

The Covenant Renewal Service

Providence Reformed
Presbyterian Church

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



Easter Season

May 20, 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. We will have our annual congregational meeting this morning in the sanctuary after the graduation reception. Join us tonight at 5 PM for our evening prayer service and cookout.

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 20, 2012

Easter Season

Preparation For Worship: Psalm 47

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 47*

Pastor Jeff Meyers

†Psalm 47 "Praise the LORD, ye Lands"

Anglo-Genevan Psalter

**Praise the LORD, ye lands! Nations clap your hands,
Shout a-loud to God, spread His fame abroad.
Praise him loud and long with a triumph song;
Bow as ye draw nigh, for the LORD Most High,
Terrible is He in his dignity and His kingdom's girth
Circles all the earth.**

**God has gone on high with a joyful cry;
Hosts with trumpet sound make His praise abound.
Sing ye praise to God, tell His fame abroad,
Take a psalm and shout, let His praise ring out,
Lift your voice and sing glory to our King;
He is Lord of earth, magnify His worth.**

**Praise His majesty understandingly; God is King alone
On His holy throne, issues His commands
To all foreign lands. Lo, their princes all gather at His call:
His the shields of earth, his the power, the worth;
He, the God on high, is our Helper nigh.**

†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!

God has gone up with a shout,
The Lord with the sound of a trumpet!

Psalm 47:5

The Lord has ascended on high,
Leading a host of captives in his train!

Psalm 68:18

†Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord:

Grant, we ask you, Almighty God, that just as we believe that your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, has ascended into the heavens to sit at your right hand, so may we also in heart and mind even today ascend with him, and so continually dwell in your presence, through him 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 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?
And who shall stand in his holy place?

Psalm 24:3-4

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.**

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. *Silent Prayer.* Amen!

†Pastor: Now lift up your heads, arise, and hear the good news!

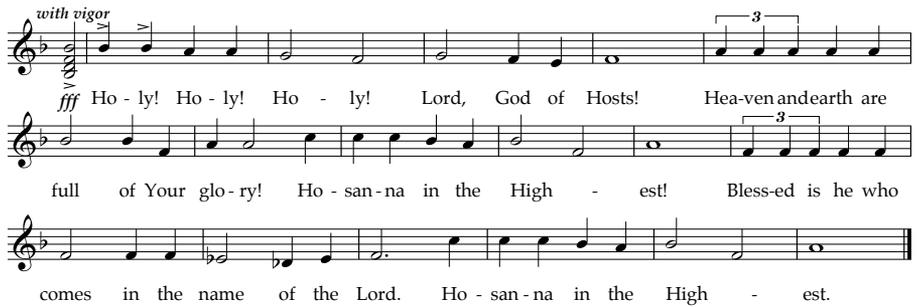
Ascension

†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
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the High - est.

†Hymn of Praise: #212 “A hymn of glory let us sing” *Trinity Hymnal*
The First Reading: *Acts 1:1-11* Pastor Jeff Meyers

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

The New Testament Reading: *Ephesians 1:15-23*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

†The Gospel Reading: *Luke 24:44-53*

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.

Latin text attributed to Nicetas, late 14th century.
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Sermon Text: *John 16:4b-7*

Pastor Joshua Anderson

Sermon: **IT IS BETTER FOR YOU THAT I GO AWAY**

Silent Meditation

The Tribute Offering

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

†[Hands Raised] The Doxology

Trinity Hymnal, p. xvi

†The Lord's Prayer

The Sacrifice of Peace

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Memorial

Pastor Jeff Meyers

Communion Hymn "Christ the Lord is risen today"

"Christ the Lord is ris'n today," sons of men and angels say.
Raise your joys and triumphs high; sing, ye heav'ns, and, earth reply.

Love's redeeming work is done, fought the fight, the battle won.
Lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er; lo, he sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has burst the gates of hell.
Death in vain forbids his rise; Christ has opened Paradise.

Lives again our glorious King; where, O Death, is now thy sting?
Once he died our souls to save; where they victory, O Grave?

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.

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: Almighty God, your beloved Son, our Savior
Jesus Christ, ascended into heaven that he might rule over all
things as the Last Adam; mercifully give us faith to trust that, as
he promised, he will rule until he has put all enemies under his
feet; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, age after age.

Congregation: **Amen!**

Benediction

†Hymn #216 "Crown him with many crowns"

Trinity Hymnal

†Commission: *Matthew 28:18-20*

†Benediction: *Numbers 6:24-26*

†Three-fold Amen & Postlude

The Evening Service

Easter Season

May 20, 2011 – 5:00 PM

Scripture Reading: *1 Peter 4:1-11*

†Hymn #7 “Hear how the Lord”

Scripture Reading: *James 2:1-13*

Sermon: **MORE ON HOSPITALITY**

Prayer Requests and Prayer

- Focus on Resurrection & Cornerstone Churches

†Closing Hymn: “Gracious God, again is ended” (see handout)

†Benediction

†Cookout and Fellowship on the Church Parking Lot & Lawn

Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

Anglo-Genevan Psalter

Pastor Jeff Meyers

Church Calendar

May 27	Promotion Sunday
June 10	Annual Pig Roast
July 23-27	VBS
August 3-4	Rummage Sale

Thank You From the James Family

Bret, Jackie and Anna James would like to thank the members of Providence who gave so freely of their time and finances to make the wheelchair ramp for Anna a possibility. It's difficult to convey what a blessing this has been to us (and our backs) since it was built. The efforts by so many in your congregation, who did not even know us, was a tangible example of faith to our family and neighbors. We realize your church made great sacrifices by sending out a team to plant Resurrection Presbyterian in Carondelete, but we can assure you the impact they are making in our neighborhood is very real.

Announcements

Today's Nursery Volunteers:

Morning Service – Courtney & Grace Keane
Sunday School – Marianne Pitts & Denise Gerstung
Evening – Pratt

Next Week's Nursery Volunteers

Morning Service – Wooldridge
Sunday School – Joslyn
Evening – Ami Anderson & Anna Hoegemann

Graduation Reception Today — Please join us in the fellowship hall after this morning's worship service for a reception in honor of our 2012 graduates.

Annual Congregational Meeting Today — Please stay after the morning service and after the graduation reception for our annual congregational meeting. We will be presenting and explaining the budget. Pastor Meyers will be presenting very important information about strategic planning and the future of our church.

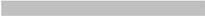
Deacons Fund Collection — The Deacons' Fund Offering will take place tonight. Please consider donating to this fund. The money goes directly to assist families in our congregation and community.

Cookout Tonight — Join us tonight for our third attempt at our first cookout of the season. The evening service will begin at 5 PM and a parking lot cookout will follow the service. Each family brings their own hotdogs or other meat to toss on the grill, lawn chairs, drinks and sides. Feel free to bring a larger side or treat to share with others!

Promotion Sunday — Next Sunday is Promotion Sunday. We will have the opportunity to hear what our children have been learning in their Sunday school classes this past school year. The children will sing and recite verses and be promoted to their next year's Sunday school class.

VBS — 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!

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, 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