

# 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)



**Pentecost Season**

*October 2, 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 10:50 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 Technology & The Christian Faith. There will be no evening service tonight. Parish groups will be meeting instead.

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.)

## Holy Trinity Diagram (Front Cover)



No symbol can adequately comprehend the richness of the reality and abundant life of our Triune God. The shield on the front cover depicts something of the Unity in Trinity and Trinity in Unity that is the living and true God in whom we trust. At the center of the circle is *Deus* (Latin for "God"). **Reading out from the center along the three spokes the unity of the Godhead is represented:** *Deus est Pater* = God is the Father and the Father is God; *Deus est Filius* = God is the Son and the Son is God; *Deus est Spiritus Sanctus* = God is the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit is God. **Reading around the circumference of the circle the distinctions between the Persons are noted:** *Pater non est Filius* = The Father is not the Son; *Filius non est Spiritus Sanctus* = The Son is not the Holy Spirit; *Spiritus Sanctus non est Pater* = The Holy Spirit is not the Father.

# The Morning Service

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The Lord's Day — October 2, 2011

*Pentecost Season*

**Preparation For Worship: Psalm 47**

Organ - Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements - Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

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## The Entrance

Prelude

Organ, Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements

[Kneeling] Silent Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship

Pastor Jeff 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 #145 "Come, thou long expected Jesus"

*Trinity Hymnal*

†Salutation & Responsive Scripture

The Lord be with you!

*Ruth 2:4*

**And also with you!**

Our help is in the Name of Yahweh!

*Psalm 124:8*

**Who made heaven and earth!**

God has gone up with a shout,

*Psalm 47:1-4*

**Yahweh with the sound of a trumpet.**

Sing praises to God, sing praises!

**Sing praises to our King, sing praises!**

For God is the King of all the earth;

**sing praises with a psalm!**

God reigns over the nations;

**God sits on his holy throne.**

†Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord:

**Almighty God, our Father, grant, we ask, that we who celebrate  
this glorious resurrection feast today, 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**

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 and to purify us from all unrighteousness**

Come let us worship and bow down.

*Psalm 95:6*

**And kneel before the Lord our Maker** [congregation kneels]

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

**O most merciful God, since you have given your only-begotten Son to die for me, have mercy on me, and for his sake grant me remission of all my sins; and by your Holy Spirit increase in me true knowledge of you and of your will, and true obedience to your Word, that by your grace I may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ my Lord.**

*Silent Prayer. Amen!*

†Pastor: Now 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.**

†It is good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who after his resurrection appeared openly to all his disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that he might make us partakers of your divine fellowship, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud 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 #56 “O Splendor of God’s glory bright” *Trinity Hymnal*

The OT Reading: *Psalms 49*

Pastor Joshua Anderson

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

The New Testament Reading: *Ephesians 3:1-13*

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

†The Gospel Reading: *Luke 11:27–12:3*

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

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

†The *Te Deum* “O God, we praise Thee” *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 21:17-36*

Pastor Jeff Meyers

Sermon: **SOME THINGS CANNOT BE AVOIDED**

**LIII. EXPOSITION OF THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES**

## **The Tribute Offering**

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings

†[Hands Raised] The *Doxology*

*Trinity Hymnal*, p. xvi

†Prayer for the Church

O God, in mercy remember your inheritance, and do not forget your beloved church. You are our Redeemer and the one who lifts up our head, and under the shadow of your wings we shall find our shelter and our rest.

**Have mercy upon us, O God, and hear our petitions.**

Preserve, O God, your church in holiness and truth, in unity and peace. May she ever advance the honor of her Lord, forever represent His sacrifice, glorify His Person, and advance His kingdom, that being accepted by you, and filled with the Spirit, she may partake of her Lord's glory.

**Have mercy upon us, O God, and hear our petitions.**

Give the spirit of justice and righteousness to all Christian rulers and magistrates; grant that people may obey them, and that they may obey you. Especially we pray for our President and Congress,

that they might conform their judgments more and more to your holy law, and further your kingdom in this world, the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Have mercy upon us, O God, and hear our petitions.**

Give to your servants, pastors, elders and deacons, the spirit of patience and humility, of holiness and diligence, of prudence and courage, to declare your will by a pure life and wise words, that they may minister to the good of souls, and find the reward of the Master's approval at His coming.

