

The Covenant Renewal Service

**Providence Reformed
Presbyterian Church**

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



The Lord's Day
June 18, 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.

All Sunday School classes are suspended for the summer months. You are invited to stay after the service for a bit and enjoy coffee and conversation down in the Fellowship Hall. There will be no evening service tonight. Enjoy Father's day with the family this afternoon and evening.

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.

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 Tree of Life (*Front Cover*)



In the Bible, trees are given to man for food and medicine as well as beauty and shade. Trees are an emblem of God's glory in the world and so are fitting symbols of God's people. We can flourish "like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither" (Psalm 1:3). The growth of the kingdom is likened to a rising, spreading tree (Ezek. 17; Matt. 13:31-32). Adam's fall severed us from access to the Tree of Life, but united to Christ we again have access to its life-giving fruit (Rev. 22:2).

This is Trinity Season and so the color of the Table cloth and pulpit scarf is **green**, symbolizing life, growth, and the maturation of Jesus kingdom.

The Morning Service

The Lord's Day — Jun 18, 2017

Trinity Season

Preparation For Worship: Psalm 150

Organ - Mr. Bill Hoover

The Entrance

Prelude

Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Jeff Meyers

[*Kneeling*] Silent Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship: 2 *Corinthians* 4:6

†Hymn #56 "Oh Splendor of God's glory"

Trinity Hymnal

†Salutation & Responsive Scripture

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

Congregation: **Amen!**

The Lord be with you!

Ruth 2:4

And also with you!

Yahweh is God,

Psalm 118:27-8

and he has made his light to shine upon us.

Bind the festal sacrifice with cords,

up to the horns of the altar!

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

you are my God; I will extol you.

†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

†Leader: If we say we have no sin,

We deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins,

He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins.

Let us therefore humbly confess our sins to God our Father.

Come, let us worship and bow down, *Psalm 95:6*

And kneel before the Lord our Maker. [*Congregation kneels*]

O God, our heavenly Father, I confess to you that I have grievously sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; not only in outward transgressions, but also in secret thoughts and desires that I am unable fully to understand, but which are all known to you. I am in need of deliverance from your enemies and my infirmities. For this reason I flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your forgiveness and deliverance, through my Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

†Leader: 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 good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, who with your only-begotten Son and the Holy Spirit are one God, one Lord. 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.

†Psalm of Praise: #63 (*Psalm 76*) “God is known” *Trinity Hymnal*

The Scripture Readings for the Second Sunday in Trinity Season

The Hebrew Scripture Reading: *Leviticus 1:47-54*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

The Epistle Reading: *Titus 1:5-16*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

†*Psalm 138*

†The Gospel Reading: *Mark 12:1-12*

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Praise be to you, O Christ!

†We Confess our Faith: *Luther's Sung Nicene Creed*



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.

IV. EXPOSITION OF PAUL'S FIRST EPISTLE TO TIMOTHY

†We Recite God's Standard for Living

1 Corinthians 13:1-7

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love,
I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

And If I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love,
I am nothing.

If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned,
but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love suffers long and shows kindness;
love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude.

It does not insist on its own way;
It is not irritable or resentful;

It does not rejoice at wrongdoing,
but rejoices with the truth.

Love bears all things, believes all things,
hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

The Tribute Offering

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

†Offertory Prayer

Heavenly Father, as you have given yourself to us in the person of your dear Son, so we now offer up to you ourselves through our tithes and offerings. Accept these gifts in union with the sacrifice of Christ our Lord. Grant that they may be used for the advancement of your kingdom throughout the world.

Congregation: **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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Memorial

†Hymn #362 “Let thy blood and mercy poured” *Trinity Hymnal*

Communion in the Body & Blood of Our Lord

†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: God of mercy, you are full of tenderness and compassion, merciful and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. Grant us grace to renounce all evil and to cling to Christ, that in every way we may be conformed to the image of your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. .

Congregation: **Amen!**

Benediction

†Hymn #581 “To thee, O Lord, I fly”

Trinity Hymnal

†Commission: *Matthew 28:18-20*

†Benediction: *Numbers 6:24-26*

†Three-fold Amen

†Postlude

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. There will be no evening service tonight (Father's Day).

Catechism of the Week

A Short Explanation of Luther's Small Catechism

Q. 153. What do the Scriptures teach of Christ's ascension into heaven?

A. The Scriptures teach that, according to his human nature, Christ visibly ascended into heaven and entered into the glory of his Father, as our Forerunner.

Sermon Notes & Prayer Requests

Announcements

Nursery Volunteers Today:

Morning Service – The Bangura Family

Nursery Volunteers Next Week:

Morning Service – Jessica Murphy

No Evening Service Tonight — Enjoy Father's Day with your family!

Summer Schedule — We continue our Summer Schedule this week. Sunday school classes will be suspended until September. Morning worship will continue to begin at 9:30 AM. Here is the **Evening Service** schedule for the next few months. Mark your calendars, please.

