

The Covenant Renewal Service

Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church

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



Easter Season

May 9, 2010

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. Please join us downstairs for coffee after this morning's service.

We have **Christian education** classes for all ages which meet after the service at 10:50 AM. Please take the time to sign our guestbook in the foyer before you leave today. Tonight we will have no evening worship. Please use the rest of the day to enjoy Mother's Day.

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** (*IHCŌYC*, 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 9, 2010
Easter Season

Preparation For Worship: *Psalm 33*

Organ - Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements - Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

The Entrance

Silent Preparation

Call to Worship: *Psalm 33:1-5*

Pastor Jeffrey J. Meyers

†Hymn #132 "Wondrous King, all glorious"

Trinity Hymnal

†Salutation & Responsive Scripture

Pastor: In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit!

Congregation: **Amen!**

Matthew 28:19

The Lord be with you!

Ruth 2:4

And also with you!

Our help is in the Name of Yahweh!

Psalm 33:20-22

Who made heaven and earth!

†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: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins unto God our Father, asking him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Most holy and merciful Father; I acknowledge and confess before you my sinful nature—prone to evil and slothful in good—and all my shortcomings and offenses. You alone know how often I have sinned in wandering from your way, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. O Lord, have mercy on me, for I

am ashamed and sorry for all wherein I have displeased you. Teach me to hate my errors, cleanse me from my secret faults, and forgive my sins for the sake of your dear Son. O most holy and loving Father, help me, I pray, to live in your light and walk in your ways, according to the commandment of Jesus Christ my Lord. *Silent Prayer. Amen!*

†Pastor: Now 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.

†It is good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, for the countless blessings you so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for your boundless love shown to us when you sent your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to take on our flesh and die in our place that we might not die eternally. Because he is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to a new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing . . .

†The Sanctus

with vigor

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.

The Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 43:1-13* Pastor Joshua Anderson

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

The Epistle Reading: *2 Peter 1:16-2:3*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

†The Gospel Reading: *Luke 1:1-4*

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 Saviour,

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.

Sermon Text: *Acts 1:1-5*

Pastor Jeffrey J. Meyers

Sermon: **THE BEGINNING OF WHAT JESUS CONTINUED TO DO AND TEACH**

I. EXPOSITION OF THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

†Hymn: #220 “Blessed Jesus, at thy Word”

Trinity Hymnal

Tribute Offering

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "Beautiful Savior (Fairest Lord Jesus)" (see hymn #129)

arr. F. Melius Christiansen of St. Olaf College

† [HANDS RAISED] The *Doxology*

Trinity Hymnal, p. xvi

†Prayer of the Church

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 over-

come 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

Hymn: #364 “Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless” *Trinity Hymnal*

Bread & Wine for the People of God

Pastoral Benediction

†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
hast 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 #272 “Behold! the mountain of the Lord” *Trinity Hymnal*

†The Lord’s Commission: *Matthew 28:18-20*

†Benediction: *Numbers 6:24-26*

†Three-fold Amen & Postlude

**Welcome to Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church, especially
those who are visiting with us for the first time today. If you have any
questions, please feel free to speak with one of the pastors or elders.
We will have no evening service tonight. Enjoy Mother’s Day!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nursery Volunteers, Thank You!

Today's Volunteers:

Morning Service – Svezia, Tageson, Boeve

Sunday School – Greeno

Evening Service – Weston

Next Sunday's Volunteers:

Morning Service – Wood, Wooldridge

Sunday School – Greeno, Pitts

Evening Service – Pratt

Annual Congregational Meeting — Today 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 2010-2011 fiscal year.

College and Career — Today the college and career class will remain at church for the congregational meeting.

Officer Sabbaticals and New Candidates — Give thanks for the faithful service of Deacons Bryan Carter, Tim Werkema and Allan Wamsley, who are now beginning their sabbatical year. Standing for election to the diaconate today are Deacon Jack Boeve, Deacon Paul Svezia, Mr. Dan Hayes, and Mr. Bob Wooldridge.

Guys' Annual Camp Out

Our annual Men & Boys camp out is Friday & Saturday, May 14-15, at the Keane's place in Mt. Sterling, MO.

This is a great time for relaxation, conversation, and fun. If you haven't been in the past, you are encouraged to join in this year. If you are new to the church, this is a great way to get to know other men in the congregation.

This is not simply a Father-Son camp out! If you are a male, a man, a boy, a guy, a dude, a beefcake, etc. come on out and join the fun!

You can arrive at the site anytime after 2 PM on Friday; the weekend will end at 2 PM on Saturday. Remember to bring the following items (at least): tent, sleeping bag(s), pillows, towels, food for dinner, breakfast, lunch, etc., water and soft drinks, etc., sunscreen, bug spray, fishing gear, and lawn chairs (for sitting around the campfire).

Please be aware that some ground rules have been set for this year's campout. See Pastor Meyers for more details.

If you have any questions, talk to John Keane or Pastor Meyers.

Church Calendar

May 14-15	Men and Boys Campout
May 16	Fall/Winter Review Memory Recitation
May 23	Spring Review Memory Recitation Pig Pickin' after Evening Worship
May 25	Deacons' Meeting
May 30	Promotion Sunday
June 19-24	Restore St. Louis
July 12-16	VBS

The Sunday School schedule for the remainder of the year is as follows:

May 16 – Memory listening review (Nov, Dec, Jan)

May 23 – Memory listening review [Mar, Apr (May's verses will not be recited)]

May 30 – Promotion rehearsal

Jun 6 – Promotion Sunday

Job Available — If you're interested in serving as a financial secretary for Providence Church, please contact Joel Montgomery at 314-968-8033.

