

The Covenant Renewal Service

Providence Reformed
Presbyterian Church

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



Easter Season - Ascension Sunday
May 12, 2013

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. Our adult Sunday school class will meet in the fellowship hall to continue our study of music taught by our Music Director, Bill Hoover. There is no evening service tonight, use the afternoon and evening to rest and enjoy family and friends!

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

Jesus Christ - Conqueror (*Front Cover*)



The traditional monograms **IC** and **XC** are ancient Latin abbreviations for **Jesus** (*IHCOCY*, 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 12, 2013
Easter Season - Ascension Sunday

Preparation For Worship: *Ephesians 1*

Organ - Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements - Pastor Joshua Anderson

The Entrance

Prelude

Mr. Bill Hoover, organ

Welcome & Announcements

[Kneeling] Silent Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship: *Ephesians 1:17-23*

Pastor Mark Horne

†Hymn of Praise: #218 "All hail the power of Jesus' Name" TH

†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,

Psalm 47:5

The Lord with the sound of a trumpet!

The Lord has ascended on high,

Psalm 68:18

Leading a host of captives in his train!

†Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord:

Grant, we ask you, Almighty God, that just as 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?

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.**

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; 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. Especially today we praise you for the ascension of Jesus Christ our Lord, the one mediator between God and man, who lives forever with you in heaven, where he has gone to sit at your right hand and to prepare a place for us, so that where he is we might also be and live eternally with him in 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: #211 "See, the Conqueror mounts in triumph" (TH, tune of #42)

The Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 25:1-12*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

The New Testament Reading: *Revelation 21:1-7; 21:22-22:5*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

†The Gospel Reading: *Luke 24:36-53*

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Praise be to you, O Christ!

†We Confess our faith: Luther's Sung Nicene Creed



1 We all be - lieve in one true God, Who cre - at - ed
2 We all be - lieve in Je - sus Christ, His own Son, our
3 We all con - fess the Ho - ly Ghost, Who, in high - est



earth and heav - en, The Fa - ther, who to us in love
Lord, pos - sess - ing An e - qual God - head, throne, and might,
heav - en dwell - ing With God the Fa - ther and the Son,



Has the right of chil - dren giv - en. He in soul and
Source of ev - 'ry grace and bless - ing; Born of Mar - y,
Com - forts us be - yond all tell - ing; Who the Church, His



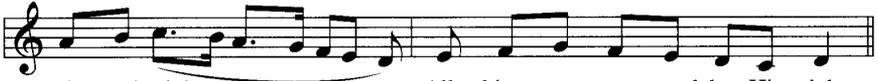
bod - y feeds us; All we need His hand pro - vides us;
vir - gin moth - er, By the pow - er of the Spir - it,
own cre - a - tion, Keeps in u - ni - ty of spir - it.



Through all snares and per - ils leads us, Watch - ing that no
Word made flesh, our el - der broth - er; That the lost might
Here for - give - ness and sal - va - tion Dai - ly come through



harm be - tide us. He cares for us by
life in - her - it, Was cru - ci - fied for
Je - sus' mer - it. All flesh shall rise, and



day and night;
all our sin
we shall be

All things are gov-erned by His might.
And raised by God to life a - gain.
In bliss with God e - ter - nal - ly.

Sermon Text: *John 14:1-7*

Pastor Joshua Anderson

Sermon: **WILL HEAVEN BE BORING?**

XIV. CHRISTIAN ANSWERS TO CRITICAL QUESTIONS

†Hymn #604 “Jerusalem the golden”

Trinity Hymnal

The Tribute Offering

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

† [Hands Raised] The Doxology

Trinity Hymnal, p. xvi

† [Hands Raised] Offertory Prayer

O merciful Creator, whose hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: make us, we pray, ever thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, age after age; and now we continue to pray as our Lord has taught us. . .

† [Hands Raised] The Lord’s Prayer

The Sacrifice of Peace

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Bread

†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.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Memorial for the Cup

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

Announcements

Nursery Volunteers Today:

Morning Service – Ryan Herweck
Sunday School – Ami Anderson & Abigail Gross

Nursery Volunteers Next Sunday:

Morning Service – Gibbs
Sunday School – Promotion Sunday

The “Music of the Church” Sunday School Class — Join us in the fellowship hall this morning for our Sunday School class on music in the church.

Session/Deacon Meeting — There will be a joint session and deacon meeting on Monday, May 13 at 7 PM.

Bridal Shower for Madeline Shields — Ladies, please join us for a bridal shower in honor of Madeline Shields at 7 PM on Thursday, May 16, at the home of Maggie Montgomery. Sign up on the WIC table to help with the shower and/or let us know you plan to attend! Madeline is registered at Target and Crate & Barrel. If you would like to participate in the group gift, see Barb Hoover. Contact Ami Anderson or Joanie Harris with any questions.

Church Work Day — Your help is needed for a church work day on Saturday, May 18. Shifts run from 8-10 AM or 10-noon. See Lane Greeno if you have any questions.

Promo Sunday Celebration — This year, in honor of our children, we are hosting a small “festival” after the Sunday School promotion on May 19. Stay and enjoy lunch and festival games! Hot dogs will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share, lawn chairs, and sign up on the WIC table. See Lori Shaffer if you have any questions.

Joint Worship With Cornerstone & Resurrection — We are planning to have a joint evening worship service and cookout with our two daughter churches on May 26 at 5 PM. Set aside that date for some great fellowship with our sister congregations!

VBS Volunteers Needed — To volunteer for our upcoming summer VBS, please see Anna Hoegemann. (314-600-3525, annahoegemann@gmail.com)

Please sign up for our **2014 Women's Retreat**. If you have questions or need any financial assistance please contact Lu Greeno, Erin Van Horn, Dottie Devlin, or Kheylya Murrell.

Upcoming Events

May 13	7 PM Joint Session/Deacon Meeting
May 16	Bridal Shower for Madeline Shields
May 18	Church Work Day
May 19	Promotion Sunday (for children's Sunday school) No Evening Service
May 26	5 PM Joint Worship with Cornerstone & Resurrection No Sunday School
July 22-26	VBS

Sermon Notes and Prayer Requests

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.

The Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 87 What are we to believe concerning the resurrection?

A. We are to believe, that at the last day there shall be a general resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust: when they that are then found alive shall in a moment be changed; and the selfsame bodies of the dead which were laid in the grave, being then again united to their souls forever, shall be raised up by the power of Christ. The bodies of the just, by the Spirit of Christ, and by virtue of his resurrection as their head, shall be raised in power, spiritual, incorruptible, and made like to his glorious body; and the bodies of the wicked shall be raised up in dishonor by him, as an offended judge.

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	314-616-9062
Bryan Carter	636-271-7288	Pat Staebel	314-303-4369
Dan Hayes	314-984-9814	Paul Svezia	314-406-9101
Daryl Hoegemann	314-962-4874	Bob Wooldridge	314-963-9671

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
Carolan Van Heest	314-966-5732	Hospitality: Barb Hoover	314-966-3523
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	314-814-2019
Senior Pastor	314-842-9309 (H)	Pastor to International Students	
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)		cartersonthehill@gmail.com
Asst. to the Pastor	314-631-4394 (Home)		

Pastoral Interns

Matt Teeselink	563-579-3674	Ryan Van Horn	314-620-3744
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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