyer on Sunday. And you can also send Ginny and email note (gsturlaugson@yahoo.com). Thank you.

Temporary Sunday Schedule — Beginning April 11th we will be changing the times for the Sunday worship services and adding Sunday school back into the schedule. This will be the new temporary schedule through June 27th.

8:45 AM – Early Worship Service (masks required)

10:00 AM – Sunday School for Adults & Children (masks welcome, but not required)

11:00 AM – Late Worship Service (masks welcome, but not required)

Then, beginning Sunday, July 4th we will return to our normal schedule—one service at 9:30 AM, but no Sunday school till the Fall.

Sunday school will be suspended for July & August and resume on September 5th. On July 4th we return to our normal Sunday schedule without Sunday school. By keeping our two-service schedule for a few more months we will continue to serve members that are either vulnerable to COVID or have to be around others that are vulnerable until more people have had a chance to be vaccinated.

Dinner & Variety Banquet — On April 17, 2021, WIC is hosting a Variety Show & Dinner in the fellowship hall at church. This event is for the whole family!!! The doors will open at 4 PM and the show will start promptly at 4:30 PM, snacks (popcorn & peanuts) will be available during the show. Out of courtesy for the performers who are working hard to put on an awesome show for everyone we ask that everyone be seated and ready for the show by 4:25 PM. After the show we will have a short cocktail time (beer & wine) on the back parking lot. Following that we will have dinner and dessert catered by Andre's.

Sunday School Begins Next Week — If you plan to have your children attend Sunday school classes beginning April 11th, please send a note to our Sunday School Coordinator, Dottie Edwards. We will need to know the ages of your children so we can make plans for classroom sizes, etc. Thank you.

Men's Evening Bible Study — Our next evening men's Bible study will be next week, Tuesday, April 6th. We are working our way through the life of Abraham. This week we will be reading and discussing Genesis chapters 15 and 16. The study begins at 7 PM and ends at 8 PM.

Ladies Book Discussion Meeting — The book discussion group will meet on the first Monday of April. We will meet at the home of Dottie Devlin (11299 Manchester Road #6 63122) on Monday evening, April 5, at 7 pm. We will be discussing *The Lake House* by Kate Mor in April instead of *Middlemarch*. At present, we plan to discuss *Middlemarch* at the September meeting.

STOA Using Our Facilities — The local chapter of [STOA](#) will be holding their annual tournament in our building Thursday–Saturday, April 8-10.

Adult Sunday School Class — Beginning April 11, we will be holding two adult Sunday school classes between the two services (10–10:45 AM).

- Visitors, Inquirers, & New Members Class – led by Pastor Meyers (location to be announced)
- The Philosophy & Practice of Christian Education – led by Pastor Skogen, meeting in the Fellowship Hall

Church Calendar

Today	Early Service at 9 AM Late Service at 10:45
Monday, Apr 5	Ladies Book Discussion 7 PM
Tuesday, Apr 6	Men’s Bible Study 7 PM
Thurs-Sun, Apr 8-10	STOA using building all day
Sunday, Apr 11	New Temporary Sunday Morning Schedule begins Early Morning Worship at 8:45 Children’s & Adult Sunday school 10-10:45 Late Morning Worship at 11:00 AM
Saturday, Apr 17	WIC Variety Show 5 PM
Sunday, July 4	Sunday Worship at 9:30 AM No Sunday School