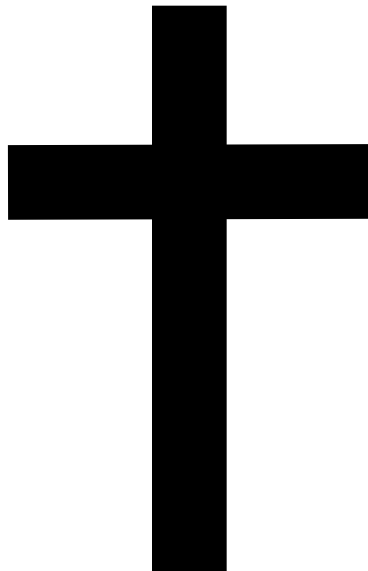


The Covenant Renewal Service

**Providence Reformed
Presbyterian Church**

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



The Third Sunday in Lent
March 27, 2011

Welcome

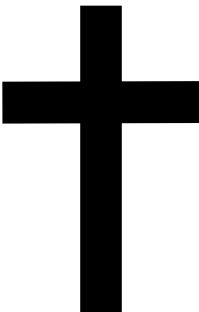
If you are **visiting** our church today, we welcome you to our worship service and Christian community. Please find the registration book in the foyer of the church and help us serve you better by leaving your name and contact information. We promise to keep this information confidential and only use it for personal contact with you and your family. 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 to study Christian Marriage. Join us tonight for our evening service and prayer at 6 PM.

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.)

The Simple Cross (*Front Cover*)



During Lent this year we will display a simple, unadorned cross on the front cover of our bulletins. This will remind us of God the Son's climactic act of service for humanity. He allowed his arms to be stretched out on the cross bar, and with his feet they were nailed to the tree. Thus he voluntarily gave himself up to death for the sins of his people. Paul tells us that the Gospel is "the message of the cross. . . to us who are being saved is the power of God" (1 Cor. 1:18)

The Morning Service

The Lord's Day — March 27, 2011
The Third Sunday in Lent

Preparation For Worship: Psalm 91

Organ - Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements - Pastor Joshua Anderson

The Entrance

Silent Preparation

Call to Worship: *Psalm 91:1-2*

Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

†Hymn #86 "Now thank we all our God"

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!

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus,

Hebrews 12:2

The author and perfecter of our faith,

Who for the joy set before him endured the cross,

**Despising its shame, and sat down at the right hand
of the throne of God.**

†Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you make the minds and hearts of your faithful to be of one will; therefore grant to your people that we may together love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this age our hearts may be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, age after age. Amen!

Purification

†Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us humbly confess our sins to God our Father, using the words of Psalm 51:1-12

Have mercy on me, O God,

According to your steadfast love;

According to your abundant mercy

Blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

And cleanse me from my sin!

For I know my transgressions,

And my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you only, have I sinned

And done what is evil in your sight

So that you may be justified in your words

And blameless in your judgment.

Behold I was brought forth in iniquity,

And in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold you delight in truth even in the womb,

You even teach me wisdom in hidden places.

Purge me with hyssop

And I shall be clean;

Wash me,

And I shall be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness;

Let the bones that you have broken rejoice!

Hide your face from my sins,

And blot out all of my iniquities.

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

The first line of musical notation is in G major (one flat) and 3/4 time. It features a treble and bass clef. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with a bass line accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the notes.

spir - it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from Thy pres-ence, and

The second line of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. It includes a measure with a cross symbol (x) in the treble clef, indicating a rest or a specific performance instruction. The lyrics continue below the notes.

take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of

The third line of musical notation concludes the phrase. It features a final cadence in the treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Thy sal - va - tion; and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

†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. You graciously invite your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the Easter feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to us as the children of 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
ff 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 #18 (*Te Deum*) "Thee we adore, eternal Lord!" *Trinity Hymnal*

The Appointed Readings for the Third Sunday in Lent

The OT Reading: *Exodus 17:1-7*

Pastor Joshua Anderson

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

The Epistle Reading: *Romans 5:1-8*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

