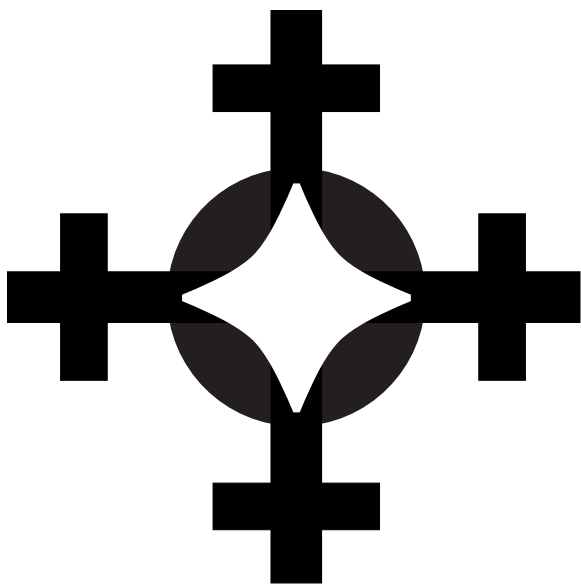


# **The Covenant Renewal Service**

**Providence Reformed  
Presbyterian Church**

9124 Sappington Road, St. Louis, MO 63126  
314-843-7994 [www.providencestlouis.com](http://www.providencestlouis.com)



**Epiphany Season**  
*January 16, 2011*

# Welcome

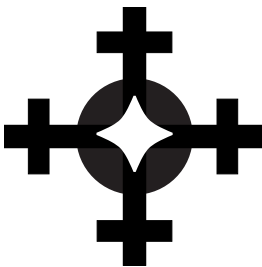
If you are **visiting** our church today, we welcome you to our worship service and Christian community. Please find the registration book in the foyer of the church and help us serve you better by leaving your name and contact information. We promise to keep this information confidential and only use 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 meeting after the service at 10:50 AM. Children's Sunday school classes meet in the educational wing. The adult class meets in the fellowship hall at 11:00 AM. There will be no evening service tonight; parish groups will meet this 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.providencestl.com](http://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.)

## To the Four Corners of the Earth (*Front Cover*)



The season of Epiphany reminds us of the church's world-wide mission to reveal the true God and his love for mankind in his Son. The star in the center is the star of Bethlehem. It shines to the four corners of the earth to manifest the cross of Christ to all the nations. The Epiphany of our Lord is the Christian festival that celebrates how Jesus Christ manifests himself to the world as God Incarnate and King of kings—as the crucified and risen Lord.

# The Morning Service

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The Lord's Day — January 16, 2011  
*Epiphany Season*

**Preparation For Worship: Psalm 105**

Organ - Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements - Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

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## The Entrance

Silent Preparation

Call to Worship: *Psalm 105:4-6*

Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

†Hymn #32 "The God of Abraham praise"

*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!**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of Yahweh! *Psalm 118:26-27*

**We bless you from the house of the Lord!**

Yahweh is God!

**And he has made his light to shine upon us!**

†Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord:

**O God, you are infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, glorious in holiness, full of love and compassion, abundant in grace and truth: all your works praise you in all places of your dominion, and your glory is revealed in Jesus Christ, your Son. Therefore, we praise you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, blessed forever. Amen!**

## Purification

†Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us humbly confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of Christ our Savior to grant us forgiveness: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against you by thought, word, and deed.

Therefore, we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**O most merciful God, since you have given your one and only Son to die for me, have mercy on me and for his sake grant me forgiveness for all my sins; and by your Holy Spirit increase in me true knowledge of you and of your will and true obedience to your Word, so that by your grace I may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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.**

†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. For in the mystery of the Word made flesh you have given us a new revelation of your glory so that knowing you in the Person of your Son, we may be drawn to love you and your people. 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 #304 "Open now thy gates of beauty"

*Trinity Hymnal*

*The Appointed Readings for the Second Sunday after Epiphany*

The OT Reading: *Isaiah 49:1-7*

Pastor Joshua Anderson

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

The Epistle Reading: *1 Corinthians 1:1-9*

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

Epiphany Hymn "The Star Proclaims the King is Here"

**The star proclaims the King is here;  
But, Herod, why this senseless fear?  
For He who offers heav'nly birth  
Seeks not the kingdoms of this earth.**

**The eastern sages saw from far  
And followed on His guiding star;  
And led by light, to light they trod  
And by their gifts confessed their God.**

**Within the Jordan's sacred flood  
The heav'nly Lamb in meekness stood  
That He, of whom no sin was known,  
Might cleanse His people from their own.**

**And oh, what miracle divine,  
When water reddened into wine!  
He spoke the word, and forth it flowed  
In streams that nature ne'er bestowed.**

**For this His glad epiphany  
All glory, Jesus, be to Thee,  
Whom with the Father we adore  
And Holy Spirit evermore.**

†The Gospel Reading: *John 1:29-42*

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.**

<p>Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent. tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt. ANGELUS LM; Georg Joseph, 17th cent</p>
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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*

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!

