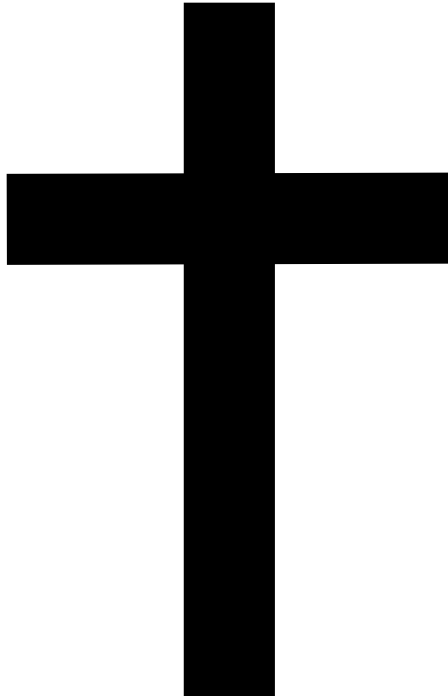


The Covenant Renewal Service

**Providence Reformed
Presbyterian Church**

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



The Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 14, 2021

Welcome

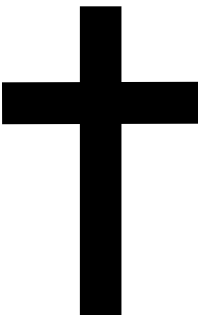
If you are **visiting** our church today, we welcome you to our worship service and Christian community. Please find the registration book in the foyer of the church and help us serve you better by leaving your name and contact information. We promise to keep this information confidential and only use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

The Simple Cross (*Front Cover*)



During Lent this year we will display a simple, unadorned cross on the front cover of our bulletins. This will remind us of God the Son's climactic act of service for humanity. He allowed his arms to be stretched out on the cross bar, and his feet were nailed to the tree. Thus he voluntarily gave himself up to death for the sins of his people. Paul tells us that the Gospel is "the message of the cross. . . to us who are being saved is the power of God"(1 Cor. 1:18).

The Morning Service

The Lord's Day — March 14, 2021

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Preparation For Worship: *Psalm 150*

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: *Psalm 144:1-3*

†Hymn #305 (*Psalm 84*) "O Lord of Hosts, how lovely" *Trinity Hymnal*

From PSALM 84

Associate Reformed Presbyterian *Psalter*, 1931

LLANGLOFFAN 7. 6. 7. 6. D.

Welsh hymn melody

1. O Lord of Hosts, how love - ly the place where thou dost dwell!
2. Blest who thy house in - hab - it, they ev - er give thee praise;
3. O hear, Lord God of Ja - cob, to me an an - swer yield;
4. Our sun and shield, Je - ho - vah, will grace and glo - ry give;

Thy tab - er - nac - les ho - ly in pleas - ant - ness ex - cel.
Blest all whom thou dost strength - en, who love the sa - cred ways.
The face of thine A - noint - ed, be - hold, O God, our shield.
No good will he de - ny them that up - right - ly do live.

My soul is long - ing, faint - ing, Je - ho - vah's courts to see;
So they from strength un - wear - ied go for - ward un - to strength,
One day ex - cels a thou - sand if spent thy courts with - in;
O God of Hosts, Je - ho - vah, how blest is ev - 'ry one

My heart and flesh are cry - ing, O liv - ing God, for thee.
 Till they ap - pear in Zi - on be - fore the Lord at length.
 I'll choose thy thresh-old, rath - er than dwell in tents of sin.
 Who con - fid - ence re - pos - es on thee, O Lord, a - lone. A - MEN.

†Salutation & Responsive Scripture

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

Our help is in the Name of the Lord, *Psalms 124:8*
Who made heaven and earth!

†Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord:

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the wise steps of his mature life; through Jesus Christ your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!

Purification

†Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us kneel and humbly confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of Christ our Savior to grant us forgiveness: [*Congregation kneels*]

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
Whose sin is covered. *Psalms 32:1-2*

Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,
And in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Eternal God, in whom I live and move and have my being, my heavenly Father, your face is hidden from me because of my sins. Cleanse me, I pray, from all my offenses, and deliver me from proud thoughts and vain desires. Grant that I may, in lowliness and meekness, draw near to you. Confessing my faults and confiding in your love, I look for your grace and mercy through Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Choral Prayer "Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake"

Choir

Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake,
 lay not our sins to our charge,
 but forgive that is past,
 and give us grace to amend our sinful lives,
 to decline from sin and incline to virtue,
 that we may walk with a perfect heart
 before thee now and evermore.

