

December 19, 2021



4th Sunday of Advent

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A Caring Christian Fellowship Reaching Out in Response to God's Love

The Church Gathers in God's Name

Welcome.
We are glad
you have chosen
to gather and
worship!
Go to
www.provpres.org
to join us for a live
broadcast starting
at 11:00 am.

Words of Welcome

Invocation

Tolling of the Bell - Rung three times to symbolize our Triune God

Introit

"Prepare the Way of the Lord"

Jacques Berthier, 1984

Prelude

"In the Bleak Midwinter"
(Lyle Bagley, cornet)

Gustav Holst, 1906
arr. Brenda Portman

Call to Worship

Advent is a time to celebrate God's love.

God's love is pure.

We celebrate by loving our neighbors as ourselves

God's love is everlasting.

We celebrate by loving the Lord our God with all our hearts.

God's love is all-powerful.

We celebrate by spreading God's love to a world in need.

God's love is freely given to all.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Veraque Family

Opening Hymn 119

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

text by Charles Wesley, 1739
music by Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

The Affirmation of Faith helps us express the faith and hope we have as people of God.

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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. Amen.*

We confess our sins as the people of God together, out loud, and to others because of the incredible power there is in putting our failures and faults in the light of God's love.

Prayer of Confession

God our Savior, we ask for your mercy. Though we have heard Mary's song, we still seek security in pride and power and possessions. Though we know your story, we resist the costs of following you. We pass by those considered lowly in this world. We turn away from hungry people who still wait to be filled. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to work for the justice you desire for the world. Make us messengers of your peace and mercy. As we wait for you, turn our apathy into acts of love and service. We pray this in the name of the name of the One who set us free as we share our private confessions...

Silent Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance

Anthem

"The Angel Gabriel"

Basque carol
arr. John S. Dixon

(11 am only)

Time with Young Disciples

We Hear God's Word

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:8-20

Sermon

"The Peace of Christmas"

We Give Thanks to God

A time to offer prayer for others and ourselves to God.

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

We Go in Christ's Name to Serve

Closing Hymn 123 *"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"* text by Edmund Sears, 1849
music by Richard Willis, 1850

Benediction

Benediction Response *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"* pre-9th century Latin plainsong

*O come, Desire of Nations, bind
all people in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife and discord cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Postlude *"Sing We Now of Christmas"* arr. John S. Dixon

Have a blessed week!

Online instruction for Worship

1. Go to provpres.org/worship
2. The top green buttons are the bulletin, sermon notes, and bulletin for the kids.
3. Scroll down until you see pre-recorded Music from our Sanctuary.