Restore St. Louis Summer Mission Trip, June 19-24, 2010 — This year our team will be staying in South St. Louis City and doing ministry in the neighborhoods surrounding Resurrection Presbyterian, our recent church plant. This trip is open and encouraged for families to attend. We would love to have a tangible way to serve Pastor Chris Smith, Resurrection Presbyterian Church and the people of Carondolet. Please see Pastor Tim LeCroy or Phillip Bozarth for more information.

Sermon Notes & Prayer Requests

The Lord's Service Explained

The Special Presence of God

God has promised to be present with his people in a special manner when they gather on the appointed day of worship. The one who skips church for the golf course or shopping mall or State park may not argue from God's omnipresence to justify his not being in church. Sure, God is present on the golf course, just as he is present in hell. But this *general* presence of God doesn't do the people in hell much good. They suffer "torment . . . in the presence of the Lamb" (Rev. 14:10). This means that God is present in heaven and hell, but he is not present in the same way in each of these locations. There is a huge difference. His presence means torment for one, life and blessing for the other. What does this teach us about God's presence on the Lord's Day?

Even if we cannot define it precisely, God is nonetheless present in a heightened special sense when his people gather as the church on the Lord's Day. For one thing, he is present there "for us." This is the place and time where he gathers his people around the Word and Sacraments. He has promised to be there *for us* when his people gather. It is not so much that God was not present in, say, China, when the pillar and fire led the people of Israel out of Egypt or when his presence filled the Tabernacle upon its completion; rather, the Lord was at these appointed places in a special, life-giving way.

The people of Israel were given singular signs of God's special presence as they gathered around Mt. Sinai and the Tabernacle. Similarly, it is not that God is absent from the food court in the mall on Sunday; rather, he has promised to be present in a special way, the way of salvation and blessing, at the Communion Table in church. The bread and wine are singular signs designed to assure us of his special, gracious presence with us. To make this personal, God has not promised to be in the mall on Sunday morning *for you*. Actually, if you refuse to heed the Lord's summons to gather with his church, he may be present there *against you* so that you could very well experience his judgment and curse, rather than his promise of blessing, life, and salvation.

Moreover, when we are in God's special presence every week, receiving from him his promise through his Word and Sacrament, we can go forth out of church into the world with the full assurance that God will be with us and for us wherever we may be during the week. Without being in the Lord's special presence we have no assurance of his omnipresent help in every situation and location (see Gen. 3:8; 4:16; Exod. 33:14-15; Deut. 4:37; Deut. 12:7, 18; 14:23, 26; 15:20; Judges 18:6; 2 Kings 13:23; 17:18-23; Matt. 18:20; 1 Cor. 5:4; 11:18ff.; etc.).

Catechism of the Week

The Heidelberg Catechism – Q. 56

Q. What do you believe concerning "the forgiveness of sins"?

A. I believe that God, because of Christ's atonement, will never hold against me any of my sins nor my sinful nature which I need to struggle against all my life. Rather, in his grace God grants me the righteousness of Christ to free me forever from judgment.

Officers and Resource People

The Session (Pastors & Elders)

Rev. Jeffrey J. Meyers Senior Pastor	314-842-9329 (O) 314-842-9309 (H)	John Moore Ken Pratt	314-984-9869 314-416-1176
Rev. Josh Anderson (Assoc)	314-968-5114	Monte Shields	314-849-0597
Jason Carter	636-257-2441	Brad Wood (Clerk)	636-587-9211
Joel Montgomery	314-984-8074		

The Deacons

Bryan Carter (Chairman)	636-271-7288	Allan Wamsley	636-257-3933
Bill Collier	314-726-6799	Tim Werkema (Secretary)	314-727-6589
Rick Gibbs	636-451-3463	Rodney Weedman	314-846-0210
Daryl Hoegemann	314-962-4874		

Church Staff

Rev. Jeffrey J. Meyers Senior Pastor	314-842-9329 (O) 314-842-9309 (H)	Rev. Tim Weston Pastor to International Students	314-205-2018 (Home) 814-2019 (Cell)
Rev. Joshua Anderson	314-814-5213 (Home)	Rev. Timothy LeCroy (Ast. Pastor)	314-604-2088
Associate Pastor	314-814-5213 (Cell)	Bill Hoover (Music Dir.)	314-966-3523
Paul Jaeggi, Sr. Asst. to the Pastor	314-843-7994 (Church) 314-631-4394 (Home)	Melanie Carter (Secretary)	636-271-7288

Pastoral Interns

Phillip Bozarth	270-313-6245	Dave Salyer	314-216-0019
Scott Pitts	314-974-1364		

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

Prayer Chain Contacts

Doris Daily	314-961-8799	Carolann Van Heest	314-966-5732
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Children's Sunday School Program

Ages 2 & 3	Kathy Hoegemann	Grade 4	Joel Montgomery
Age 4	Anna Hoegemann	Grade 5	Wei San & Dana Hui
Age 5/K	Rachel Wood & Amanda Cone	Grade 6	Mark Horne
Grades 1	Wes Murrell	Grades 7 & 8	Brookie Moore
Grade 2-3	Donna Carter	High School	Dave Salyer