A Lenten Prayer

(Tune of *Trinity Hymnal* #7)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Lord, who throughout these forty days
For us did fast and pray,
Teach us with you to mourn our sins,
And close by you to stay. | 3. As you did hunger and did thirst,
So teach us, gracious Lord,
To die to self and so to live
By your most Holy Word. |
| 2. As you with Satan did contend
And did the vict'ry win,
O give us strength in you to fight,
In you to conquer sin. | 4. Abide with us, that through this life
Of suff'ring and of pain
An Easter of unending joy
We may at last attain. |

†The Gospel Reading: *John 4:5-26*

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 Text: *Acts 15:1-21*

Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

Sermon: **NO SMALL DISSENSION AND DEBATE**

XXXIII. EXPOSITION OF THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

†We Recite God's Holy Standard for Living

Romans 12:1-21

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice,

Holy and acceptable to God, which is our fitting service.

Do not be conformed to this age,

But be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

That by testing you may discern what is the will of God,

What is good and acceptable and mature.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought,

But to think with sober judgment, each according to the measuring rod of faith God has provided.

For as in one body we have many members,

And the members do not all have the same function,

So we, though many, are one body in Christ,

And individually members of one another.

Having gifts that differ according to the grace given us,

Let us use them.

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil;

Hold fast to what is good.

Love one another with brotherly affection;

Outdo one another in showing honor.

Do not be slothful in zeal,

Be fervent in the Spirit, serve the Lord.

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation,

Be constant in prayer.

Contribute to the needs of the saints,

And seek to show hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you;

Bless and do not curse them.

Rejoice with those who rejoice,

Weep with those who weep.

Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty
But associate with the lowly and never be conceited.

Repay no one evil for evil,
But give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all.

Beloved, never avenge yourselves,
But give place to the wrath of God.

For it stands written:

“Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord”

To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him;
If he is thirsty, give him something to drink.

For by doing so you will heap burning coals on his head.”
Do not be conquered by evil, but conquer evil with good.

The Tribute Offering

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings

† [Hands Raised] The Doxology

Trinity Hymnal, p. xvi

† [Hands Raised] The Lord’s Prayer

The Sacrifice of Peace

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Memorial

Hymn #514 (*Psalms 124*) “The Head that Once Was Crowned With Thorns”

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: O Father, mercifully look upon our weakness; and for the glory of your Name, grant that in all our troubles we may put our whole trust and confidence in your mercy and evermore serve you in holiness and faithful living; 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

†Closing Hymn #512 "Give thanks unto the Lord" *Trinity Hymnal*

†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. Join us tonight at 6 PM for our evening service.

The Evening Service

The Third Sunday in Lent - March 27, 2011

Scripture Reading: *Psalms 95*

†Psalm 95 "The LORD be praised"

Singing & Prayer Requests

Deacons Offering

†Psalm 119 "How blessed are those upright"

Scripture Reading: *2 Samuel 12:1-15*

Sermon: **CATCHING THE KING**

XXII. EXPOSITION OF THE LIFE OF DAVID

†Hymn #415 "God be merciful to me"

†Benediction & Postlude

Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

Anglo-Genevan Psalter

Anglo-Genevan Psalter

Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

Trinity Hymnal

*Join us in the parking lot after the service to celebrate the baptism of Noelle Donathan with food and fellowship!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Woman of the Week:

Amy Pratt

Nursery Volunteers for Today:

Morning Service – Boeve

Sunday School – Schmidt

Evening – Moore

Nursery Volunteers for Next Sunday:

See the sign up sheet on the WIC table.

Adult Sunday School “Christian Marriage” — Please join us this morning in the fellowship hall as we continue our Sunday school class on marriage. We are working our way through Peter Leithart's book [A Great Mystery](#). Each Sunday we deal with a topic, the relevant Scripture passages, and discuss related practical issues.

