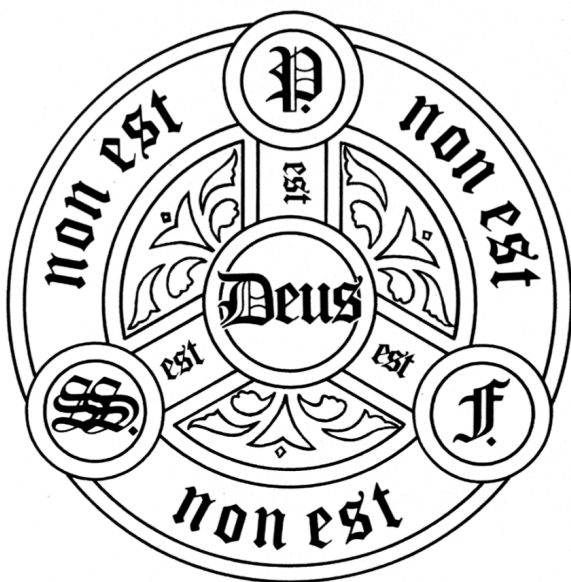


# The Covenant Renewal Service

## Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church

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



## Pentecost Season

*November 20, 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 which meet 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. Parish Groups will be meeting in lieu of evening service tonight.

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.)

## Holy Trinity Diagram (Front Cover)



No symbol can adequately comprehend the richness of the reality and bundant 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

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The Lord's Day — November 20, 2011

*Pentecost Season*

**Preparation For Worship: Psalm 146**

Organ - Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements - Associate Pastor Joshua Anderson

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## The Entrance

Silent Preparation

Call to Worship: *Psalm 146*

Pastor Joshua Anderson

†Hymn #53 (*Psalm 146*) "Hallelujah, praise Jehovah"

*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!**

†Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord:

*Psalm 124*

If it had not been the LORD who was on our side--  
**let Israel now say—**

If it had not been the LORD who was on our side  
**when people rose up against us,**

Then they would have swallowed us up alive,  
**when their anger was kindled against us;**

Then the flood would have swept us away,  
**the torrent would have gone over us;**

Then over us would have gone  
**the raging waters.**

Blessed be the LORD,  
**who has not given us as prey to their teeth!**

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers;  
**the snare is broken, and we have escaped!**

Our help is in the name of the LORD,  
**who made heaven and earth.**

## Purification

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

Let us confess together:

**Merciful God, our heavenly Father, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. I humbly confess my sins and ask for your mercy. I have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have I loved my neighbor as myself. I have not been just in dealing with others. I have not loved kindness or walked humbly before you, my God. Have mercy on me, O God, because of your lovingkindness. In your great compassion, cleanse me from my sin. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit. *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.**

†Truly it is proper, right, and beneficial, that we should at all times, and in all places, give praise to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting 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*  
*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 #50 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

*Trinity Hymnal*

The Hebrew Scriptures: *Exodus 15:1-21*

Intern Ryan Van Horn

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

The Epistle Reading: *Romans 8:28-39*

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

Hymn #514 (*Psalms 124*) "Now Israel may say"

*Trinity Hymnal*

†The Gospel Reading: *Luke 6:46-7:10*

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: *Psalm 124*

Pastor Joshua Anderson

Sermon: **Our Help is in the Name of the LORD**

**V. Exposition of the Psalms of Ascent**

†We Recite God's Holy Standard for Living

*Luke 6:20-23*

Jesus lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and taught them saying,  
Blessed are you who are poor,  
**for yours is the kingdom of God.**

Blessed are you who are hungry now,  
**for you shall be satisfied.**

Blessed are you who weep now,  
**for you shall laugh.**

Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude  
you and revile you,  
**and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man!**

Rejoice in that day,  
**and leap for joy!**

For behold your reward is great in heaven;  
**for so their fathers did to the prophets.**

**Tribute Offering**

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Psalm 62* (My Soul Finds Rest)

*Choir*

My soul finds rest in God alone,  
My Rock and my salvation;  
A fortress strong against my foes  
And I will not be shaken.  
Though lips may bless and hearts may curse  
And lies like arrows pierce me,  
I'll fix my heart on righteousness;  
I'll look to Him who hears me.

Refrain

*O praise Him, hallelujah,  
My delight and my reward.  
Everlasting, never failing,  
My Redeemer, my God.*

Find rest, my soul, in God alone,  
Amid the world's temptations;  
When evil seeks to take a hold,  
I'll cling to my salvation.

