

The Covenant Renewal Service

**Providence Reformed
Presbyterian Church**

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



Easter Sunday
April 24, 2011

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 11:00 AM. Children's Sunday school classes meet in the educational wing. The adult class meets in the fellowship hall at 11:00 AM to study Christian Marriage. There will be no evening service tonight. Enjoy an Easter Sunday feast with your family and friends!

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.providencestl.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*)



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

The Lord's Day — April 24, 2011
Easter Sunday

Preparation For Worship: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Organ - Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements - Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

The Entrance

[Kneeling] Silent Preparation for Worship

†Call to Worship

Pastor Jeffrey J. Meyers

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

†Hymn of Praise "Hail thee, Festival Day"

Refrain (Congregation)



Hail thee, fes-ti-val day! The day that is hal-lowed for ev - er;



Day when the Lord a - rose, break-ing the bonds — of death.

Choir 1. See how the beauty of earth,
Reborn, blossoms forth from the winter.
See how it speaks of life,
God's new life to the world.

Congregation **Refrain**

Choir 2. He who was nailed to the cross
Is Lord of all creation.
All things created on earth
Sing to the glory of God.

Congregation **Refrain**

Choir 3. God is the Lord of all life,
God's Word is assured to the nations.

Death has no more its sting,
Life forever is won.

Congregation **Refrain**

Choir 4. Let all the earth sing for joy;
Today the Lord has triumphed.
Nations give ear and be glad;
Christ is alive; Sing for joy!

Congregation **Refrain**

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†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 Easter, 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.

O Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor miserable sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you. I justly deserve your punishment now and

forever. But I am heartily sorry for my sins, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you of your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious to me, a poor sinful being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of your Holy Spirit that I may genuinely amend my sinful life and earnestly persevere in doing your will. Lord, be gracious to me, for Jesus sake I pray. *Silent Prayer.*

†Pastor: Now stand up 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.

†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

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.

†Hymn #198 "Jesus Christ is risen today"

Trinity Hymnal

The Appointed Readings for the Easter Sunday

The Old Testament Reading: *Jeremiah 31:1-6* Pastor Joshua Anderson

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

The New Testament Reading: *Colossians 3:1-4*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Easter Hymn "This joyful Eastertide"

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. This joyful Eastertide,
Away with sin and sorrow!
My Love, the Crucified,
Hath sprung to life this morrow. | 2. My flesh in hope shall rest,
And for a season slumber;
Till trump from east to west,
Shall wake the dead in number. |
|--|---|

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, arisen.
But now hath Christ arisen!*

3. Death's flood has lost his chill,
Since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill
My passing soul deliver.

<p>Text: George R. Woodward, from <i>Carols for Easter and Ascensiontide</i>, 1894; Music: from Joachim Oudaen's <i>David's Psalmen</i>, Amsterdam, 1685; arr. Charles Wood (1866-1926)</p>

†The Gospel Reading: *Matthew 28:1-10*

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 *Gloria Patri*

Sermon Text: *Acts 12:22-36*

Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

Sermon: **MORE THAN RESUSCITATION**

XXXVI. EXPOSITION OF THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

The Tribute Offering

Hymn #202 “Lift up, lift up” *Trinity Hymnal* (Tune of #56)

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings

Choir Anthem “O sons and daughters of the King”

Elementary and Adult Choirs

Tim Weston, conductor; Michael Weston, trombone

O sons and daughters of the King,
Whom heavenly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia!

That Easter morn, at break of day,
The faithful women went their way
To seek the tomb where Jesus lay. Alleluia!

An angel clad in white they see,
Who sat and spoke unto the three,
“Your Lord is gone to Galilee.” Alleluia!

On this most holy day of days
To God your hearts and voices raise.
In laud and jubilee and praise: Alleluia!

Text: 16th-century Latin carol
tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.
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Music: 15th-century French tune
(*O filii et filiae*), arr. Thomas R. Pearce

† [Hands Raised] The Doxology

Trinity Hymnal, p. xvi

† [Hands Raised] 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 & Memorial

Communion Hymn #204 "Alleluia! Alleluia"

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: 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 #200 “Come, ye faithful, raise the strain” *Trinity Hymnal*

[Kneeling] 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 evening service tonight. Enjoy your afternoon and evening with feasting and fellowship.

