

The Covenant Renewal Service

Providence Reformed
Presbyterian Church

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



Pentecost Season
September 18, 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. Join us tonight for our evening service and a cookout at 5 PM.

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.)

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

The Lord's Day — September 18, 2011

Pentecost Season

Preparation For Worship: Psalm 121

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

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 #35 "Immortal, invisible, God only wise" *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!

†Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord:

O God, you are infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, glorious in holiness, full of love and compassion, abundant in grace and truth: All your works praise you in all places of your dominion, and your glory is revealed in Jesus Christ your Son; therefore, we praise you Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, blessed forever. Amen!

Purification

O Lord, my heart is not lifted up;

Psalm 131:1-2

My eyes are not raised too high.

I do not occupy myself with things,

Too great and too marvelous for me.

But I have calmed and quieted my soul,
Like a weaned child with its mother.

Come let us worship and bow down.

Psalm 95:6

And kneel before the Lord our Maker [Kneel]

Let us pray.

O Almighty God, heavenly Father, I have sinned against you and against my neighbor, in thought, word and deed, in the evil I have done and in the good I have not done, through ignorance, through weakness, and through my own deliberate fault. I am truly sorry and repent of all my sins. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for me, forgive me all that is past; and grant that I may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your Name.

†Pastor: Now arise and hear the good news!

Ascension

†Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

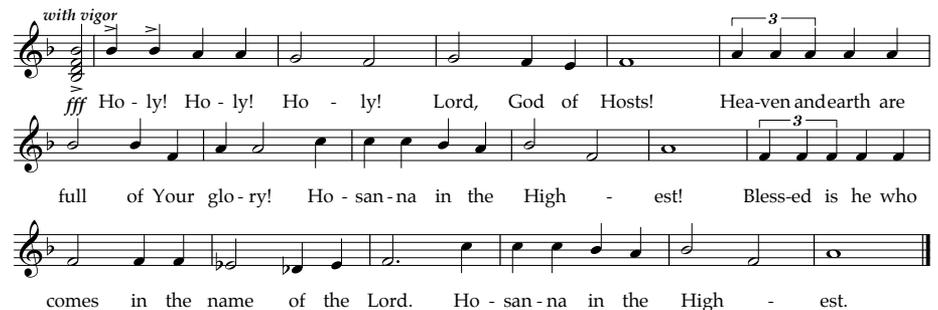
We lift them up to the Lord!

†Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

It is proper and right to do so.

†Truly it is good, right, and beneficial 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.

†Hymn of Praise: #204 "Alleluia! Alleluia!"

Trinity Hymnal

The OT Reading: *Isaiah 42:1-13*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

The New Testament Reading: *Colossians 1:24–2:5*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

†The Gospel Reading: *Luke 9:43b-62*

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 21:1-15*

Pastor Jeff Meyers

Sermon: LET THE WILL OF THE LORD BE DONE

LII. 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

†The Lord's Prayer

The Sacrifice of Peace

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Communion in the Body of Christ

Psalm 121 "To the hills I lift my eyes"

CRC Psalter Hymnal

(Tune of TH #623)

**To the hills I lift my eyes;
whence shall help for me arise?
From the LORD comes all my aid,
who the heavens and earth has made.
He will guard through dangers all,
will not let you slip or fall.
He who safe his people keeps
never slumbers, never sleeps.**

**Your protector is the LORD;
shade for you he will afford.
Neither sun nor moon shall smite;
God shall guard by day and night.
He will ever keep your soul;
what would harm he will control.
In the home and by the way
God will keep you day by day.**

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, our heavenly Father, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life of your church. Bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in your church, that we might be means of grace to one another in love, joy, kindness, and peace; through Jesus Christ, the true Vine in whom we abide; 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 #501 “Guide me, O thou great Jehovah”

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

The Evening Service

Sunday, September 18, 2011 – 5:00 PM
Pentecost Season

Scripture Reading: *1 Corinthians 3:1-23*

Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

†Hymn #268 “Christ is made the sure Foundation”

Trinity Hymnal

Prayer Requests & Prayer [kneeling]

†Psalm 47 “Praise the LORD, ye lands”

Anglo-Genevan Psalter

Sermon Text: *Ephesians 2:11-22*

Pastor Jeff Meyers

Message: **THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH. REALLY?**

VIII. EXPLANATION OF THE APOSTLES’ CREED

†Hymn “Built on the Rock the church doth stand”

(see handout)

†Benediction

Announcements

Woman of the Week:

Courtney Keane

Nursery Volunteers for Today:

Morning Service – Pratt

Sunday School – Gerstung, Harris

Evening – See the sign up sheet

Nursery Volunteers for Next Week:

Morning Service – Shaffer

Sunday School – Gibbs

Evening – Chris Meyers

Fall Adult Sunday School: Technology & The Christian Faith - This fall in our adult Sunday School we are doing a series on Technology & the Christian Faith. Everyday we use different kinds of technology, much of it invented in the past 50 years, and yet we often don't put a lot of thought into how these tools shape and influence the way we view the world and interact with other people. This fall we will take a look at technological change from Biblical and theological perspectives, and focus on specific technological innovations like the television, the automobile, the computer, the cellphone, etc, asking together the question each week: how do these tools shape us and how can we use them wisely?

