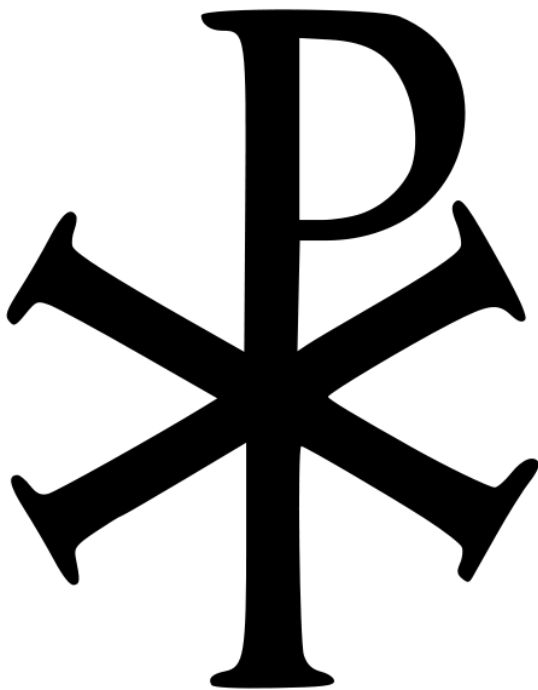


# **The Covenant Renewal Service**

**Providence Reformed  
Presbyterian Church**

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



**Trinity Season**  
*November 26, 2017*

# Welcome

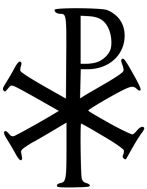
If you are **visiting** our church today, we welcome you to our worship service and Christian community. Please find the registration book in the foyer of the church and help us serve you better by leaving your name and contact information. We promise to keep this information confidential and only use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

We 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. Pastor Meyers will be teaching on Martin Luther in the adult Sunday School Class this morning that meets in the Fellowship Hall. There will be no Evening Prayer Service tonight.

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).

## The Chi Rho (*Front Cover*)



The Chi-Rho is the oldest known monogram of Jesus Christ. It is sometimes known as a "Christogram". The *chi* and the *rho* are the first two letters of the word Christ (*Christos*) in the Greek language. The *chi* (X) = ch and the *rho* (P) = r. The Greek word *christos* translates the Hebrew word for "Messiah," which means "anointed one." Jesus was born to be the promised anointed Priest and King.

Today our Pulpit and Table paraments are **green**. The traditional color for Trinity Season is green, which symbolizes life and growth, both for the church and our own individual Christian lives.

# The Morning Service

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The Lord's Day — November 26, 2017

*Trinity Season*

**Preparation For Worship:** *Psalm 125*

Organ - Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements - Pastor Jeff Meyers

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## The Entrance

Prelude

Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements

[Kneeling] Silent Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship

Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

Pastor: Let us rise and worship God, in the Name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: **Amen!**

†Hymn #2 "God, my King, thy might confessing" *Trinity Hymnal*

†Salutation & Responsive Scripture

The Lord be with you!

*Ruth 2:4*

**And also with you!**

This is the day the Lord has made!

*Psalm 118:24*

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

†Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord:

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, in your great mercy you adopted us as your own. Quicken your Spirit within us, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth and serve you with thankfulness of heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!**

## Purification

†Pastor: Dearly beloved brethren, if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us, but if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and righteous, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Accordingly, the Scriptures move us in many places to acknowledge and confess our many transgressions and sins.

Therefore I exhort all who are here today to accompany me with a pure heart and a humble voice, unto the throne of heavenly grace.

Come let us worship and bow down.

*Psalm 95:6*

**And kneel before the Lord our Maker [Kneel]**

Let us confess our sins:

**Most merciful God, I confess to you  
that I am by nature sinful and unclean,  
and 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.  
For this reason, I flee for refuge to your infinite mercy,  
seeking and imploring your grace,  
through my Lord Jesus Christ. *Silent Prayer. Amen.***

†Pastor: Now arise and hear the good news!

Brothers and sisters, your sins are forgiven and your lives are rescued in our Lord Jesus Christ. Believe this and rejoice!

