

The Covenant Renewal Service

Providence Reformed
Presbyterian Church

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



Easter Season

May 29, 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. Join us this evening for our service of prayer, praise, and Bible teaching at 5 PM. Afterwards, weather permitting, we will gather outside on the church parking lot for a cookout. Bring your own meat, sides, and drinks.

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.)

Jesus Christ - Conqueror (*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 — May 29, 2011

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Preparation For Worship: Psalm 24

Organ - Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements - Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

The Entrance

Prelude

Mr. Bill Hoover, organ

Welcome & Announcements

[Kneeling] Silent Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship: *Psalm 24:7-10*

Pastor Jeff Meyers

†Hymn #146 (*Psalm 24*) "Lift up your heads"

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!

The earth is Yahweh's and the fullness thereof,

Psalm 24:1-2

The world and all those who dwell therein!

For He has founded it upon the seas!

And established it upon the rivers!

†Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have gathered in the Name of Jesus in response to the gracious call of your Spirit. Grant that we might faithfully celebrate this morning with all the faithful in heaven and on earth the marriage feast of the Lamb. Graciously receive our worship and prayers, and strengthen us for service in your Son's kingdom. To you alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, age after age. 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]

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?

Psalm 24:3-4

And who shall stand in his holy place?

He who has clean hands and a pure heart,

**Who does not lift up his soul to what is false
and does not swear deceitfully.**

Lord God, eternal and almighty Father, we confess and truly recognize, before your holy majesty, that we are poor sinners, conceived and born in sin and corruption, inclined to do evil, unprofitable for all good; and that from our vice we endlessly and ceaselessly transgress your holy commandments. In so doing, we incur ruin and damnation upon ourselves.

Nevertheless, Lord, we are displeased with ourselves for having offended against you and condemn ourselves and our vices with true repentance, desiring that your grace support us in our calamity. Have mercy on us, God and Father, most blessed and full of mercy, in the Name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silent Prayer. Amen!

†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.

†Truly it is fitting and our greatest joy to give thanks to you at all times and in every place, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. 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.

†Hymn of Praise: #310 "Here, O my Lord, I see thee" *Trinity Hymnal*

The OT Reading: *Psalms 82:1-8*

Pastor Josh Anderson

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

The New Testament Reading: *Acts 16:25-40*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

†The Gospel Reading: *John 14:15-21*

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Praise be to you, O Christ!

†We Confess our faith: The *Te Deum*

Anglo-Genevan Psalter

O God, we praise Thee, we acknowledge Thee as Lord.

Eternal Father, Thou art everywhere adored.

The cherubim and seraphim their homage show Thee:

"O Thou Lord God of hosts are holy, holy, holy!

Both heav'n and earth are filled with Thy majestic splendor."

To Thee all angels loud and ceaseless praises render.

Thy prophets' and apostles' glorious company,

The martyrs robed in white—all sing their praise to Thee.

Thy holy catholic Church in worship stands before Thee,

Confessing Thee: the Father, infinite in glory;

Thy true and only Son, worthy of veneration;

The Holy Spirit, source of strength and consolation.

Thou, Christ, art King of glory, radiant is Thy throne;

Thou art the heav'nly Father's everlasting Son.

Yet Thou didst not despise the virgin's womb, O Savior,

When Thou didst take upon Thee mankind to deliver.

Thou has defeated death and Satan's power infernal,

That all believers might inherit life eternal.

Thou art enthroned in glory at God's own right hand

Till Thou shalt come as judge and we before Thee stand.

We therefore pray Thee, grant Thy help to those who serve Thee,

Whom Thou hast with Thy blood redeemed in Thy great mercy.