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

Ladies Night Out — Ladies, please join us at 7 pm Thursday evening, September 29th for our Back-to-School 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 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 visit. See Rhonda Hoard for more details.

Parish Groups — Parish groups will be meeting Sunday, October 2. If you are new to the church or visiting, see Pastor Anderson to see which group you can join for the afternoon.

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.

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 (ravioli, chili, soup, stew, etc.), pasta, and cereal.

Choir — The fall Choir season has begun, and we'd love to have you join us! We rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30 P.M. during the school year. We sing during morning worship several times a month and also during special seasonal evening services. The choir is open to everyone from high school juniors and older. We always have room for new members, so come give it a try! For more information, contact Bill Hoover (314-540-2427, billhoover@fastmail.net). And if you are an accomplished instrumentalist, please let Bill know that too.

Church Calendar

September 11	Sunday School Resumes
September 14	Choir Resumes
September 15	WIC Bible Study Begins
September 29	Ladies Night Out
October 2	Parish Groups Meet
October 9	1:30-2:30 Life Chain
October 22	Harvest Party

Sermon Notes and Prayer Requests

The Lord's Service Explained

Why Do We use Set Prayers?

First, we don't naturally know how to pray, and pre-composed prayers can help train our minds to pray biblically. Good prayers guide us and assist us in composing our own private prayers, both with respect to content and structure. Almost all the phrases from all the prayers that we use in our worship come right out of the Bible. Thus, ultimately, we are praying God's Word. There are biblical ways to pray, and these pre-composed prayers, used consistently, will help you learn how to pray. Surely this is the reason why so many prayers are recorded for us in the Bible. The traditional prayers of the Church offer the worshiper guidance and direction, oftentimes by utilizing the language and structure (order of prayer) lifted right from the Bible itself.

Second, prayers sung or said in unison manifest the *unity* of the church in prayer. We all pray together as the corporate Body of Christ, not just as a bunch of individuals. Corporate worship is not designed merely as an aid to each individual's devotions. We don't come into church to worship merely as individuals with our own private tubes to God. We come together as the Body of Christ, and as the Body of Christ we confess our sins, pray, and praise God together. The Spirit re-creates us into a community by means of common prayer.

Third, printed prayers insure congregational participation in the prayers. Remember worship ought not to be something you come to watch or hear, rather you come to perform worship yourself. Think about this: it is very difficult to get distracted when you are saying a prayer out loud. It is hard to do anything else but pray the prayer. A set prayer insures your participation and guards against your mind wandering. It is much more difficult for your mind to wander when your attention is focused on reading and saying a prayer that you are familiar with than it is when you have your eyes closed and are merely listening to the pastor pray. Let's face it—most people find it very difficult to concentrate on praying when someone else is saying a long prayer. If you aren't familiar with the prayer that you are reading or hearing, then you will have to evaluate it as you are praying. And how much more effective would it be to recite prayers that you trust and know by heart?

Fourth, no church can avoid prayer rituals altogether. You either have good prayer rituals or you have bad ones, helpful or dangerous ones, but it is impossible to be free from all forms in a church's corporate prayer life. Congregations that never use prayer books or set prayers, nevertheless, do develop, sometimes unknowingly (which is unfortunate), certain habits with respect to praying. You know very well what happens when there is no guidance or direction to the prayers. Prayers become tedious: "I just want to thank you, Lord...and I just want to ask...and I just want..." Or they become trivial and down right silly: "O Lord, help us to be all that we can be" (the Army Prayer) or "Lord, help us to reach out and touch somebody this week" (the AT&T prayer).

Obviously, we are not obliged to use all kinds of pretentious words and grandiose phrases in order for our prayers to be acceptable to God. I'm not trying to put down anyone's prayer merely because it is not as well structured and manicured as someone else's. God is pleased with the meager and unsophisticated prayers of his people, just as he is pleased with a young child's. But—and here's the important point—if the child never grows up and learns how to pray biblically, if the content of his prayers remain the same, then it is not so cute anymore. God may be pleased with a childlike prayer, but he is not satisfied with it either. He expects us to grow up and learn how to pray like adults, to conform our prayers more and more to the models he has given us in the Scriptures.

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: Lori Shaffer	314-843-1964	Melanie Greeno	518-926-9046
Committee Coordinator: Rhonda Hoard	636-938-3575	Bethel: Rachel LeCroy	314-604-2089
WIC advisor: Joanie Harris	636-394-6896	Kitchen: Rosamma Weston	314-205-2018
Prayer Chain: Doris Daily	314-961-8799	Tracy Boeve	636-461-1398
Carolyn Van Heest	314-966-5732	Hospitality: Barb Hoover	314-966-3523
Brenda Svezia	svezia@sbcglobal.net	Joanie Harris	636-394-6896
Missions: Debbie Keane	636-938-3108	Amanda Cone	314-497-7950
		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

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 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