Sermon Text: *Acts 11:1-18*

Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

Sermon: THE CHURCH'S CONFIRMING JUDGMENT

XXV. EXPOSITION OF THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

†Hymn #434 "How lovely shines the Morning Star!" *Trinity Hymnal*

## **The Tribute Offering**

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings

† [Hands Raised] The Doxology

*Trinity Hymnal*, p. xvi

## †Prayer for the Church

O God, in mercy remember your inheritance, and do not forget your beloved church. You are our Redeemer and the one who lifts up our head, and under the shadow of your wings we shall find our shelter and our rest.

**Have mercy upon us, O God, and hear our petitions.**

Preserve, O God, your church in holiness and truth, in unity and peace. May she ever advance the honor of her Lord, forever represent His sacrifice, glorify His Person, and advance His kingdom, that being accepted by you, and filled with the Spirit, she may partake of her Lord's glory.

**Have mercy upon us, O God, and hear our petitions.**

Give the spirit of justice and righteousness to all Christian rulers and magistrates; grant that people may obey them, and that they may obey you. Especially we pray for our President and Congress, that they might conform their judgments more and more to your holy law, and further your kingdom in this world, the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Have mercy upon us, O God, and hear our petitions.**

Give to your servants, pastors, elders and deacons, the spirit of patience and humility, of holiness and diligence, of prudence and courage, to declare your will by a pure life and wise words, that they may minister to the good of souls, and find the reward of the Master's approval at His coming.

**Have mercy upon us, O God, and hear our petitions.**

Give protection to all widows and orphans, patience and submission to the sick, consolation to the afflicted, that they may be rewarded by your comforts for the days wherein they have suffered adversity [*here the congregation may offer sentence prayers for friends and loved ones*].

**Have mercy upon us, O God, and hear our petitions.**

Give unto our enemies your forgiveness, charity towards us, and love for Thee. Bring the nations to repentance, and all your saints to perfect love and holiness; bring the world to the knowledge of the Lord Jesus, and all the benefits of His passion; to the glory of His name.

**Lord Jesus Christ, hear our prayers.**

# The Sacrifice of Peace

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Memorial

Communion Hymn "Let all mortal flesh keep silence"



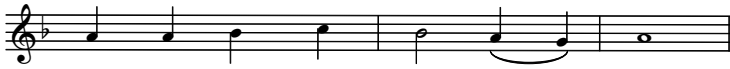
1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence,  
2. King of Kings, yet born of Mar - y,  
3. Rank on rank the host of heav - en  
4. At His feet the six - winged ser - aph;



and with fear and trem - bling stand;  
As of old on earth He stood,  
Spreads its van - guard on the way,  
Cher - u - bim, with sleep - less eye,



Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly mind - ed,  
Lord of Lords, in hu - man ves - ture--  
As the Light of light de - scend - eth  
Veil their fa - ces to the pres - ence,



For with bless - ing in His hand,  
In the bod - y and the blood--  
From the realms of end - less day,  
As with cease - less voice they cry,



Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,  
He will give to all the faith - ful  
That the powers of hell may van - ish  
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,



Our full hom - age to de - mand.  
His own self for heav'n - ly food.  
As the dark - ness clears a - way.  
Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!

Communion in the Body & 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 and everlasting God, you who govern all things in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the prayers of your people, and grant us patience to wait for your sure promises all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, age after age.

Congregation: **Amen!**

## **Benediction**

†Hymn #295 “The ends of all the earth shall hear” *Trinity Hymnal*

†Commission: *Matthew 28:18-20*

†Benediction: *Numbers 6:24-26*

†Hymn “Now Blessed be the Lord our God (Tune of *Trinity Hymnal* #7)

**Now blessed be the Lord our God,  
The God of Israel,  
For he alone doth wondrous works  
In glory that excel.**

**And blessed be his glorious Name  
To all eternity:  
The whole earth let his glory fill.  
Amen, so let it be.**

†Postlude & Greet One Another!

**Welcome to Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church, especially those who are visiting with us for the first time today. Please fill out the visitor’s registration before the service begins. This afternoon and evening parish groups will meet. If you are relatively new to our church and have not been placed in a parish group, please talk to one of the pastors.**

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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## *Woman of the Week:*

Donna Carter

### **Nursery Volunteers for Today:**

Morning Service – Wooldridge

Sunday School – Schmidt

### **Nursery Volunteers for Next Sunday:**

Morning Service – Boeve

Sunday School – Anderson, Gibbs

Evening – Heogemann, Bozarth

**Developing a Biblical Worldview** — Join us in the fellowship hall for the adult Sunday school class on developing a biblical worldview.

**Parish Groups Meet Today** — Our Parish groups will meet together today for a meal, prayer and fellowship. Please contact your parish elder for details on your meeting. If you do not know what group you should be a part of, contact Pastor Anderson.