Heidelberg Catechism - Question 45

Q. How does Christ's resurrection benefit us?

A. First, by his resurrection he has overcome death, so that he might make us share in the righteousness he won for us by his death. Second, by his power we too are already now resurrected to a new life. Third, Christ's resurrection is a guarantee of our glorious resurrection.

Today at PRPC

Woman of the Week:

Geri Weedman

Nursery Volunteers for Today:

Morning Service – Linda Wolff, Elise Gibbs

Sunday School – Denise Gerstung, Melanie Carter

Nursery Volunteers for Next Sunday:

Morning Service – Pratt

Sunday School – Schmidt

Evening – Weston

Adult Sunday School “Christian Marriage” — Please join us this morning in the fellowship hall as we continue our Sunday school class on marriage.

This Week

Pastor Meyers Out of Town — Pastor Meyers will be speaking at a conference on worship this week in Pella, Iowa. He will return on Monday, May 2. Please pray for his ministry to the Reformed churches in Pella.

Ladies’ Brunch — Ladies, please join us for a luncheon honoring the seminary wives at Maggie Montgomery’s home on April 30 at 9:30 AM. A sign up sheet is on the WIC table.

Church Family Work Day — Please join us on Saturday, April 30, for a church work day. Shifts run from 8-10 and 10-12. Everyone is welcome to come! Wear work clothes and bring shovels, wheelbarrows (if possible) and other yard tools. See Steve Shaffer if you have any questions.

Next Week

Guys’ Camp Out — This year’s annual camping trip will be on May 6-7 at the Keane’s property in Mt. Sterling. The campout will last from Friday afternoon through Saturday at 2 PM. If you are a male, a man, a boy, a guy, a dude, a beefcake, etc. come on out and join the fun! If you have questions contact John Keane.

Upcoming Events

The 60th Annual Day of Prayer — will be held on Thursday, May 5. People throughout our country are encouraged to meet at their local city hall from 12-1 PM to pray for our government leaders, our soldiers and for our country. Those who live in the Crestwood area are invited to attend the meeting at the Crestwood Government Center on Sappington Road just north of Watson. For more information go to the website: www.slcnep.org or call 314-253-4075.

Annual Congregational Meeting — On Sunday, May 8, we will hold our annual congregational meeting during the Sunday School hour. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect new officers and explain and discuss the budget for the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

Wedding Shower for Lisa Grove — Ladies, you are invited to a wedding shower for Lisa Grove on May 12 at 7 PM. Lisa is registered at Bed, Bath, & Beyond and Target. Lori Shaffer is hosting the party. Please sign up if you can attend.

Bridal Shower for Jessica Weston — Ladies, you are invited to a bridal shower for Jessica Weston on June 4 at 10 AM. Jessica is registered at Bed, Bath, & Beyond, Target, and Pottery Barn. Rosamma will be hosting the shower in her home. Please sign up if you can attend.

Church Calendar

April 30	Work Day, Ladies' Brunch
May 1	Memory Listening, 5 PM Service & Cookout
May 5	National Day of Prayer
May 6-7	Men and Boys' Campout
May 8	Congregational Meeting, No Evening Service
May 12	Wedding Shower for Lisa Grove
May 15	Parish Groups Meet
May 29	5 PM Service & Cookout
June 4	Bridal Shower for Jessica Weston
July 11-15	VBS

Announcements

Deacons Fund — If you would like to contribute to the deacons' fund, please pick up an envelope from the back table.

VBS Volunteers Needed — Sign up now to volunteer for VBS. Anna Hoegemann is directing this year. If you have any questions, please see her.

Memory Listeners—will hear our Covenant children recite their catechism questions and scripture verses next Sunday. Please work with your child this week so that he/she will give a good recitation!

Directory Update — LaVerne McDonnold 314-651-7002.

Nursery Coordinators Needed — Two nursery coordinators are needed to oversee the sign up schedule and maintain the nurseries. If you are interested, please talk to Denise Gerstung.

Church Budget	Giving	\$408,042
(Fiscal Year ends 4/30)	Spending	\$451,902
	Deficit	\$ -43,860

Bible Study for High School Guys — On Saturdays, at 3 PM, high school guys are invited to come to Bread Co. in Sunset Hills for a Bible study on Work, Rest, and Life Plans. Contact Phillip Bozarth for more info.

Church Rules

The diaconate requests the congregation's assistance in instructing children to follow these rules while at church:

1. The choir loft, sound room, pulpit, and elevator are off limits to children unless accompanied by an adult.
2. No running in the church building (with the exception of the fellowship hall after evening service).
3. No standing or climbing on furniture.
4. **Food and drink are not allowed outside the fellowship hall.** Sunday school teachers and nursery workers may at times make exceptions in their rooms.

