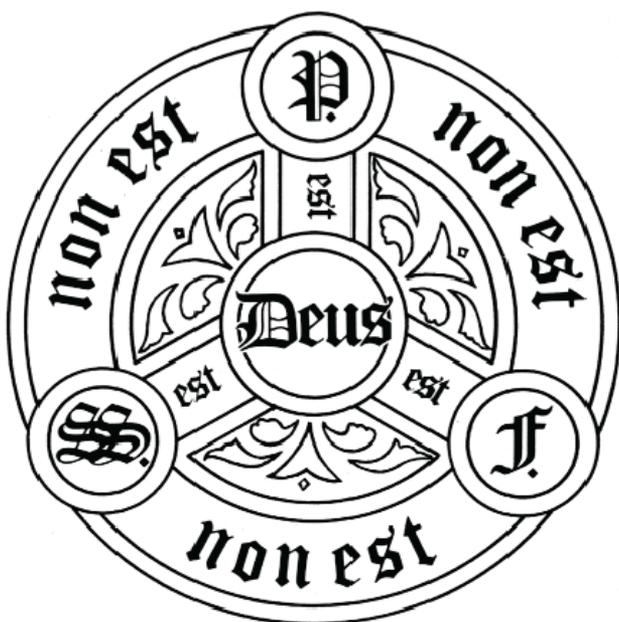


The Covenant Renewal Service

Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church

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



Pentecost Season
September 23, 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 11:40 AM. Children's Sunday school classes meet in the educational wing. The adult class meets in the fellowship hall at 11:40 AM to continue our book-by-book study of the Bible. There will be no evening prayer service tonight. Parish groups will meet in the afternoon and evening.

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 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 23, 2012

Pentecost Season

Preparation For Worship: Psalm 33

Organ - Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements - Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

The Entrance

Silent Preparation [kneeling]

Call to Worship: *Psalm 148*

Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

†Hymn #17 "Ye holy angels bright"

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!

O Lord, open my lips,

and my mouth will declare your praise.

Psalm 51:5

Your steadfast love, O LORD never ceases;

your mercies never come to an end;

They are new every morning;

great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3:22-23

†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 kneel and confess our sins before God our Father, seeking and imploring his grace through Jesus Christ.

Most holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge before you our sinful nature and our many offenses. We are prone to do evil and slow to do good. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your way, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Lord, we are ashamed and sorry for all the ways that we have displeased you.

Father, teach us to hate our rebellious acts, cleanse us from our secret faults, and forgive our sins for the sake of your Son. Help us to love you with all our heart and mind and strength. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit so that we may walk in your ways and serve you all of our days. *Silent Prayer. Amen!*

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

Ascension

†Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

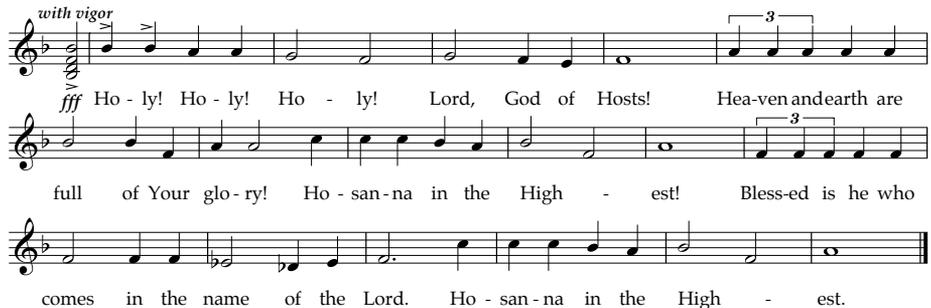
We lift them up to the Lord!

†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 give thanks to you at all times and in every place, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. We praise you that you sent us your only-begotten Son and that in him, having united himself to our humanity, you manifested the fullness of your glory. 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 #204 "Alleluia! Alleluia!"

Trinity Hymnal

The OT Reading: *Ruth 4:1-22*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

The New Testament Reading: *2 Corinthians 4:7-18*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

†The Gospel Reading: *John 20:11-18*

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: **“WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE REDEEMED?”**

IV. EXPOSITION OF THE BOOK OF RUTH Pastor Joshua Anderson

Silent Reflection on the Preaching of God’s Word

The Tribute Offering

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "Sing to the Lord now, all the earth" (*Psalms* 96:1-6) *Choir*

Sing to the Lord now, all the earth,
A new song shall proclaim His worth.
Sing to the Lord and bless His name,
His great salvation loud proclaim.

