

The Covenant Renewal Service

Providence Reformed
Presbyterian Church

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



Easter Season

May 13, 2012

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 at 11:00 AM to study Nahum & Habbakuk with Pastor Anderson. There will be no evening service tonight so enjoy Mother's Day with the family!

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.)

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 13, 2012

Easter Season

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 lift up your heads, 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 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

**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.**

Latin text attributed to Nicetas, late 14th century.
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Sermon Text: *Acts 26:12-23*

Pastor Jeff Meyers

Sermon: **FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT**

LXI. EXPOSITION OF THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Silent Meditation

Hymn #404 "We sing the glorious conquest"

Trinity Hymnal

The Tribute Offering

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "Fairest Lord Jesus" See Hymn #129 in *Trinity Hymnal*

Text: Münster *Gesangbuch*, 1677; verse 4 tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1873
Music: Silesian folk song from *Schlesische Volkslieder*, Leipzig, 1842
Harm: Richard S. Willis, 1850; arr. Bill Hoover, 1995

†[Hands Raised] The Doxology

Trinity Hymnal, p. xvi

†Prayer of the Church (from the Lord's Prayer)

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us. God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that your holy Name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of your Word and the fervent love shown in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby your holy Name is borne by us in an empty and profane way. Lord in your mercy,

Congregation: **hear our prayer!**

May your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer!

Strengthen us by your Spirit according to your will, both in life and

in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to your good and gracious will. Into your merciful hands we commend our family and friends, indeed, all who are in need, praying for them at all times that your will be done. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer!

Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us to trust in you to provide for all our needs. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer!

Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in good conscience before you, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer!

Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his crafty schemes. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer!

And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer!

We trust, O Lord, in your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen!

The Sacrifice of Peace

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Memorial

Communion Hymn "Christ the Lord is risen today"

1 Cor. 15: 57
Charles Wesley, 1739, cento

Oriens partibus
French melody, c. 1200, ad.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both are in 4/4 time and G major. The lyrics are written below the top staff. The lyrics are: 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!

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 #400 "Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing" *Trinity Hymnal*

†Commission: *Matthew 28:18-20*

†Benediction: *Numbers 6:24-26*

†Three-fold Amen

†Postlude

Announcements

Today's Nursery Volunteers:

Morning Service – Shaffer

Sunday School – Shields

Next Week's Nursery Volunteers

Morning Service – Courtney & Grace Keane

Sunday School – Marianne Pitts & Denise Gerstung

Evening – Pratt

The Whole Bible in a Year — Join us in the fellowship hall as we continue our Sunday school class that takes us through a summary of the books of the Bible. Today Pastor Anderson is teaching on Nahum & Habbakuk.

Memory Listeners — will hear our Covenant children recite part two of their year end recitation during Sunday School today.

Bridal Shower — Ladies, join us for a bridal shower for Ellie Moore, daughter of Elder John and Brookie Moore, on May 17, at 7 PM at the home of Dottie Devlin (11299 #6 Manchester Rd. Kirkwood). Ellie is registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond, Williams-Sonoma and Sallie Home. See Barb Hoover if you would like to contribute to a group gift. Carpooling is encouraged, as parking space is limited. If you plan to attend, sign up at the WIC table or during the adult Sunday school class. Please don't miss this opportunity to be there, blessing Ellie and her family, and to fellowship with one another!

Guys' Camp Out — This year's annual camping trip for all guys will be May 18-19 at the Keane's property in Mt. Sterling. The campout will last from Friday afternoon through Saturday at 2 PM. Come on out and join the fun! If you have questions or need directions contact Pastor Meyers or John Keane.

Graduation Reception — On May 20 we will recognize all our graduates during the coffee hour. Please sign up if you are graduating or know someone who is graduating. See Barb Hoover if you have any questions.

Annual Congregational Meeting — On Sunday, May 20, 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 2012-2013 fiscal year.

VBS — That this year's VBS, Olympion, will be held July 23-27 from 9:00 AM-noon. Classes will be offered for children ages 3 through grade 7. We will be learning about Joshua, the great champion of the Bible who points us to Jesus. So, mark your calendar and tell your friends!

Church Calendar

May 17	Bridal Shower for Ellie Moore
May 18-19	Men and Boys Campout
May 20	Graduation Reception / Congregational Meeting / Cookout
May 27	Promotion Sunday
June 10	Annual Pig Roast
July 23-27	VBS
August 3-4	Rummage Sale

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

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	Steve Shaffer	314-843-1964
Bryan Carter	636-271-7288	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
Daryl Hoegemann	314-962-4874		

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	
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
Carol 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	Bill Hoover (Music Dir.)	314-966-3523
Associate Pastor		Melanie Carter (Secretary)	636-271-7288
Paul Jaeggi, Sr.	314-843-7994 (Church)		
Asst. to the Pastor	314-631-4394 (Home)		

Pastoral Interns

Matt Teeselink	563-579-3674	Steve Schleppehorst	217-257-2592
Ryan Van Horn	314-620-3744		

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