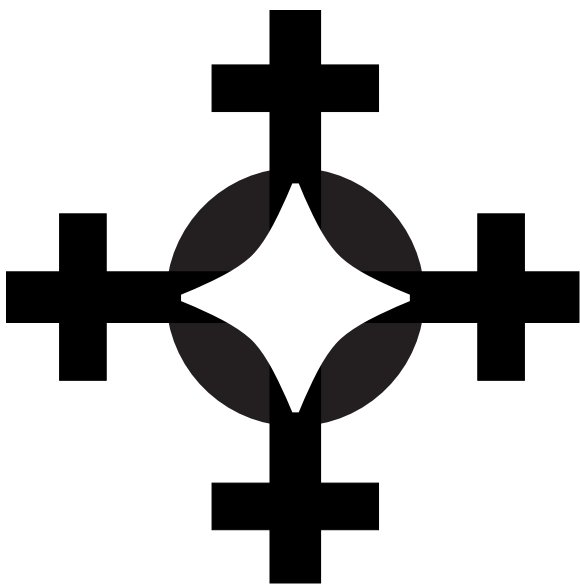


The Covenant Renewal Service

**Providence Reformed
Presbyterian Church**

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



Epiphany Season
January 8, 2012

Welcome

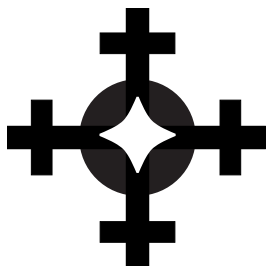
If you are **visiting** our church today, we welcome you to our worship service and Christian community. Please find the registration book in the foyer of the church and help us serve you better by leaving your name and contact information. We promise to keep this information confidential and only use 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. Our evening service begins 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.providencesstl.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

The Lord's Day — January 8, 2012

Epiphany Season

Preparation For Worship: *Psalm 72*

Organ - Mrs. Joanie Harris

Welcome & Announcements - Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

The Entrance

[Kneeling] Silent Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship: *Psalm 72:1-7*

Pastor Jeffrey Meyers

†Hymn #224 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

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!

From Bethlehem has come a ruler who will
shepherd his people Israel;

Matthew 2:6

**May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to
the ends of the earth!**

Psalm 72:8

May desert tribes bow down before him;

Psalm 72:9

And His enemies lick the dust!

Wise men from the east came and worshipped him,

Matthew 2:11

**May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him
tribute.**

Psalm 72:10-11

May the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!

May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!

†Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord:

**O God by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the
peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your
presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus
Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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:

Come let us worship and bow down.

Psalm 95:6

And kneel before the Lord our Maker [congregation kneels]

Let us pray:

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, 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 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 #305 (*Psalm 84*) “O Lord of Hosts”

Trinity Hymnal

The Appointed Readings for Epiphany

The Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 60:1-6*

Pastor Joshua Anderson

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

The Epistle Reading: *Ephesians 3:1-12*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

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.**

<p>Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent. tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt. ANGELUS LM; Georg Joseph, 17th cent</p>
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†The Gospel Reading: *Matthew 2:1-18*

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*

**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: *Matthew 2:1-12*

Pastor Jeffrey Meyers



Sermon: **LIGHT OF THE WORLD**

I. OUR PRIESTLY VOCATION

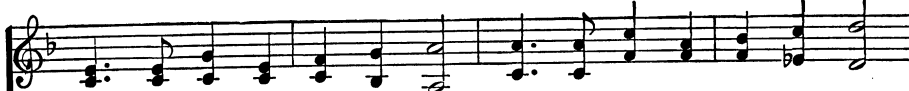
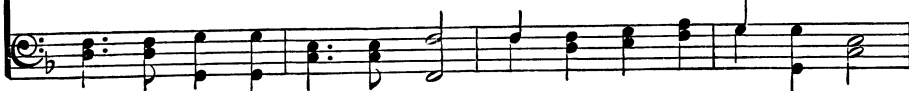
†Epiphany Hymn "Songs of thankfulness and praise"