Though riches come and riches go,  
Don't set your heart upon them;  
The fields of hope in which I sow  
Are harvested in heaven. (*Refrain*)

I'll set my gaze on God alone  
And trust in Him completely;  
With ev'ry day pour out my soul  
And He will prove His mercy.  
Though life is but a fleeting breath,  
A sigh too brief to measure,  
My King has crushed the curse of death  
And I am His forever. (*Refrain*)

O praise Him, O praise Him! Hallelujah, hallelujah! (*Refrain*)

My soul finds rest in God alone,  
My Redeemer, my God.

Mrs. Joanie Harris, piano

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†[Hands Raised] The *Doxology*

*Trinity Hymnal*, p. xvi

†[Hands Raised] The Lord's Prayer

## **The Sacrifice of Peace**

Words of Institution, Prayer of Thanksgiving, & Memorial

We Feed on the Body and Blood of Christ

Hymn #599 "The sands of time are sinking"

*Trinity Hymnal*

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 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!**

Let us pray together:

**Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of**

them: Give us now O Lord, all things in your will; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. 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

## **Sermon Notes and Prayer Requests**

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# Announcements

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## *Woman of the Week:*

Hannah Shields

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

Morning Service – Shields

Sunday School – Jeff & Courtney Keane

### **Nursery Volunteers for Next Week:**

Morning Service – Wooldridge

Sunday School – Gerstung, Schmidt

**Pastor Meyers at New Covenant Church** — Once again Pastor Meyers is teaching on church history at New Covenant Church this morning. He will be back for the Thanksgiving service and next Sunday's worship service.

**Fall Adult Sunday School: Technology & The Christian Faith** - Join us in the fellowship hall for our Sunday School on Technology & the Christian Faith. Today's topic on "Medical Technology" will be led by Tim LeCroy.

**Parish Groups** — Parish groups are meeting today. If you are new to the church, see Pastor Anderson to be placed in a group for the afternoon.

**Thanksgiving Day Service** — Join us this Thursday, Nov. 25, at 10:00 AM for our annual Thanksgiving Day service. Although it is proper and right that we should give thanks at all times and in every place, it is especially fitting for us to gather together once a year on this day to thank our Lord for his mercy to us as a nation. I encourage everyone to start off the day with giving thanks to God for his many blessings. —Pastor Meyers

**Welcome Baby Natalie Grace Craig!** — This past week Canaan and Jenny Craig (and proud grandparents Jeff and Joanie Harris!) welcomed their new baby girl into the world. Natalie Grace was born on Wednesday, November 16 at 3:58 AM. She weighed 7 lbs, 4 oz and was 20 1/4 inches long.

**Special Evening Service December 4** — We will have a special evening worship service on December 4, with a reception to follow, to celebrate Bill Hoover's 25 years of service as our organist and 20 years as our Director of Music. Our daughter churches, Cornerstone and Resurrection, are invited to join us that evening, including participating in the choir.

**Officer Nominations** — For the next several weeks, the session will be receiving officer nominations for next year. Nomination forms are available in the foyer. Several things to keep in mind this year: Elder Brad Wood will be going on a required sabbatical this year. Elders Ken Pratt, Jason Carter, and Monte Shields are finishing 3-years and are eligible for re-nomination and re-election for 3 more years. Please pray and consider your nomination carefully before submitting it to the session.

**Food Pantry Donations** — Many thanks to all who have donated to the Resurrection Food Pantry. For the next few months, the items to donate are cereal and peanut butter.

**Christmas Lessons and Carols** — Our annual Christmas Lessons and Carols Service will be Sunday, December 18 at 6:00 P.M. (Children's Prelude starts at 5:35.) This is a festive carol and anthem celebration involving special music from four choirs (Adult, Youth, Elementary, and Preschool). Please note the following:

1. Reception Help - Please sign up to bring cookies or finger food for the reception to follow the service, or to setup, cleanup, or serve refreshments. Sign up sheets will be available.
2. Children's and Youth Music Rehearsals are each Sunday--Preschool and Elementary rehearsals at 10:50, Youth Choir from 11:30-12:00.
3. Youth Choir Dress Code (grades 7-12) - Ladies: white (or light colored) blouse or sweater, and black (or dark) skirt and hose. Gentlemen: white (or light colored) dress shirt, necktie, black (or dark) slacks, nice shoes, no jacket. Long sleeves are preferred, if possible. Use closest match available; we are not intending to send anyone shopping!
4. Children's Prelude - If your child is taking music lessons and would like to play a short Christmas carol as part of the Children's Prelude, please notify Barb or Bill Hoover.