**With all Thy saints, O Lord, wilt Thou Thy servant number;
O save Thy people, Thy inheritance remember!**

**We bless Thee day by day, we praise thy holy Name;
Thy power and glory we from age to age acclaim.
Keep us from sin and lead us not into temptation.
Have mercy on us, Lord; hear Thou our supplication.
Let us be with Thy grace and steadfast love surrounded.
In Thee we've trusted; we shall never be confounded.**

Sermon Text: *Acts 16:35-40*

Pastor Jeff Meyers

Sermon: **THE PRAGMATIC PAUL & THE PROGRESS OF THE GOSPEL**

The Tribute Offering

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings

†[Hands Raised] The Doxology

Trinity Hymnal, p. xvi

†Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: We give you praise and hearty thanks for all your goodness and tender mercies. We bless you for the love which has created us and sustains us from day to day. We praise you for the gift of Your Son, our Savior, through whom you have made known to us your will and grace.

People: We thank you for the Holy Spirit, the Comforter; for your holy Church, for the means of grace, for the lives of all faithful and godly men, and for the hope of the life to come. Help us to treasure in our hearts all that our Lord Jesus has done for us; and enable us to show our thankfulness by lives that are given wholly to Your service.

Save and defend your Church Universal, purchased with the precious Blood of Christ. Give it pastors and ministers according to your Spirit, and strengthen it through the Word and the sacraments.

Make it perfect in love and in good works, and establish it in the faith once delivered to the saints. Sanctify and unite your people in all the world, that one holy Church may bear witness to you, the God and Father of all.

Send forth your light and your truth into all the earth, O Lord. Raise up, we pray, faithful servants of Christ to labor in the Gospel at home and in distant lands.

Grant strength and perseverance to all of our missionaries. Grant that they may rejoice in a rich harvest of souls for your kingdom. Support them in times of trial and weakness, and make them steadfast, abounding in the work of the Lord.

Preserve our Nation in righteousness and honor, and continue your blessings to us as a people, that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives, in all godliness and honesty.

Grant health and favor to all who bear office in our land, especially the President and Congress, the Governor and Legislators of Missouri, and enable them to acknowledge that Jesus is Lord and obey and enforce his perfect law.

God of mercies, we pray that you would comfort with the grace of your Holy Spirit all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, especially those most dear to us, whom we name in our hearts before you. . . *Pause for Silent Prayer*

Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy upon those to whom death draws near. Bring consolation to those in sorrow or mourning. And to all grant a message of your love, taking them into your tender care. Amen!

The Sacrifice of Peace

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Memorial

Communion Hymn "Christ the Lord is risen today"



- 1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to-day," Sons of men and an-gels say.
- 2 Love's re-deem-ing work is done, Fought the fight, the bat-tle won.
- 3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has burst the gates of hell.
- 4 Lives a-gain our glo-rious King; Where, O Death, is now thy sting?



- Raise your joys and tri-umphs high; Sing, ye heav'ns, and, earth, reply.
Lo, our Sun's e-clipse is o'er; Lo, He sets in blood no more.
Death in vain for-bids His rise; Christ has o-pened Par-a-dise.
Once He died our souls to save; Where thy vic-to-ry, O Grave? A-men.



5 Soar we now where Christ has led,
Following our exalted Head.
Made like Him, like Him we rise;
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

6 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!
Praise to Thee by both be given!
Thee we greet triumphant now:
Hail, the Resurrection Thou!

Communion in the Body & Blood of our Lord

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, through the humble service of your Son you raised up the fallen world. Grant to your people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Congregation: **Amen!**

Benediction

†Hymn #319 "Lord, dismiss us"

Trinity Hymnal

[Kneeling] Commission: *Matthew 28:18-20*

†Benediction: *Numbers 6:24-26*

†Three-fold Amen & Postlude

The Evening Service

Scripture Reading: *Romans 8:31-39*

Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

†Hymn #27 "If God is on our side"

Anglo-Genevan Psalter

Prayer Requests

†Psalm 3 "O Lord, how swiftly grows"

Anglo-Genevan Psalter

Scripture Reading: *2 Samuel 15:13-37*

Sermon: **THE COUNTER-CONSPIRACY OF KING DAVID** Pastor Joshua Anderson

XXIV. EXPOSITION OF THE LIFE OF DAVID

†Hymn #48 "If you but let the Father guide you" *Anglo-Genevan Psalter*

†Benediction

†Cookout and Fellowship on the Church Parking Lot & Lawn

Today at PRPC

Woman of the Week:

Denise Gerstung

Nursery Volunteers for Today:

Morning Service – Lu and Vivienne Greeno

Sunday School – Shaffer

Evening – Hoover, Meyers

Nursery Volunteers for Next Sunday:

Morning Service – Wooldridge

Sunday School – Carter

Evening – Shields

Sunday School Promotion — During Sunday school today, the congregation will gather in the sanctuary for Promotion Sunday.