Sermon Notes and Prayer Requests



Sermon Notes and Prayer Requests

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, you Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, age after age. Amen.

Simplified Easter Week Readings

	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>New Testament</u>	<u>Hymns & Psalms</u>
Mon., Apr 25 –	Psalms 16	Mark 14:26-42	<i>Trinity Hymnal</i> #409
Tues., Apr 26 –	Psalms 42	Mark 14:43-65	<i>Trinity Hymnal</i> #413
Wed., Apr 27 –	Psalms 43	Mark 14:66–15:20	Psalms 1 (<i>Anglo-Gen</i>)
Thurs., Apr 28 –	Psalms 44	Mark 14:10-25	<i>Trinity Hymnal</i> #359
Friday, Apr 29 –	Psalms 45	Mark 15:21-41	<i>Trinity Hymnal</i> #362
Sat., Apr 30 –	Psalms 6	John 19:38-42	<i>Trinity Hymnal</i> #415

Officers and Resource People

The Session (Pastors & Elders)

Rev. Jeffrey J. Meyers	314-842-9329 (O)	John Moore	314-984-9869
Senior Pastor	314-842-9309 (H)	Ken Pratt	314-416-1176
Rev. Josh Anderson (Assoc.)	314-814-5213	Monte Shields	314-849-0597
Jason Carter	636-257-2441	Brad Wood (Clerk)	636-587-9211
Joel Montgomery	314-984-8074		

The Deacons

Jack Boeve (Chairman)	636-461-1398	Steve Shaffer	314-843-1964
Bill Coller	314-726-6799	Paul Svezia	314-406-9101
Rick Gibbs	636-451-3463	Rodney Weedman	314-846-0210
Dan Hayes	314-984-9814	Bob Wooldridge	314-963-9671
Daryl Hoegemann	314-962-4874		

Women in the Church Officers

President: Denise Gerstung	314-821-9324	Nursery: Kathy Pratt	314-416-1176
Vice President: Judy Linton	636-349-9028	Anne Hiers	314-543-3010
Secretary/Treasurer:		Bethel: Rachel LeCroy	314-604-2089
Lori Shaffer	314-843-1964	Kitchen: Rosamma Weston	314-205-2018
Committee Coordinator:		Tracy Boeve	636-461-1398
Rhonda Hoard	636-938-3575	Hospitality: Barb Hoover	314-966-3523
WIC advisor: Joanie Harris	636-394-6896	Joanie Harris	636-394-6896
Prayer Chain: Doris Daily	314-961-8799	Amanda Cone	314-497-7950
Carolyn Van Heest	314-966-5732	Wedding Coordinator:	
Brenda Svezia	svezia@sbcglobal.net	Barb Hoover	314-966-3523
Missions: Debbie Keane	636-938-3108		

Church Staff

Rev. Jeffrey J. Meyers	314-842-9329 (O)	Rev. Tim Weston	314-205-2018 (Home)
Senior Pastor	314-842-9309 (H)	Pastor to International Students	814-2019 (Cell)
Rev. Joshua Anderson	314-814-5213	Rev. Timothy LeCroy	314-604-2088
Associate Pastor		Bill Hoover (Music Dir.)	314-966-3523
Paul Jaeggi, Sr.	314-843-7994 (Church)	Melanie Carter (Secretary)	636-271-7288
Asst. to the Pastor	314-631-4394 (Home)		

Pastoral Interns

Phillip Bozarth	270-313-6245	Scott Pitts	314-974-1364
Ryan Van Horn	314-620-3744	Steve Schleppehorst	217-257-2592

Home and Foreign Ministries

Ross Dixon	RUF Ministry (Mizzou)	Blake & Cathy Purcell	Russia
Garrett & Michelle Craw	Santa Clarita, CA	John & Cathy Rug	Chile
Jamison & Laura Galt	New York City	Brian & Jessie Steadman	New York City
Shane & Kim Gibson	New Orleans, LA	Lian & Clara Tombing	India
Bryan Walker	US Army Chaplain	Marcus Toole	Canada
Daniel & Stephanie McKinney	Salt Lake City	Tim & Rosamma Weston	ISI (St. Louis)
Emad & Michelle Mikhail	Middle East	Dan & Becky Young	Mexico