## Church Calendar

November 21	Session Meeting
November 24	10 AM Thanksgiving Day Service
December 4	Memory Listening During Sunday School Special Evening Service for Bill Hoover
December 18	Lessons and Carols
December 19	Session Meeting

# The Lord's Service Explained

## Why Do We use Set Prayers?

First, we don't naturally know how to pray, and pre-composed prayers can help train our minds to pray biblically. Good prayers guide us and assist us in composing our own private prayers, both with respect to content and structure. Almost all the phrases from all the prayers that we use in our worship come right out of the Bible. Thus, ultimately, we are praying God's Word. There are biblical ways to pray, and these pre-composed prayers, used consistently, will help you learn how to pray. Surely this is the reason why so many prayers are recorded for us in the Bible. The traditional prayers of the Church offer the worshiper guidance and direction, oftentimes by utilizing the language and structure (order of prayer) lifted right from the Bible itself.

Second, prayers sung or said in unison manifest the *unity* of the church in prayer. We all pray together as the corporate Body of Christ, not just as a bunch of individuals. Corporate worship is not designed merely as an aid to each individual's devotions. We don't come into church to worship merely as individuals with our own private tubes to God. We come together as the Body of Christ, and as the Body of Christ we confess our sins, pray, and praise God together. The Spirit re-creates us into a community by means of common prayer.

Third, printed prayers insure congregational participation in the prayers. Remember worship ought not to be something you come to watch or hear, rather you come to perform worship yourself. Think about this: it is very difficult to get distracted when you are saying a prayer out loud. It is hard to do anything else but pray the prayer. A set prayer insures your participation and guards against your mind wandering. It is much more difficult for your mind to wander when your attention is focused on reading and saying a prayer that you are familiar with than it is when you have your eyes closed and are merely listening to the pastor pray. Let's face it—most people find it very difficult to concentrate on praying when someone else is saying a long prayer. If you aren't familiar with the prayer that you are reading or hearing, then you will have to evaluate it as you are praying. And how much more effective would it be to recite prayers that you trust and know by heart?

Fourth, no church can avoid prayer rituals altogether. You either have good prayer rituals or you have bad ones, helpful or dangerous ones, but it is impossible to be free from all forms in a church's corporate prayer life. Congregations that never use prayer books or set prayers, nevertheless, do develop, sometimes unknowingly (which is unfortunate), certain habits with respect to praying. You know very well what happens when there is no guidance or direction to the prayers. Prayers become tedious: "I just want to thank you, Lord...and I just want to ask...and I just want..." Or they become trivial and down right silly: "O Lord, help us to be all that we can be" (the Army Prayer) or "Lord, help us to reach out and touch somebody this week" (the AT&T prayer).

Obviously, we are not obliged to use all kinds of pretentious words and grandiose phrases in order for our prayers to be acceptable to God. I'm not trying to put down anyone's prayer merely because it is not as well structured and manicured as someone else's. God is pleased with the meager and unsophisticated prayers of his people, just as he is pleased with a young child's. But—and here's the important point—if the child never grows up and learns how to pray biblically, if the content of his prayers remain the same, then it is not so cute anymore. God may be pleased with a childlike prayer, but he is not satisfied with it either. He expects us to grow up and learn how to pray like adults, to conform our prayers more and more to the models he has given us in the Scriptures.

# 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	Allan Wamsley	314-560-9602
Richard Hiers	314-543-3010	Brad Wood (Clerk)	636-587-9211

## 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: Denise Gerstung	314-821-9324	Nursery: Lu Greeno	618-538-5885
Vice President: Judy Linton	636-349-9028	Christine Greeno	618-514-0935
Secretary/Treasurer:		Melanie Greeno	518-926-9046
Lori Shaffer	314-843-1964	Bethel: Rachel LeCroy	314-604-2089
Committee Coordinator:		Kitchen: Rosamma Weston	314-205-2018
Rhonda Hoard	636-938-3575	Tracy Boeve	636-461-1398
WIC advisor: Joanie Harris	636-394-6896	Hospitality: Barb Hoover	314-966-3523
Prayer Chain: Doris Daily	314-961-8799	Joanie Harris	636-394-6896
Carolann Van Heest	314-966-5732	Amanda Cone	314-497-7950
Brenda Svezia	svezia@sbcglobal.net	Wedding Coordinator:	
Missions: Debbie Keane	636-938-3108	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	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

Matt Teeselink	563-579-3674	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