**Have mercy upon us, O God, and hear our petitions.**

Give protection to all widows and orphans, patience and submission to the sick, consolation to the afflicted, that they may be rewarded by your comforts for the days wherein they have suffered adversity [*here the congregation may offer sentence prayers for friends and loved ones*].

**Have mercy upon us, O God, and hear our petitions.**

Give unto our enemies your forgiveness, charity towards us, and love for Thee. Bring the nations to repentance, and all your saints to perfect love and holiness; bring the world to the knowledge of the Lord Jesus, and all the benefits of His passion; to the glory of His name.

**Lord Jesus Christ, hear our prayers.**

## **The Sacrifice of Peace**

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Communion in the Body of Christ

Hymn #434 "How lovely shines the Morning Star" *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: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of his life and the word of his kingdom. Renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by the true and living Bread, Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, age after age.

Congregation: **Amen!**

## **Benediction**

†Hymn #81 “A mighty Fortress is our God”

*Trinity Hymnal*

†Commission: *Matthew 28:18-20*

†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 & Greet One Another

# Announcements

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## *Woman of the Week:*

Judy Linton

### **Nursery Volunteers for Today:**

Morning Service – Hiers

Sunday School – McDonnell

### **Nursery Volunteers for Next Week:**

Morning Service – Horne

Sunday School – Harris, Van Heest

Evening – Meyers, Hoover

**Guest Speaker This Morning** — This morning Rev. Rich Bledsoe will be teaching our Fall Adult Sunday School class on Technology & The Christian Faith. Richard Bledsoe is an ordained pastor in the Presbyterian Church in America. He pastored Tree of Life Presbyterian Church in Boulder, Colorado for 20 years. He is a graduate of Westminster Theological Seminary in Escondido, California (Class of 1984) with a Masters of Divinity. Prior to that, he graduated in 1972 from Colorado State University. He more recently received his Doctor of Ministry from Bakke Graduate School in Seattle, Washington. Rich is has been married for 35 years, has three grown children, and one grandchild. He is a chaplain at Boulder Community Hospital and Hospice.

**Parish Groups** — Parish groups will be meeting today. If you are new to the church or visiting, see Pastor Anderson to see which group you can join for the afternoon.

**Ladies Night Out** — Ladies, join us at 7 PM Thursday evening, October 6, for our WIC get-together. We will meet at the Eureka Elementary School library for an evening of treats, togetherness and technology. There will be a demonstration on easy-to-use digital scrapbooking and time afterwards to visit or work on your own project, if you wish. The library is spacious, so if technology is not your thing, there's plenty of room to just sit and chat. Please sign up at the WIC table. Directions to Eureka Elementary will be sent by email, but there are a few paper copies for those who do not use email. Hope you can make it! See Rhonda Hoard if you have any questions.

**Bulletin Announcements** — If you have an announcement for next Sunday's bulletin (Oct 9), please email Pastor Meyers by Wednesday afternoon.

**PRPC Picture Directory** — Beginning next week, we will begin taking family pictures for a PRPC directory. A sign-up sheet is available in narthex and will be passed around during Sunday School. The pictures will be taken in the fellowship hall for the next several Sundays.

The **Providence Life Chain** is scheduled for Sunday, October 9 from 1:30-2:30 PM. We will hold our pro life signs in front of our church on Sappington Rd to show our commitment to sanctity of life. A light lunch will be served immediately following Sunday school and a sign up sheet will be available.

**Men of the Covenant** — All men in the Providence community are invited to a Men of the Covenant meeting on October 12 at 7:30 PM at Monte Shields' home. Young men of high school age and above are also welcome. Please bring something to drink and chair to sit in as we gather for a time of discussion and fellowship. Monte's address is: 11731 Parkshire Drive (right down the street from the church building). Speak to Josh or Monte with any questions.