Declare His glory ev'rywhere,
His works with all the nations share.
Great is the Lord and greatly praised,
Above all gods His banner raised.

For all the peoples' gods are false--
The Lord created heaven's vaults.
To God all majesty belongs;
Christians, O sing Him a new song!

| |
|---|
| Text: German setting of <i>Psalms</i> 96:1-6 by Cornelius Becker, 1602; tr. Robert E. Wunderlich, 1967; v.3 alt. Music: Heinrich Schuetz, <i>Becker Psalter</i> , 1628; ed. R. E. Wunderlich, 1967 |
|---|

†[Hands Raised] The *Doxology*

Trinity Hymnal, p. xvi

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

Pastor: God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, your needy children, 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, **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 & Communion in the Body of Christ

Hymn #223 "Arise, my soul arise"

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: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, we take refuge in you; let us never be put to shame! In your righteousness deliver and rescue us; incline your ear to us and save us! Be to us a rock of refuge, to which we may continually come, for you are our Rock and our Fortress; hear our prayer in Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, age after age.

Congregation: **Amen!**

(from *Psalms* 71:1-3)

Benediction

†Hymn #281 "For all the saints"

Trinity Hymnal

†Commission: *Matthew* 28:18-20

†Benediction: *Numbers* 6:24-26

†Three-fold Amen

†Postlude & Greet One Another

Announcements

Today's Nursery Volunteers:

Morning Service – Lu Greeno

Sunday School –Jeff Keane Family

Next Week's Nursery Volunteers

Morning Service – Hiers

Sunday School – Schmidt

Evening Prayer Service – Volunteers Needed

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.

Providence Inquirers & New Members Class is meeting at the home of Pastor Meyers this morning after the morning service. If you are new and/or visiting with us today, you are welcome to attend the class. There's a map to the Meyers's home on the table in the foyer. Children can be dropped off at the nursery before the class and picked up afterwards.

Bridal shower For Vivienne Greeno — Ladies, join us on Tuesday, September 25 at 7 PM at the home of Deborah Shields to celebrate the upcoming wedding of Vivienne Greeno and Lee Diercks. Vivienne is registered at Target and Bed, Bath, and Beyond. Please let Deborah know by the end of the day if you'd like to contribute toward a group gift: 314-724-3310 or loldebz@gmail.com.

FY13 Budget Report (May-August 2012)

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| General Offerings | \$129,193 |
| Offerings Needed to Meet Budget | \$143,667 |
| Current Deficit | -\$14,474 |

Greater St. Louis Life Chain — The annual Greater St. Louis Life Chain will be held Sunday, October 7 from 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM. All are encouraged to come and show our belief in the sanctity of life. A light lunch will be provided for those who would like to remain at church. A sign up sheet for the meal will be passed around during the Sunday school hour.

WIC Ladies Night — Mark your calendars for Friday, November 9 from 7-9 PM. We will be going to Kakao Chocolate in Maplewood for a private party chocolate tasting. Cost is \$10 per person. Bring wine/drinks to share! Please sign up at the WIC table. Any questions see Erin VanHorn.

Choir Practice — will be on Tuesday evenings this fall, from 7:00 to 8:30 P.M., and is open to everyone age 16 and up. Join us this Tuesday night! If you are interested in participating but cannot attend on Tuesdays, please let Bill Hoover know, if you haven't already (billhoover@fastmail.net).

Harvest Party 2012 — This year our annual Harvest Party will be held in the late afternoon at Crestwood Park on Saturday, October 27. Mark your calendars. Keep an eye out for more information on the party in the coming weeks.

Church Work Day — Your help is needed for a church work day on Saturday, October 13. Shifts run from 8-10 AM or 10-Noon. See Steve Shaffer or Lane Greeno if you have any questions.

Nursery Drop Off — Parents, please take extra care over the next few weeks to sign your children into nursery so Christine Greeno can determine whether or not to increase the work force to accommodate our growing population.