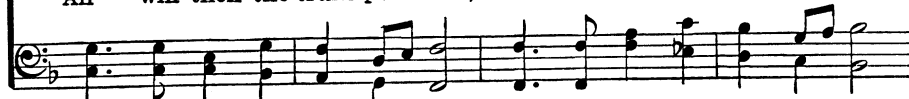
1 Songs of thank-ful-ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
2 Man - i - fest at Jor-dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King su-preme,
3 Man - i - fest in mak-ing whole Pal-sied limbs and faint-ing soul;
4 Sun and moon shall dark-ened be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;




Man - i - fest - ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,
And at Ca - na, Wed-ding-guest, In Thy God-head man-i - fest;
Man - i - fest in val - iant fight, Quell-ing all the dev - il's might;
Christ will then like light-ning shine, All will see His glo - rious sign;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem, In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem.
Man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, Chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine.
Man - i - fest in gra - cious will, Ev - er bring-ing good from ill.
All will then the trum-pet hear, All will see the Judge ap - pear;



An-thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man-i - fest.
An-thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man-i - fest.
An-thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man-i - fest.
Thou by all wilt be con-fessed, God in man made man-i - fest. A - men.



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

Communion Hymn #56 "O Splendor of God's glory" *Trinity Hymnal*

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 God, by a star you guided the wise men to the worship of your Son. We pray you to continue to lead to yourself the wise and humble of every land that unto you every knee may bow, and every thought be brought into captivity, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, and the Holy Spirit one God, age after age.

Congregation: **Amen!**

Benediction

†Hymn #154 "As with gladness men of old"

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!

Announcements

Nursery Volunteers for Today:

Morning Service – Shaffer
Sunday School – Harris, VanHeest
Evening – Moore

Nursery Volunteers for Next Week:

Morning Service – Boeve
Sunday School – Kathy Pratt & Denise Gerstung
Evening – Weston

The Whole Bible in a Year — This morning we will begin a new adult Sunday school class that will continue through the end of 2012. The class will take us through a summary of every book of the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. We are combining the class with an expedited through-the-Bible-in-a-year reading program. Every week there will be readings for Monday through Friday from the book or books of the Bible that we will cover in class on the following Sunday. This program is designed to guard against the kind of frustration that usually comes quickly with most yearly Bible reading programs. The readings are not too long. You will not read the entire Bible word for word, but only key portions. We would like to encourage everyone to participate in this Bible reading program this year. "The entrance of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple" - Psalm 119:130.

Memory Listeners — will hear our Covenant children recite their scripture verses during Sunday School today.

Deacons Fund Collection — The Deacons Fund Offering will take place tonight. Please consider donating to this fund. The money goes directly to assist families in our congregation and community.

The Thursday Morning Bible Study for ladies will resume on Thursday, January 12. Come join us for a time of study, prayer, and fellowship! We will begin promptly at 9:30 AM. If you have any questions, contact Judy Linton.

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.

Announcements Continued

Coupon Class, Saturday, February 4, 10AM-12PM — Was one of your new year's resolutions to save money this year? Eat better? Give more to others? Come to this coupon class and learn the tools to do all of these! This is NOT extreme couponing as seen on TV. In this class you will learn how to find coupons, choose an organizational system that works for YOU, and learn basics of how to save money at local grocery stores and drugstores. For more information, see Amanda Cone.

Officer Nominations — The session is receiving officer nominations for next year. 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.

Church Calendar

January 12	Ladies' Bible Study Resumes
January 15	Deacons' Fund Collection
January 16	Session Meeting
January 22	Parish Groups Meet
February 4	Coupon Class

The Evening Service

Sunday, January 8, 2011 – 6:00 PM

Scripture Reading: *Psalms 72* Pastor Jeffrey Meyers
†Psalm 72 (sts. 1-5) "O God, give to the King" *Anglo-Genevan Psalter*
Prayer Requests & Prayer
Deacons' Fund Offering
†Hymn "This little Babe" (see handout)
Scripture Reading: *Ephesians 3:1-12*
Sermon: **THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST**
†Hymn #72 (sts 6-10) *Anglo-Genevan Psalter*
†Benediction
†Postlude

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	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 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