**Harvest Party, Saturday, October 22, 4-8 PM** — Join us for our annual Harvest Party hosted by the John Keane family. We'll have our traditional chili contest, dessert contest (ingredient this year is caramel!), costume contest for all ages, and chicken chase for the little ones. New this year is a fundraiser for the Deacons' Fund. The winning desserts will be sold off in pieces so bring your dollars! To help with the party and to see what foods are needed, see the sign up sheet on the WIC table.

**Food Pantry Donations** — Many thanks to all who have donated to Resurrection Food Pantry! This month they desperately need anything you can donate. Their shelves are empty! Here are some suggestions for donations: canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned meals, pasta, and cereal.

## **Church Calendar**

October 2	Parish Groups Meet
October 6	Ladies Night Out *Note the date change!*
October 9	1:30-2:30 Life Chain
October 12	Men of the Covenant Meeting
October 22	Harvest Party

# **The Lord's Service Explained**

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## **The Opening Hymn of Praise**

Once the Lord has called us into his special presence it is then our privilege to respond. He has taken hold of us by his Word and separated us out from the world as his people. This is the first step in the order of covenant renewal worship. So after the call to worship the congregation now stands before him poised to respond to his invitation and receive his gracious gifts. The sacrifice begins.

Singing is our first response to God's words and actions in the worship service. Remember, the entire service moves forward as God speaks and the congregation responds. It is something of a conversation between God and his church. God calls and we respond. God speaks and we listen. God gives and we receive. God acts and we thank Him. We say "amen" each time the Lord speaks to us or acts for us. The dialogical pattern is found throughout the Bible when men find themselves in God's presence (Isa. 6:1-12; Jer. 1:4-8; Rev. 4-5, 19:5-10; etc.). It is the biblical way to approach God in worship. So here at the beginning of the service, the Lord calls us and we gather to praise him.

Normally, then, we enter into God's presence singing. The opening hymn is almost always a Psalm of praise or a hymn of adoration. This song is addressed to God, which means it is a prayer, a congregational prayer. This first hymn will usually highlight some aspect of the character and/or work of God in Christ, thereby giving concrete form to the congregation's adoration and praise. It is appropriate that we should "enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise" (Psalm 100:5). The gathered congregation is herself now the house or temple of the Lord (1 Cor. 3:17; Eph. 2:21; 1 Peter 2:5), indeed, the "city of God" (Heb. 12:22). Just as the Israelites passed through the gates of Zion singing, we too enter that which these types symbolized with songs of praise. We enter into heaven itself as the Spirit unites us to Christ, singing gloriously.

# 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	Allan Wamsley	314-560-9602
Richard Hiers	314-543-3010	Brad Wood (Clerk)	636-587-9211

## The Deacons

Jack Boeve (Chairman)	636-461-1398	Daryl Hoegemann	314-962-4874
Bryan Carter	636-271-7288	Steve Shaffer	314-843-1964
Bill Coller	314-726-6799	Pat Staebel	314-303-4369
Rick Gibbs	636-451-3463	Paul Svezia	314-406-9101
Dan Hayes	314-984-9814	Bob Wooldridge	314-963-9671

## Women in the Church Officers

President: Denise Gerstung	314-821-9324	Nursery: Lu Greeno	618-538-5885
Vice President: Judy Linton	636-349-9028	Christine Greeno	618-514-0935
Secretary/Treasurer:		Melanie Greeno	518-926-9046
Lori Shaffer	314-843-1964	Bethel: Rachel LeCroy	314-604-2089
Committee Coordinator:		Kitchen: Rosamma Weston	314-205-2018
Rhonda Hoard	636-938-3575	Tracy Boeve	636-461-1398
WIC advisor: Joanie Harris	636-394-6896	Hospitality: Barb Hoover	314-966-3523
Prayer Chain: Doris Daily	314-961-8799	Joanie Harris	636-394-6896
Carolyn Van Heest	314-966-5732	Amanda Cone	314-497-7950
Brenda Svezia	svezia@sbcglobal.net	Wedding Coordinator:	
Missions: Debbie Keane	636-938-3108	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

Matt Teeselink	563-579-3674	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