**Missouri Presbytery meets at Providence on January 18** — On Tuesday, January 18, Missouri Presbytery will meet for its regular quarterly meeting at Providence. Presbyters will gather for worship at 11 AM, lunch at 12 PM and the Presbytery meeting will officially begin at 1 PM. Please see Barb Hoover for details on how you can help in providing food for the meeting or assist in some other way.

**Baby Shower for Alicia Donathan** — Ladies, please join us on Saturday, January 29th at 1:00 PM in the fellowship hall to celebrate the coming Donathan baby. Alicia is registered at Babies R Us and jilliansdrawers.com. You may RSVP to either Bo Hanley or Rachel LeCroy. If you would like to contribute to a group gift, contact Bo Hanley (314-283-0674).

## **Church Calendar**

Thursdays	9:30 AM WIC Bible Study
January 18	MO Presbytery Meets
January 20	7:30 PM Session Meeting
January 29	Baby Shower for Alicia Donathan
February 13	Memory Listening During Sunday School

# The Lord's Service Explained

## *Epiphany Season*

**What does Epiphany mean?** The English word is derived from the Greek *epiphainein*, which means "to appear" or "manifest." The Epiphany season has to do with the Lord's *manifestation* or *appearance* to the nations. Epiphany (January 6) and the season called by the same name (from January 6 through March 6) celebrate the manifestation of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, beginning with the visit of the Eastern Kings (the Magi) in Matthew 2.

Of course, the manifestation of the Person and mission of Jesus was only gradually unveiled, so the season focuses on the progressive unveiling of our Lord's mission to the world in his teaching. The four main events commemorated during Epiphany are the adoration of the Magi, the story of Christ's visit to the temple as a twelve-year-old boy, our Lord's baptism in the Jordan, and the miracle of turning water into wine for the marriage feast at Cana in Galilee. All four events served progressively to unveil the Lord Jesus Christ to humanity in significant ways at the beginning of his life and the inauguration of his Gospel ministry.

**How should I pray?** Once again, it is important to remember that Epiphany, like Advent and Christmas, is not merely an opportunity to remember the history of our Lord's work. More than that, the season calls upon us to memorialize our Lord's life in prayer before God. The Lord has manifested himself to the Gentiles (representatively to the Magi), he is still manifesting himself to them (in the mission work of the church), and will finally manifest himself fully to all the nations at the last day as Lord and King.

Epiphany therefore is a time to reflect upon all of these ways in which the Lord manifests himself. Please remember that the purpose of Epiphany is not primarily to think historical thoughts about Jesus' life and work. The purpose of Epiphany, like every season in the church year, is to pray—in particular, to pray for the manifestation of the Lord to those who do not know him. Epiphany is a time to reflect upon and pray for the evangelistic mission of the Church.

**Color:** White - symbolizing joy, celebration, gladness, light, and the shining forth of God's glory to the nations through Jesus Christ.

**Epiphany Hymns:** *Trinity Hymnal* #434, 123, 133, 136, 154, 167, 224.

# 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	Brad Wood (Clerk)	636-587-9211
Joel Montgomery	314-984-8074		

## The Deacons

Jack Boeve (Chairman)	636-461-1398	Steve Shaffer	314-843-1964
Bill Coller	314-726-6799	Paul Svezia	314-406-9101
Rick Gibbs	636-451-3463	Rodney Weedman	314-846-0210
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: Kathy Pratt	314-416-1176
Vice President: Judy Linton	636-349-9028	Anne Hiers	314-543-3010
Secretary/Treasurer:		Bethel: Rachel LeCroy	314-604-2089
Lori Shaffer	314-843-1964	Kitchen: Rosamma Weston	314-205-2018
Committee Coordinator:		Tracy Boeve	636-461-1398
Rhonda Hoard	636-938-3575	Hospitality: Barb Hoover	314-966-3523
WIC advisor: Joanie Harris	636-394-6896	Joanie Harris	636-394-6896
Prayer Chain: Doris Daily	314-961-8799	Amanda Cone	314-497-7950
Carolann Van Heest	314-966-5732	Wedding Coordinator:	
Brenda Svezia	svezia@sbcglobal.net	Barb Hoover	314-966-3523
Missions: Debbie Keane	636-938-3108		

## 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	Rev. Timothy LeCroy (Ast. Pastor)	314-604-2088
Associate Pastor		Bill Hoover (Music Dir.)	314-966-3523
Paul Jaeggi, Sr.	314-843-7994 (Church)	Melanie Carter (Secretary)	636-271-7288
Asst. to the Pastor	314-631-4394 (Home)		

## Pastoral Interns

Phillip Bozarth	270-313-6245	Scott Pitts	314-974-1364
Ryan Van Horn	314-620-3744	Steve Schleppehorst	217-257-2592

## 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 & Beckv Young	Mexico