Text from *Christian Prayers and Holy Meditations* by Henry Bull, 1568.
 Music ascribed to Richard Farrant (c. 1530-1581).

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

Musical score for the hymn 'Al-le-lu-ia'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the bass staff providing a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the treble staff.

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.

†Truly it is good, right, and beneficial that we should give thanks to you at all times and in every place, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. You graciously invite your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the Easter feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to us as the children of God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, and with the church on earth, we praise and magnify your glorious Name, evermore praising you and singing . . .

†The Sanctus

Musical score for 'The Sanctus'. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff is marked 'with vigor' and 'ff' (fortissimo). The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: '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.' The score includes triplets and dynamic markings.

The Hebrew Scripture Reading: *Isaiah 6:1-13*

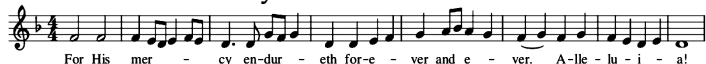
This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Psalm 118

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good. Alleluia!

Refrain: **For His mercy endureth forever and ever. Alleluia!**



Let the house of Israel now say that He is good. Alleluia!

For His mercy endureth forever and ever. Alleluia!

Let the house of Aaron now say that He is good. Alleluia!

For His mercy endureth forever and ever. Alleluia!

Let all them that fear the Lord now say that He is good. Alleluia!

For His mercy endureth forever and ever. Alleluia!

In my distress I called upon the Lord, He heard me and brought me to a large place. Alleluia!

For His mercy endureth forever and ever. Alleluia!

The Lord is my helper, I will not fear what can man do unto me. Alleluia!

For His mercy endureth forever and ever. Alleluia!

The Lord is my strength and my song, He has become my salvation. Alleluia!

For His mercy endureth forever and ever. Alleluia!

The stone which the builders rejected, has become the cornerstone. Alleluia!

For His mercy endureth forever and ever. Alleluia!

This is the day the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein. Alleluia!

For His mercy endureth forever and ever. Alleluia!

The Epistle Reading: *Romans 11:1-10*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

†The Gospel Reading: *John 12:35-43*

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Praise be to you, O Christ!

†We Confess our Faith: *The Nicene Creed*

I believe in one God the Father Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth,

and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of his Father before all worlds: God of God,

Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made;
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made:

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man; and was crucified also for us
under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,

and sits on the right hand of the Father.

And he shall come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and
glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

And I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen!

Sermon Text: *John 12:35-43*

Pastor Jeff Meyers

Sermon: **HARD HEARTS & BLIND EYES**

XL. EXPOSITION OF THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN

The Tribute Offering

†[*Hands Raised*] Doxology

†Offertory Prayer & Congregation: Amen!

The Prayer of the Church

†Pastor: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give You praise and thanks for all Your goodness and tender mercies. We bless You for the love that created us, and that sustains us day by day. We praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior, through whom You have made known Your will and grace. We thank You for the Holy Spirit, our Comforter; for the holy Church, for the means of grace, for the lives of all faithful and godly people, and for the hope of the life to come. Help us to treasure in our hearts all that our Lord has done for us, and enable us to show our thankfulness by lives that are given wholly to Your service. Lord, hear our prayer!

People: For you are gracious.

Save and defend Your Church universal, purchased with the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Give to her pastors and ministers endowed with Your Holy Spirit, and strengthen her through the Word and the holy sacraments. Make her mature in love and in all good works, and establish her in the faith delivered to the saints. Sanctify and unite Your people in all the world, that one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church may bear witness to You, the God and Father of all. Lord hear our prayer!

For you are gracious.

We humbly entreat You for all sorts and conditions of men, that You would be pleased to make Your ways known unto them, Your salvation to all nations. Send forth Your light and Your truth into all the earth. Raise up, we pray, faithful servants to labor in the gospel at home and in distant lands. Lord, hear our prayer!

For You are gracious.

Preserve our nation in righteousness and in true honor, and grant Your blessings to us as a people, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. Grant health and favor to all who bear office in our land, and cause them to acknowledge and obey Your holy will. Lord, hear our prayer!

For you are gracious.

