

# The Covenant Renewal Service

Providence Reformed  
Presbyterian Church

9124 Sappington Road, St. Louis, MO 63126  
314-843-7994 [www.providencestlouis.com](http://www.providencestlouis.com)



**Easter Season**

*April 15, 2018*

# 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. Join us downstairs for coffee after this morning's service.

We have **Christian education** classes for all ages meeting after the service at 11:10 AM. Children's Sunday school classes meet in the educational wing. This morning we continue our adult Sunday school class exploring the foundational truths of the Christian faith using the creeds, confessions, and catechisms of the early, medieval, Reformation, and modern Christian communities.

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. Visit our website for articles, essays, and other helpful information on our worship and life at Providence: [www.providencestlouis.com](http://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** (*IHCYOYC*, 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 15, 2018

*Easter Season*

**Preparation For Worship: Psalm 49**

Organ - Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements - Pastor Jeff Meyers

---

## The Entrance

Prelude

Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Jeff Meyers

[*Kneeling*] Silent Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship: *Revelation 7:9-10*

†Hymn #315 "God himself is with us"

*Trinity Hymnal*

†Salutation & Responsive Scripture

In the Name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit

**Amen!**

*Matthew 28:19*

The Lord be with you!

*Ruth 2:4*

**And also with you!**

Call on the Name of the Lord in praise;

*Psalm 105:1-5*

**Make known his deeds among the nations!**

Sing to God with joyful songs;

**Tell of all God's wonderful works!**

†Leader: Let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord of life, submitting to death, you conquered the grave. By being lifted on a cross, you draw all peoples to you. By being raised from the dead, you restore to humanity all that we had lost through sin. Help us now to proclaim to the world the marvelous mystery of death and resurrection; through Christ our Lord. Amen!**

## Purification

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

Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,

**And in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

*Psalm 32:2*

I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,

**And you forgave the guilt of my sin.**

*Psalm 32:5*

**Most holy and merciful Father; we acknowledge and confess before you that we are prone to evil and slothful in good, and we have many shortcomings and offenses. You alone know how often we have sinned against you, in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy on us. Teach us to hate our errors and cleanse us from our secret faults. *Silent Prayer. Amen!***

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

## **Ascension**

†Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

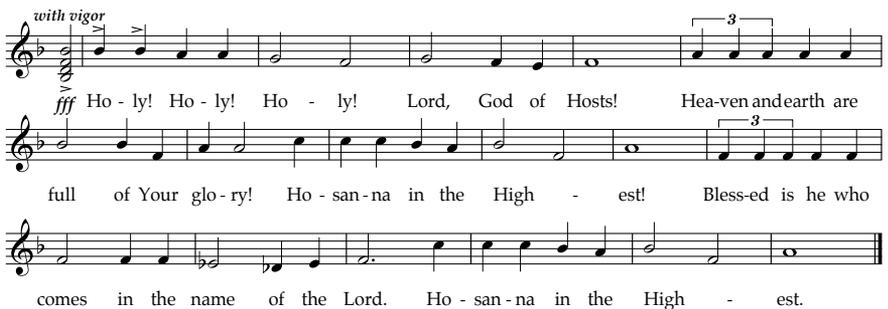
**We lift them up to the Lord!**

†Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

**It is proper and right to do so.**

†Truly it is fitting, right, and beneficial to give thanks to you at all times and in every place, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God; but chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; for he is the very Paschal lamb, which was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world. By his death he has destroyed death and by his rising to life he has restored us to everlasting life. 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



*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.

Easter Hymn      “This joyful Eastertide”

1. This joyful Eastertide,  
Away with sin and sorrow!

My Love, the Crucified,  
Hath sprung to life this morrow.

**Refrain**

*Had Christ, that once was slain,  
Ne'er burst his three-day prison,  
Our faith had been in vain;  
But now hath Christ arisen,  
Arisen, arisen.  
But now hath Christ arisen!*

2. My flesh in hope shall rest,  
And for a season slumber;  
Till trump from east to west,  
Shall wake the dead in number.
3. Death's flood has lost his chill,  
Since Jesus crossed the river;  
Lover of souls, from ill  
My passing soul deliver.