Today - No (Father's Day)

June 25 - Yes, with cookout

July 2 - No (4th weekend)

July 9 - Yes, no cookout

July 16 - Yes, with cookout

July 23 - No (VBS work night)

Visitors — Welcome to Providence Church! Please sign the guest book in the foyer so we can have a record of your attendance. Add your email address and Pastor Meyers will contact you with information about the church.

Vacation Bible School 2017 — This year's Vacation Bible School will take place July 24-28, and your help is needed. If you are interested in volunteering, speak with Anna More.

Men's Bible Summer Bible Study — The men's summer Bible study/fellowship begins on Wednesday, June 21. The first meeting will be at Elder Tom Hanley's home (945 Des Peres Road, Des Peres, MO 63131). **We will be reading and discussing Rod Dreher's new book The Benedict Option.** We will be meeting almost every week through August 9. Please contact Pastor Meyers if you are interested, have any suggestions, or would like to offer your home as a meeting place for some of the get-togethers.

Opportunity for Service — Only one more task left to do. Please contact Todd Tageson to volunteer!

- Clean inside of all ceiling light fixtures - Ladder/overhead work

Church Secretary Opening — Providence is looking for a new church secretary. Madeline Mitchell has done a wonderful job for the last 4 years, but her responsibilities at Heritage school are increasing and she needs to step down. The position is very part time, requiring anywhere from 3-7 hours a week. If you have any interest in this, please email Pastor Meyers (jeffmeyers@me.com) for more information.

Nursery Service — Please consider serving a few Sundays every 6 months in our nursery for the morning service. You can sign up by going to the WIC table in the foyer. You can also sign up online. See the mid-week announcements for the link.

Women's Book Discussion & Event — Saturday, July 15, at 6:30 is the next book discussion and WIC event. It will be at the home of Debbie Keane with a few plot twists. Please book your calendar for this page turning event. We will be discussing Dorothy Sayers' *Gaudy Night...* and much more! If you are new to PRPC and would like to be added to the WIC email list, please contact Debbie Keane (keaneacre@aol.com).

Providence's Web Site — Remember, you can visit providencestlouis.com to download sermon audio. Check with Pastor Meyers if you don't remember the password to enter the members only portion of the web page.

Church Calendar

Today	No Evening Service (Father's Day)
Wednesday, June 21	Men's Bible Study/Fellowship, 7 PM
Saturday, July 15	WIC Book Discussion Event, 6:30 PM
July 24-28	Vacation Bible School

The Lord's Service Explained

Give or Receive?

Some say that we don't come to church on Sunday to *get* anything from God but simply to *give* him praise. It's all about praising God, not getting something from him. But to reduce the purpose of the assembly on Sunday to "praise" is dangerously one-sided. Not only is the super-spiritual-sounding assertion that "we just gather together to give praise to God taking no interest in what we might get from him" unbiblical, it may also easily lead to arrogance, and often has.

In our tradition pastors and theologians are particularly vulnerable to this distortion of the purpose of worship. The slogan "we gather for worship to give not to get" has become something of a shibboleth. We love to beat other traditions over the head with it. It makes us feel superior. As if we don't go to church because we need anything! We Presbyterians go to church to give God glory and honor, not to get something from him. Really? We don't need anything from him?

For us, as creatures of God, there can be no such thing as "disinterested praise." We simply cannot love or praise God for who he is apart from what he has given us or what we continue to receive from him. We are not his equals. The notion that pure love and worship of God can only be given when it is unmixed with all thoughts of what we receive, has no biblical grounding. To be sure, it sounds very spiritual and pious. It even comes across as self-denial. "We just want to praise you for who you are, God. We love you and praise you, O God, not for what we get from you, but just for who you are." Sound's pretty pious, right?

In fact, however, there is no such worship in the Bible for the simple fact that we cannot approach God as disinterested, self-sufficient beings. We are created beings. Dependent creatures. We must continually receive both our life and redemption from God. Our "worship" of God, for this reason, necessarily involves our passive reception of his gifts as well as our active thanksgiving and petitions. We cannot pretend that we do not depend upon him. We will always be receivers and petitioners before God. Our receptive posture is as ineradicable as our nature as dependent creatures.

On Sunday *we put ourselves in a position to be served by him*. Recognizing this is true spirituality. Opening oneself up to the need for God's service is the first movement in our "worship," indeed, the presupposition of all corporate worship. It is faith's posture before our all-sufficient, beneficent Lord. Praise follows after this and alone can never be the exclusive purpose for our gathering together on the Lord's Day. We are indeed "gathered to get."

Officers and Resource People

The Session (Pastors & 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	Skip Jaeggi	314-631-4394
Cory Mitchell	636-248-2415	Pat Staebel	314-303-4369
Liessman Sturlaugson	314-323-5589	Todd Tageson	314-892-8982

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
madonna.byerly@att.net		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
jeffmeyers@me.com	314-374-5258 (C)	Madeline Mitchell (Secretary)	314-724-4117
Rev. Tim Weston	314-814-2019	madelineleah@gmail.com	
Pastor to International Students			

Pastoral Interns

Drew Maney	850-499-7680	Robert Murphy	314-705-7445
Cody Dotson	858-699-7742		
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)