Coffee Set Up Volunteer Needed — Thanks to the Gibbs & Pratts for their faithful service by making coffee. We are now looking for new volunteers. Volunteers need only to come in one half hour early to prepare the coffee, clean up afterward, and only serve once a month. If you are interested see Rosamma Weston or Tracy Boeve.

Church Calendar

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| Sept 25 | Bridal Shower for Vivienne Greeno |
| Oct 7 | Memory Listening |
| Oct 13 | Church Workday |
| Oct 27 | Harvest Party |

Sermon Notes and Prayer Requests

The Lord's Service Explained

The Sursum Corda

After we receive the forgiveness of sins, God's purified people are invited to come nearer. Just as the sacrificial animal is brought near the altar in preparation for his being drawn into the fire as food for God and, likewise, just as the Ascension follows the Purification, so now the Christian worshiper ascends into heaven to praise Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and to hear the Lord's verbal instruction in preparation for his fellowship meal with God. Appropriately, therefore, the sursum corda (Latin: "lift up your hearts") comes at this point in the service.

The "heart" here stands for the center of the whole man. The purpose of the sursum corda, therefore, is not to elicit an "emotional" response. We are not being summoned to work up "feelings" about the Lord. We may experience certain emotions at this point in the service or not. But how we feel must be transcended by what we know by faith is happening in the liturgy. When the pastor calls out, "Lift up your hearts," the congregation is being summoned to accept by faith our heavenly positioning in Christ. The Lord has forgiven us and now invites us "in close" to praise him and hear his life-giving Word. This is objectively true whether we feel like it or not. Although everything may still "look" the same, by faith we understand that the roof of the church has been rolled back not only to expose the heavenly service in progress but also to incorporate us into it. Cherubim and seraphim, angels and archangels, together with the church triumphant are now "visible" to the eye of faith. Heaven and earth are now joined and we have been ushered into the festal assembly gathered around the throne of the Lamb (Heb. 12:22-24; Rev. 4-5). We lift up our hearts to the Lord!

Following the sursum corda, the people give thanks to God the Father for his glorious grace. This prayer, led by the pastor, reminds them that they are now joining in the chorus of praise before the throne of God. When one makes the ascent into God's presence one starts singing. Singing is a means of ascent. This is when the music and singing began in the temple liturgy—when the Ascension begins (see 2 Chron. 29:27-28). Now is when we sing the Sanctus ("Holy, Holy, Holy") and another hymn that provides the congregation with the opportunity to participate in the praise offered around the throne of God and the Lamb in heaven. Hymns of praise based on the Rev. 4:8 ("Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord God Almighty"), Rev. 4:11 ("Worthy are you, our Lord and God"), or Rev. 5:9 ("Worthy is the Lamb who was slain") are particularly appropriate.

Catechism of the Week

The Heidelberg Catechism

Q. 62. Why can't the good we do make us right with God, or at least help make us right with him?

- A. Because the righteousness which can pass God's scrutiny must be entirely perfect and must in every way measure up to the divine law. Even the very best we do in this life is imperfect and stained with sin.

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 (Clerk) | 314-849-0597 |
| Jason Carter | 636-257-2441 | Allan Wamsley | 314-560-9602 |
| Richard Hiers | 314-543-3010 | | |

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: Lu Greeno | 618-538-5885 | Bethel: | Cassie Linton, Denise Gerstung, Crystal Schmidt, Marianne Pitts, Vivienne Greeno |
| Vice President: Dottie Devlin | 314-821-0360 | | |
| Secretary/Treasurer: | | | |
| Erin VanHorn | 314-620-3733 | Kitchen: Rosamma Weston | 314-205-2018 |
| Prayer Chain: Doris Daily | 314-961-8799 | Tracy Boeve | 636-461-1398 |
| Carolann Van Heest | 314-966-5732 | Hospitality: Barb Hoover | 314-966-3523 |
| Brenda Svezia | svezia@sbcglobal.net | Deborah Shields | 314-849-0597 |
| Nursery: Christine Greeno | 618-514-0935 | Wedding Coordinator: | |
| Melanie Greeno | 518-926-9046 | 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 |
| Pastor of Congregational Care & Discipleship | | 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 |