Text: George R. Woodward, from *The Cowley Carol Book for Christmas, Easter, and Ascension-tide*, 1901, 1902, 1919.  
Music: from Joachim Oudaen's *David's Psalmen*, Amsterdam, 1685; arr. Charles Wood (1866-1926)

*The Scripture Readings for the Third Sunday of Easter*

The Hebrew Scripture Reading: *Psalms 49*

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

The Epistle Reading: *2 Timothy 4:9-22*

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

†The Gospel Reading: *John 16:25-33*

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!

†The Kyrie

Lord we thank you for your good-ness, love and kind-ness ev - er new.  
 For the bless - ings you have prom-ised, for the strength to serve you well;  
 Bind your Church to - ge - ther closely, wit - ness to your Tri-une life.  
 For this ho - ly house - hold gather - ed here in faith and fear of God.

For the peace that reigns in heav-en; May that peace be ours here, too.  
 Lord, from foes that plot to harm us, And from Sa-tan, death, and hell.  
 To the wider world be gra-cious, May your peace ex - pand and grow.  
 As we of - fer now our wor - ship; hear and help, O Tri-une God

REFRAIN  
 By your mer - cy O de - liv - er us, good Lord.

## The Tribute Offering

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "Christ the Way of life"

Choir

Christ the Way of life possess me,  
Lift my heart to love and praise;  
Guide and keep, sustain and bless me,  
Bless me all my days.

Well of life, for ever flowing,  
Make my barren soul and bare  
Like a watered garden growing,  
Growing fresh and fair.

May the Tree of life in splendor  
From its leafy boughs impart  
Grace divine and healing tender,  
Strength of heart.

Path of life before me shining,  
Let me come when earth is past,  
Sorrow, self and sin resigning,  
Home, home at last.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, Copyright (c) 1993 by Hope Publishing Co.  
All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710580. Music: Bob Moore

† [*Hands Raised*] The Doxology

*Trinity Hymnal*, p. xvi

† Offertory Prayer

Heavenly Father, God of Hope, we humbly present these gifts in recognition of the grace that you offer us each and every day. You have endowed us with great bounty. Today, we return a portion of this bounty to you as a generous expression of our gratitude, offering ourselves to you through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, age after age.  
Congregation: **Amen!**

† Prayer of the Church

Almighty God, you have taught us to pray not only for ourselves but for all men: hear us as we pray for others, in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. For your holy Church on earth; for her ministers, elders, deacons, that all who love the Savior may love him truly and serve him faithfully:

**We ask You to hear us, O Lord.**

For all who do not know the Gospel of your love in Jesus Christ, that you would be pleased to gather them into your fold:

**We ask You to hear us, O Lord.**

For your missionaries, especially those known to and supported by us, that they may cause your light to shine in the dark places of the earth:

**We ask You to hear us, O Lord.**

For our country, for our President and others in authority, that you would guide them in your wisdom:

**We ask You to hear us, King of Kings.**

For the poor, the exploited, and those too weak to defend themselves from powerful oppressors; for those seduced into immoral behavior by our increasingly ungodly culture; and especially the women and unborn children abused, injured, and even murdered by the abortion industry in our country:

**We ask You to hear us, gracious Lord.**

For all who are in sickness, sorrow, and trouble, that you would comfort and sustain them [*the congregation may add their petitions here*]:

**We ask You to hear us, O Lord!**

For the glorious company of the Apostles, prophets, and martyrs, and for the pleasant fellowship of the faithful in all ages:

**We ask You to hear us, O Lord! Amen!**

## **The Sacrifice of Peace**

Prayer of Thanksgiving & the Bread of Life

Hymn: #135 "I greet thee"

*Trinity Hymnal*

Prayer of Thanksgiving & the Wine of Gladness

†The Song of Simeon (*Nunc Dimittis*): Luke 2:30-32

**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 God, merciful Father, since you have wakened from death the Shepherd of your Sheep, grant us the faithful presence of your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know him who calls us each by name and follow where he leads: through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, age after age. **Amen!**

## **Benediction**

Hymn #53 (*Psalm 146*) “Hallelujah, praise Jehovah” *Trinity Hymnal*

†Easter Commission: *Hebrews 13:20-21*

†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. You are invited to join us in the basement fellowship hall for coffee and conversation after the service. Our Evening Prayer Service begins tonight at 6 PM.