## **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

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

†Hymn of Praise: #122 "Of the Father's love begotten" *Trinity Hymnal*

The Hebrew Scriptures: *Malachi 3:13-18*

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

*Psalm 36*

Transgression speaks to the wicked  
**deep in his heart;**

there is no fear of God  
**before his eyes.**

For he flatters himself in his own eyes  
**that his iniquity cannot be found out and hated.**

The words of his mouth are trouble and deceit;  
**he has ceased to act wisely and do good.**

He plots trouble while on his bed;  
**he sets himself in a way that is not good;**  
**he does not reject evil.**

Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,  
**your faithfulness to the clouds.**

Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;  
**your judgments are like the great deep;**  
**man and beast you save, O Lord.**

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!  
**The children of mankind take refuge**  
**in the shadow of your wings.**

They feast on the abundance of your house,  
**and you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

For with you is the fountain of life;  
**in your light do we see light.**

Oh, continue your steadfast love to those who know you,  
**and your righteousness to the upright of heart!**

Let not the foot of arrogance come upon me,  
**nor the hand of the wicked drive me away.**

There the evildoers lie fallen;  
**they are thrust down, unable to rise.**

The Epistle Reading: *2 Timothy 2:8-13*

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**


†The Gospel Reading: *Mark 8:31-38*

Pastor Jeffrey Meyers


This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**


†We Confess our Faith: *The 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.

Sermon Text: *2 Timothy 2:8-13*

Pastor Jeff Meyers

Sermon: **MORE ON PAUL'S SUFFERING & ANOTHER TRUSTWORTHY SAYING.**

**VI. AN EXPOSITION OF PAUL'S SECOND LETTER TO TIMOTHY**

## **The Sacrifice of Peace**

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

†[Hands Raised] The Doxology

*Trinity Hymnal*, p. xvi

†Offertory Prayer

†[Hands Raised] The Lord’s Prayer

## **The Sacrifice of Peace**

Prayer of Thanksgiving & the Bread of Life

Hymn #77 “The Lord’s my Shepherd”

*Trinity Hymnal*

Prayer of Thanksgiving & the Wine of Gladness

Pastoral Benediction: “Now may the body and 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: O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto your servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments, and also that we, being defended by you from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, age after age.

Congregation: **Amen!**

## **Benediction**

†Hymn #593 “Jesus, I my cross have taken”

*Trinity Hymnal*

†Charge: *James 5:7-8*

†Benediction: *Numbers 6:24-26*

†A Parting Prayer: “God be with you till we meet again”

God be with you till we meet again,  
By his counsels guide, uphold you,  
With his sheep securely fold you —  
God be with you till we meet again

God be with you till we meet again,  
'Neath his wings protecting hide you,  
Daily manna still provide you —  
God be with you till we meet again

†Postlude

Welcome to Providence Presbyterian Church, especially those who are visiting with us for the first time today. If you are visiting, please leave your name and email address in the guest book in the foyer. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak with one of the pastors or elders.

## **Catechism of the Week**

### **The Westminster Shorter Catechism**

Q. 69 What is required in the sixth commandment?

A. The sixth commandment (“You shall not kill”) requires all lawful endeavors to preserve our own life, and the life of others.



# Announcements

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## **Nursery Volunteers Today:**

Morning Service – Mary Beth & Jason Denney  
Sunday school - The Horne's

## **Nursery Volunteers Next Week:**

Morning Service – Jessica Murphy & Emily Spear  
Sunday school - Denise Gerstung & Maggie Montgomery

**No Evening Prayer Service Tonight** — Join us for evening prayer next Sunday.

**New Adult Sunday School Series** — This morning we are starting a new, short Sunday school series on the Reformation. There will be 6 classes (ending on Jan. 7) covering the major figures in the Reformation (Luther, Calvin, Zwingli, Bucer, and Knox). Pastor Meyers will teach the first two weeks on the life and work of Martin Luther.

**Fellowship Dinner** — On the evening of Sunday, December 3, we will have an early Worship Service (5 PM) followed by a covered dish fellowship meal downstairs. If you don't normally come to the evening service, don't worry. You have a get-out-of-jail free card that night. No arrests will be made. There will only be good food and friendly conversation!

**Rooted Meeting** — The High School group meets at the the church this Thursday at 7 PM.

**Advent Daily Readings** — The first Sunday in Advent is next week. There is a guide for family and personal devotions on the table in the foyer. It includes prayers, suggested hymns, and daily Scripture readings.

**The Women's Book Discussion Group** — will take a break in December and will meet again on January 8, at 7:00 pm to play bunco to give us more time to read our next book. The next book discussion will be on Monday, February 12, at 7:00 pm. We are reading the book, *The Woman Who Smashed Codes: A True Story of Love, Spies, and the Unlikely Heroine Who Outwitted America's Enemies* by Jason Fagone. You can get the book from Amazon for \$19. Both January and February meetings will be held at the home of Maggie Montgomery, 741 Hawbrook in Glendale. All women are invited to join us for Bunco and for the book group.

**Officer Nominations** — During the month of November and December, the session will be receiving nominations for elders and deacons. The forms for making a nomination are on the table in the foyer at church.

**Lost and Found** — Please check the Lost and Found table in the fellowship hall for any items you might have left at church. The table will be set up through the end of November. At that time any unclaimed items will be donated to Goodwill.

