

# **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 Sunday**  
*April 16, 2017*

# 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 are suspending **Christian education** classes for all ages today for Easter Sunday. There will be no evening service tonight. Celebrate the glorious resurrection of our Lord with family and friends today!

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** (*IHCOYC*, 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

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The Lord's Day — April 16, 2017  
*Easter Sunday*

**Preparation For Worship: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

Organ - Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements - Pastor Jeff Meyers

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## The Entrance

Prelude

Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Jeff Meyers

[*Kneeling*] Silent Preparation for Worship

†Call to Worship

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

†Hymn of Praise: #198 "Jesus Christ is risen today" *Trinity Hymnal*

†Salutation & Responsive Scripture

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 the resurrection of our Lord, 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.**

**Most merciful God, I confess that I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; not only in outward transgressions, but also in secret thoughts and desires that I am not able to understand, but which are all known to you; and therefore I am miserably helpless before my adversaries. For this reason, I flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your forgiveness and deliverance, through my Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Silent Prayer. Amen.*

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

## **Ascension**

†Leader: 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

**Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God of Hosts!  
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

†Hymn #204 “Alleluia! Alleluia!”

*Trinity Hymnal*

*Scripture Readings for Easter Sunday*

The First Reading: *Acts 10:34-43*

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

The Psalm: *Psalms 16*

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

The Epistle Reading: *1 Corinthians 15:1-19*

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

†The Gospel Reading: *Luke 24:1-12*

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.

Sermon Text: *1 Corinthians 15:1-28*

Pastor Jeff Meyers

Sermon: **WHAT IF JESUS HAD NOT RISEN FROM THE DEAD?**

†Hymn #202 "Lift up, lift up your voices now"

*Trinity Hymnal*

## **The Tribute Offering**

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "Thine is the glory"

Choir

Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.  
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
Kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.

Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;  
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;  
Let his Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,  
For the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.  
No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!  
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife;  
Make us more than conqu'rors, through thy deathless love;  
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

Text: Edmond L. Budry, 1854-1932; tr. Richard B. Hoyle, 1875-1939;  
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Music: G. F. Handel, arr. S. Drummond Wolff, 1988  
Joanie Harris, piano; Kate Hassler and Matthew ReVeal, clarinets

†[Hands Raised] The Doxology

*Trinity Hymnal*, p. xvi

†Offertory Prayer

†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 & the Bread of Life

Hymn #207 "Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands" *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.**

†Leader: 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 of Praise "In Christ alone"

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.

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Music: Keith Getty  
Dan Hayes, organ; Luke Shields, guitar;  
Tim Weston, djembe, Lisa Grove, ukelele

†Commission: *Matthew 28:18-20*

†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 Sunday School this morning and no evening service tonight. Enjoy your afternoon and evening with feasting and fellowship.

# Announcements

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## **Nursery Volunteers Today:**

Morning Service – The Pratt Family  
No Sunday School

## **Nursery Volunteers Next Week:**

Morning Service – The Shields Family  
Sunday School – Volunteers Needed

**First Cookout** — Next Sunday, April 23, we will hold our first cookout after the evening service. Bring some meat to grill, something to drink, chairs, and whatever else you want. Come and enjoy the fellowship outside.

**Ladies, Save the Date** — For a WIC (Women in the Church) brunch on Saturday, May 6th. Look for more details in the coming weeks.

**New 2017 Pictorial Directories** — We have new pictorial phone & address directories for the church. Please go to the “members only” section of the website to download your pdf copy. If you have no access to the internet, you may pick up a copy on the table in the foyer.

**Missouri Presbytery Meeting** — Pastor Meyers is moderating the Spring quarter MO presbytery meeting on Tuesday, April 18th. Pray for the meeting of ministers and elders as they meet at Old Orchard Church.

**Vacation Bible School 2017** — Mark your calendars! This year's Vacation Bible School will take place July 24-28, and your help is needed. Please keep this in mind as you make summer plans. If you are interested in volunteering, speak with Anna More.