High School Event: Airsoft, Pizza and Brian Regan — On April 2 there will be a high school event at John and Debbie Keane's. Airsoft for the guys begins at 4 PM. Bring your own eye protection and no guns above 400 fps. The girls are invited to come at 6 PM for pizza and to watch Brian Regan and play games. The evening activities end at 9 PM. RSVP to Phillip Bozarth by March 31.

Flower Volunteers Needed - One or more people are needed to bring flowers for morning worship. This is a great way to serve the church and provide a pleasing aroma to the Lord. You will be reimbursed for the flowers. Don't be shy, step up and show your creativity. 2nd & 3rd Sundays needed. Talk to Denise Gerstung.

Nursery Coordinators Needed — Two nursery coordinators are needed to oversee the sign up schedule and maintain the nurseries. If you are interested, please talk to Denise Gerstung.

Memory Listeners—will hear our Covenant children recite their catechism questions and scripture verses next Sunday. Please work with your child this week so that he/she will give a good recitation!

Nursery Volunteers Needed — A new nursery sign up sheet is on the WIC table. Please sign up for three slots. Your service to our littlest members is greatly appreciated.

The Lord's Service Explained

Lenten Season

What does Lent mean? The word "Lent" comes from the Middle English *lente* ("spring") and from the Old English *lengten* ("to lengthen"), referring to the time of *lengthening* daylight from Christmas (around the Winter solstice) to Easter (Spring equinox). The Lenten season lasts 40 days, beginning with Ash Wednesday (February 17). In anticipation of the great Paschal mystery (the resurrection of Jesus celebrated on Easter Sunday) we are encouraged to examine ourselves anew in the person and work of Jesus Christ. We follow his example and seek for forty days to wage a more earnest struggle against the world, the flesh, and the devil. Our desire in this is increased sanctification and growth in Christian maturity and obedience.

At the heart of any worthy Lenten observance is a cultivated attitude of repentance. A true repentance means a genuine change in heart and mind, a change of disposition where ever in our lives we need to return to God. That is why true repentance and a true Lent can never be satisfied with silly little "fasts" from trivial things like chocolate or TV. On the other hand, repentance is not morbid introspection or a "guilt trip" in which we become bound up in ourselves, turned inward to the point of unhealthy despair. Rather, it has to do with God, who is both holy and compassionate. Therefore, Christian repentance always means faith in God, trusting him, responding to his grace. That is why whatever guilt or sorrow we may feel does not crush us. For we know and trust his goodness toward us.

The color for Lent is purple or violet—a rich color made with the costliest dyes in the ancient world. It appropriately symbolizes deep, heartfelt, and therefore costly repentance. Lent is not merely a time to remember and think about the history of our Lord's suffering and death, but is intended primarily as an opportunity for intense self-examination and repentance, even fasting (Luke 5:34-35). The high point of Lent is reached on Good Friday, when we remember that our sins crucified Christ. In the words of Johann Heermann's great hymn, "Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee? Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee. 'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee: I crucified thee" (*Trinity Hymnal* #179). Lenten hymns can be found in the *Trinity Hymnal* #171-196.

Simplified Lent Readings - This Week

	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>New Testament</u>	<u>Hymns & Psalms</u>
Mon., Mar 28 –	Psalm 23	John 15:18-25	<i>Trinity Hymnal</i> #183
Tues., Mar 29 –	Psalm 24	John 15:26-16:4	<i>Trinity Hymnal</i> #184
Wed., Mar 30 –	Psalm 24	John 16:56-15	Psalm 6 (<i>Anglo-Gen</i>)
Thurs., Mar 31 –	Psalm 26	John 16:16-24	<i>Trinity Hymnal</i> #186
Friday, April 1 –	Psalm 27	John 16:25-33	<i>Trinity Hymnal</i> #187
Sat., April 2 –	Psalm 28	John 17:1-8	<i>Trinity Hymnal</i> #188

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
Carolyn 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	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 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