**Decorate the Church for Advent & Christmas** — Please join us Saturday, December 2 to deck the halls of the church for Advent & Christmas. We will begin at 9:00 a.m. We will need 4-5 men to put the big Christmas tree up. Join us to kick off the Advent & Christmas season by serving to make our church beautiful for the celebration of our Lord’s Birth.

**Please Remember to Close the Doors** — Recently, there have been a number of instances at church where entrance/exit doors have been left open after everyone has left. When this happens we are putting people and the building at risk. Whether you are locking up or leaving the church after the doors have been locked, please be sure the door you are locking or exiting is shut completely. Thanks for your attention to this matter. –The Deacons

**WIC Christmas Party** — The annual WIC (Women in the Church) Christmas Party will be on Friday evening, December 1, at 7:00 in Providence’s Fellowship Hall. Please come to celebrate a night of fun and encouragement! Prayer Partners will be chosen, but you don’t need to be present to participate.

**Ladies Bible Study** — The weekly Bible study for women will meet this week.

**Christmas Lessons & Carols** — Our annual Christmas Lessons and Carols Service will be Sunday, December 17 at 6:00 P.M., with a reception to follow. Please note:

1. Music Rehearsals during Sunday School:
  - Rehearsals for Grades 7-12 are from 11:40-12:15.
  - Rehearsals for Preschool and Elementary Choirs are from 11:05-11:25.
2. Young Musicians' Prelude – Children and youth who would like to play a short sacred Christmas carol as part of the Prelude, please sign up in the narthex.
3. Reception Help – Please sign up in the narthex to bring cookies or finger food, and/or to help with setup, serving refreshments, cleanup, or teardown.

### **Church Calendar**

Today	No Evening Service New Adult Sunday School Class on the Reformation
Wednesday, Nov 29	Choir Practice, 7 PM
Friday, Dec 1	Annual WIC Christmas Party at 7 PM
Saturday, Dec 2	Decorate the Church for Advent/Christmas, 9 AM
Sunday, Dec 3	First Sunday in Advent <b>Fellowship Dinner after Evening Service at 5 PM</b>
Sunday, Dec 17	Christmas Lessons & Carols Service, 6 PM

# The Lord's Service Explained

## The Experience of the Lord's Supper (Part 1)

I've been involved with liturgical reformation in our circles for more than two decades. And I've been encouraged by the number of churches—established and newly planted—that have moved to weekly communion. Unfortunately, I have also learned that some churches that moved to a weekly Supper, after a few months or so, have returned to monthly, even quarterly communion. And I am convinced that in many cases (maybe most cases) the reason is that the Supper is too often experienced in the wrong manner. When communion is experienced as an intensive time of introspective mourning for and confession of sin, then having a somber, funereal ritual disguised as a meal *every* week is not very pleasant.

Remember, the Supper is a feast, a joyful banquet where we dine with our risen Lord Jesus and with one another. In a normal Christian liturgy, we have already confessed our sins and received forgiveness early on in the service. We have heard the Lord's gracious instruction in the reading of Scripture and through the preaching of the pastor. We come to the end of the service and before we are sent out the Lord invites us to sit down, relax, and enjoy his presence and each other's friendship and love ritually embodied in a covenant meal. Tasty bread and good wine given by the Lord to his people and shared with one another. It ought to be a happy occasion. It's not a time for mourning or introspective confession of sin.

Is there anything in the Bible, either Old or New Testaments, to suggest that covenant memorial meals are not to be experienced with joy and exuberance? There is a time and place to fast and mourn, a time for deep repentance and tears. But normally that is *not* what happens at *meals*. It might happen before the meal, but this kind of dour demeanor and posture at the Lord's Supper is oppressive and counterproductive. Don't we also call this sacrament a "eucharistic meal"? When we recall that "eucharist" means "give thanks," shouldn't we then expect the mood at the Table to be thankfulness and gratitude? The end of all of human history is the triumphant Marriage Supper of the Lamb, the eschatological wedding feast. Therefore, shouldn't the culmination of our divine services also be a joyful ritual banquet? The very presence of wine at the Table means that we are celebrating and should be jubilant and cheerful. We don't gather at Christ's *tomb* but at his *Table*.

# 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 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	
		Wedding Coordinator:	
		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
		<a href="mailto:vermeerjennifer@gmail.com">vermeerjennifer@gmail.com</a>	

## Pastoral Interns

Drew Maney	850-499-7680	Robert Murphy	314-705-7445
Cody Dotson	858-699-7742	Caleb Skogen	910-639-3239
Joel Nelson	573-825-1104		

## 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	MTW (Russia)