**Women's Book Discussion Group** — The next meeting will be on Monday, April 24, at 7 PM in the home of Maggie Montgomery at 741 Hawbrook in Glendale. We will be reading Corrie Ten Boom's *The Hiding Place*, the classic biographical story of how she and her family risked their lives to help Jews and underground workers escape from the Nazis, and for their work they were tested in the infamous Nazi death camps. Only Corrie among her family survived to tell the story of how faith ultimately triumphs over evil. Get your copy of the book from Amazon or from your local library.

## **Church Calendar**

Today  
Monday, April 17  
Thursday, April 20  
Sunday, April 23

Saturday, May 6  
Sunday, June 4  
Mon-Fri, July 24-28

No Sunday School or Evening Service  
Session Meeting at 7 PM  
Ladies Bible Study, 9:15 AM  
Evening Service at 6 PM  
First Cookout after Evening Service  
WIC (Women in the Church) Brunch  
Annual Pentecost Pig Roast  
Vacation Bible School

### **Easter Season**

In the early, post-apostolic Church, the feast of Easter 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

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## The Session (Pastors & Elders)

Rev. Jeffrey J. Meyers	314-374-5258	Ken Pratt	314-803-2340
Joel Montgomery	314-984-8074	Monte Shields	314-681-1378
Tom Hanley	314-750-0203	John Moore (Clerk)	314-849-0597
Robert Murphy	314-705-7445	Allan Wamsley	314-560-9602
Jason Carter	636-222-8655		

## The Deacons

Dan Hayes (Chairman)	314-807-6129	Liessman Sturlaugson	314-323-5589
Lane Greeno	314-229-0801	Pat Staebel	314-303-4369
Daryl Hoegemann	314-714-9270	Todd Tageson	314-892-8982
Cory Mitchell	636-248-2415	Bob Wooldridge	314-369-5204

## Women in the Church Officers & Department Heads

President: Bo Hanley	314-283-0674	Nursery: Mary Beth Denny	636-226-5630
Vice President: Kathy Hoegemann	314-714-9270	Jennifer Horne	314-225-5036
Secretary: Debbie Keane	314-249-3108	Bethel: Cassie Linton, Denise Gerstung	
Treasurer: Amy Sterner	314-606-6900	Kitchen: Kathy Pratt	314-856-5778
Prayer Chain: Donna Byerly	314-698-6021	Maggie Montgomery	314-283-0319
<a href="mailto:madonna.byerly@att.net">madonna.byerly@att.net</a>		Hospitality: Barb Hoover	314-966-3523
		Wedding Coordinator: Barb Hoover	314-966-3523

## Church Staff

Pastor Jeffrey J. Meyers	314-842-9329 (O)	Bill Hoover (Music Dir.)	314-966-3523
<a href="mailto:jeffmeyers@me.com">jeffmeyers@me.com</a>	314-374-5258 (C)	Madeline Mitchell (Secretary)	314-724-4117
Brad Owens, Youth Pastor	423-923-3112	<a href="mailto:madelineleah@gmail.com">madelineleah@gmail.com</a>	
Rev. Tim Weston	314-814-2019		
Pastor to International Students			

## Pastoral Interns

Drew Maney	850-499-7680	Robert Murphy	314-705-7445
Cody Dotson	858-699-7742	Brad Owens	423-923-3122
Graham Purcell	662-803-2660		

## Home and Foreign Ministries

Jamison & Laura Galt	New York City	Brian & Jessie Steadman	New York City
Shane & Kim Gibson	New Orleans, LA	Khen & Rith Tombing	India
Emad & Michelle Mikhail	Middle East	(Covenant Children's Home)	
Dan & Becky Young	Mexico	Tim & Rosamma Weston	ISI (St. Louis)
Blake & Cathy Purcell	Russia	Graham & Sarah Purcell	ISI (Wash U)