## **Announcements**

### **Nursery Volunteers Today:**

Morning Service – Marylynn Handermann

Sunday School – Bo Hanley

### **Nursery Volunteers Next Week:**

Morning Service – Alpha Thomas Bangura

Sunday School – Brookie and John Moore

**Evening Prayer Service Tonight** — We start the service at 6 PM and end by 7 PM.

**Adult Sunday School** — We continue our overview of the Creeds and Confessions of the church today in the fellowship hall. This morning Caleb Skogen will teach on the Council of Trent (AD. 1564).

**Church Work Day** — The deacons are calling for a church work day on Saturday, April 21, 8 AM till 12 noon. Come and help us clean up the church for Spring. There are chores to accomplish both outside and inside. There will be a sign-up sheet at church this Sunday. Members can sign up for an area or a specific task. We would like to see multiple members for each activity to encourage fellowship opportunities.

**New Prayer Chain Contact Person** — Debbie Zintel will be serving our congregation by overseeing the prayer chain. Please direct church-wide requests for prayer to Debbie by email or phone or text: 314-221-8913.

**WIC Spring Brunch** — The annual Women in the Church (WIC) brunch will be on May 5th at 10:30 AM. Look for more details soon.

**Baby Shower** — Ladies, you are invited to a Baby Shower that will bless one of our newest families, Matthew and Catie Hon, on Thursday May 10th. This is an ideal opportunity to get to know Catie, or even meet her, if you haven't yet! We will meet at the home of Brookie Moore at 7:00 p.m. Please see the sign up sheets on the WIC Table or during the Adult Sunday School class. Catie is registered at Buy Buy Baby and Amazon. Please contact Barb Hoover with any questions.

**Parish Groups** — Parish Groups will meet on Sunday, April 22.

**Annual Congregational Meeting** — Annual Congregational Meeting — Our annual congregational meeting is scheduled for the Sunday school hour on May 6th. Next week we will have the 2018-19 budget available for your comments before the session votes to adopt it the first week of May. We will also have the list of men we are placing before the congregation to serve as elders and deacons. Look for that information by next Sunday, if not before.

**2018 Vacation Bible School Dates** — Mark your calendars for the most amazing, incredible, crazy-fun VBS. It's all happening July 16-20.

**Ladies Bible Study** — The study meets on Thursday, 9:30 AM.

## **Church Calendar**

Today	Evening Service at 6 PM
Monday, April 16	Session Meeting at 7 PM
Wednesday, April 18	NO choir practice
Thursday, April 19	Ladies Bible Study at 9:30 AM
	Rooted Meeting at 7 PM
Saturday, April 21	Church Work Day, 8 AM till 12 noon
Sunday, April 22	Parish Groups meet (no evening service)
Saturday, May 5	WIC Brunch
Sunday, May 6	Congregational Meeting during Sunday school hour
Sunday, May 20	Pentecost Pig Roast
July 16-20	Vacation Bible School

# The Lord's Service Explained

## Easter Season

In the early, post-apostolic Church it was the feast of Easter that established the starting point of the development of the liturgical church year. The year as a whole receives its "Sunday" at Easter. Just as the first day of the week gives meaning and purpose to the weekly pattern of human life, so also the celebration of Easter in the Spring orients the entire year around the victorious resurrection of Christ for the life of the world. The early Church did not intend for this yearly pattern to replace or weaken the weekly Sunday worship of the church. Rather, the annual pattern was intended to enable the church to understand even better the mystery of Christ's sanctification of all of life, time included.