Cookout Tonight — Join us tonight at 5 PM for our evening service. Bring your lawn chair, some meat for the grill and count on some good fellowship on the parking lot after the service.

VBS Meeting — There will be a brief VBS meeting during the coffee break on June 5. If you are volunteering or would like to become involved, please attend. See Anna Hoegemann if you have any questions.

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. The shower will be held at 348 Babler Road 63141. Please sign up or see Lori Shaffer if you can attend.

Lian Tombing — On June 5, Lian Tombing will visit PRPC and give us a report during Sunday School. Everyone, children included, will gather together for this last Sunday school class of the summer.

WIC Social — Ladies, you are invited to an appetizer and wine tasting social hosted by Brenda Svezia and Geri Weedman. Bring a bottle of wine and some goodies to share and enjoy fellowship with one another. The social will be held in the Svezia home on Saturday, June 18 at 3 PM.

Announcements

Men's Summer Book Study — Starting June 15, Pastor Anderson will be leading a summer book study for men in the church. The study will meet at 7 AM on Wednesday mornings in the church fellowship hall and will include prayer, scripture reading, fellowship and a discussion of Doug Wilson's book "Fidelity". See Josh if you're interested in attending. All are welcome!

2nd Annual Pig Pickin' for the Feast of Pentecost — The time for our great feast has arrived! Sunday evening, June 5 we will gather for evening service at 5 PM for the Jamie Soles family concert. Immediately following we will move to the parking lot for a Pig Pickin' to celebrate the Christian Feast of Pentecost (albeit a week early). The church is providing the meat along with the means to cook it. That means that all who attend will be responsible for making up the remaining items for the feast. Every individual or family will be asked to bring a side dish. Last names A-H will please bring cole slaw, I-R baked beans, and S-Z potato salad. Those who feel so inclined are also encouraged to contribute a desert to the feast. Please bring a double portion of what your family would normally consume to account for the many visitors we expect. Every family or individual is responsible for bringing their own drinks, whatever they may be, and buns, if you would like to use a bun, just like an evening cookout. Bring lawn chairs, lawn games, or any other festive thing you can think of. Additionally, we as a church are using this opportunity to kick off a summer emphasis on inviting friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers who do not have a church home. To this end, we are providing fliers for you to hand out. We would like to set the goal that each person/family try to invite one other person/family to attend this event.

Church Calendar

June 4	Bridal Shower for Jessica Weston
June 5	Liam Tombing Reports for Sunday School 5 PM Jamie Soles Concert/Pig Roast Feast
June 12	No Sunday School (for the summer)
June 15	Men's Summer Book Study
June 19	No Evening Worship
July 11-15	VBS

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 God. 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. This kind of thinking is extremely dangerous.

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.

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 Collier	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: Lori Shaffer	314-843-1964	Bethel: Rachel LeCroy	314-604-2089
Committee Coordinator: Rhonda Hoard	636-938-3575	Kitchen: Rosamma Weston	314-205-2018
WIC advisor: Joanie Harris	636-394-6896	Tracy Boeve	636-461-1398
Prayer Chain: Doris Daily	314-961-8799	Hospitality: Barb Hoover	314-966-3523
Carolann Van Heest	314-966-5732	Joanie Harris	636-394-6896
Brenda Svezia	svezia@sbcglobal.net	Amanda Cone	314-497-7950
Missions: Debbie Keane	636-938-3108	Wedding Coordinator: Barb Hoover	314-966-3523

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 Crow	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