God of all comfort and protection, we bring before You all who are in any way afflicted, all persons oppressed with poverty, sickness, unemployment, or other trouble of body or mind, especially those whom we now name in our hearts before You. . . . Grant them the consolations of which they have need, and overrule their present sufferings to their eternal good. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy upon those to whom death draws near. Bring consolation to those in sorrow or mourning. And to all grant a measure of Your love, taking them into Your tender care. Lord, hear our prayer!

For you are gracious.

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you in your church on earth, who now rest from their labors.

Keep us in fellowship with all your saints, and bring us at length to the joy of your heavenly kingdom; All these things,

and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O Father, for his sake who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, age after age. Amen.

The Sacrifice of Peace

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Memorial

The Lord's Supper

Communion Hymn #44 (*Psalm 9*) "O Lord most high" (2nd service)

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 Father, you give your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in your loving-kindness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, age after age.

Congregation: **Amen!**

Benediction

†Hymn #301 (*Psalm 78*) "My people, give ear"

†Lenten Charge: *1 Peter 5:5b-11*

†Benediction: *Numbers 6:24-26*

†Three-fold Amen

†Postlude

Evening Prayer Service

Sunday, March 14, 2021 – 5 PM

Scripture Reading: *Matthew 5:2-11*

Pastor Jeff Meyers

†Hymn "Be thou my vision"

†Opening Prayer

Scripture Reading: *Matthew 5:43-48*

Homily: **The Patron Saint of Ireland**

Pastor Caleb Skogen

†Hymn #322 "Lord of the Sabbath"

Trinity Hymnal

Prayer Requests & Prayer

†The Lorica

(see handout)

†Benediction

****Fellowship Dinner downstairs immediately after the service****

Welcome to Providence Presbyterian Church. If you are visiting with us, please leave your name and address (preferably your email address) in the guest book in the foyer near the front door

Announcements

Evening Service & St. Patrick's Day Fellowship Dinner — Tonight is our monthly Evening Prayer service. The service will be at 5 PM. This will be followed by a St. Patrick's Day themed dinner in the fellowship hall. Bring Irish food and drink to share with everyone!

WIC Variety Show — WIC is hosting a dinner and variety show for everyone on Saturday, April 17. This is an event for the whole family! Dinner will be catered and will start promptly at 5pm in the fellowship hall. Following will be a variety show at 6:15pm lasting approximately an hour. If you would like to participate in the show or have ideas for the show please contact Lisa Grove or Deena Donnelly. If you would like to attend please check the WIC table for a sign up sheet. If you are signing up as a family please indicate how many will be attending.

Skogen Family Out of Town — Pastor Skogen and his family will be out of town on vacation this week.

Help Needed Moving — Cassie Linton will need help moving on Saturday, March 27. Please contact her for more information and if you are able to lend a hand at cmlpod0509@gmail.com.

Children's Choir - Special Rehearsals - Today and next Sunday, the Children's Choir will rehearse their Palm Sunday anthem with the Adult Choir for 15 minutes right after the second worship service. The Children's Choir is open to children from age 6 through Grade 6 and girls in Middle School and High School. Questions? Please contact Bill Hoover (billhoover@fastmail.com, 314-540-2427).

Church Directory — We are working on an updated directory. If you are visiting with us (not yet formally a member) but plan on staying with us, we would love to include you in our directory. We've not been able to have a new members class this year because of the virus craziness. Please send your contact information and a picture to Randy Stone.

Ladies Bible Study — Ladies, please join us on Thursdays at 9:30 AM for ladies Bible study. Pastor Meyers is teaching us out of the book of Philippians! We meet in person in the same Sunday school classroom as usual. We will continue to have Zoom for those unable to attend. We still are unable to have babysitting services at this time.

Evening Ladies Bible Study — The next Tuesday evening Bible study will meet on Tuesday, March 16, at 7 PM. Pastor Meyers be teaching from the book of Esther. We will meet at church in the Sunday school classroom. We will not have Zoom for this study but will try to record them. No babysitting services will be offered for this study.

Distribution of Palms - On Palm Sunday (March 28), our young children** will distribute palms at the beginning of the second service, while the Children's Choir and Adult Choir sing their anthem. That day the children** should arrive at 10:25 to line up and receive their palms. (**Children from age 2 through Grade 1, except for those in the Children's Choir.

Church Calendar

Today

Evening Prayer Service at 5PM +
Fellowship Dinner following

Wednesday, Mar 17

Morning Prayer Service 7:30 AM

Saturday, Apr 17

WIC Variety Show 5 PM