Early on in the Church's development of the Easter feast, following the weekly pattern, the annual celebration was set within a framework of six weeks of preparation and repentance (called Lent), ending with the rest of Easter. Then, following Easter Sunday, seven weeks of exultation and feasting were decreed, ending in Pentecost and the beginning of an "eighth week." The church, therefore, celebrates a "week of weeks" during the Easter season as a reminder of Christ's comprehensive redemption of all of life, a time of feasting, giving thanks, and praise to the Risen Christ. Easter season ends with the festival of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost) which ends the seven weeks and ushers in the world to come (symbolically, the eighth day or week). Use these seven weeks of Easter season not just to meditate and reflect upon the resurrection of our Lord, but also to rejoice, give thanks, and sing about the comprehensive victory that he has accomplished for you.

The color for Easter is white. White symbolizes purity, light, and life. It is the bright "color" of Jesus' glorified humanity after his resurrection and therefore will also be the "color" of our new "clothing" when we are resurrected. Easter hymns can be found in the Trinity Hymnal #197-209, and also #596-609.

An Easter Prayer: O almighty and eternal God, now that you have assured us of the completion of our redemption through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, give us the will to show forth in our lives what we profess with our lips; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, age after age. Amen.

# Officers and Resource People

---

## The Session (Pastor & Elders)

Rev. Jeffrey J. Meyers	314-374-5258	Ken Pratt	314-803-2340
Tom Hanley	314-750-0203	Monte Shields	314-681-1378
Robert Murphy	314-705-7445	John Moore (Clerk)	314-849-0597
		Jason Carter	636-222-8655

## The Deacons

Daryl Hoegemann	314-714-9270	Pat Staebel	314-303-4369
Liessman Sturlaugson	314-323-5589	Todd Tageson	314-892-8982
Skip Jaeggi	314-631-4394		

## Women in the Church Officers & Department Heads

President: Bo Hanley	314-283-0674	Nursery: Mary Beth Denney	636-226-5630
Vice President: Kathy Hoegemann		Bethel: Cassie Linton, Denise Gerstung	
314-714-9270		Kitchen: Kathy Pratt.	314-856-5778
Secretary: Debbie Keane	314-249-3108	Maggie Montgomery	314-283-0319
Treasurer: Amy Sterner	314-606-6900	Hospitality: Barb Hoover	
Prayer Chain: Debbie Zintel	314-221-8913	Wedding Coordinator:	
dzintel@msn.com		Barb Hoover	314-504-3488

## Church Staff

Pastor Jeffrey J. Meyers	314-842-9329 (O)	Bill Hoover (Music Dir.)	314-540-2427
<a href="mailto:jeffmeyers@me.com">jeffmeyers@me.com</a>	314-374-5258 (C)	Jennifer Vermeer (Secretary)	208-899-9123
Mr. Caleb Skogen (Youth Pastor)		<a href="mailto:vermeerjennifer@gmail.com">vermeerjennifer@gmail.com</a>	
<a href="mailto:cskoge10@yahoo.com">cskoge10@yahoo.com</a>	910-639-3239		

## Pastoral Interns

Joel Nelson	573-825-1104	Caleb Skogen	910-639-3239
Robert Murphy	314-705-7445		

## Home and Foreign Ministries

Jamison & Laura Galt	New York City	Tim & Rosamma Weston	ISI (Seattle, WA)
Shane & Kim Gibson	New Orleans, LA	Graham & Sarah Purcell	MTW (Russia)
Emad & Michelle Mikhail	Middle East	Cody & Molly Dotson	Brooklyn, NY
Dan & Becky Young	Mexico	Ryan & Erin Van Horn	Chattanooga, TN
Blake & Cathy Purcell	Russia	Georgette	Burundi, Africa
Brian & Jessie Steadman	New York City	Hope Community Project	Haiti
Khen & Rith Tombing	India	Missouri Presbytery (PCA)	
(Covenant Children's Home)		Theopolis Institute	Birmingham, AL