

May 21, 2023

"MEN OF GALILEE," THEY SAID, "WHY DO YOU STAND HERE LOOKING INTO THE SKY? THIS SAME JESUS, WHO HAS BEEN TAKEN FROM YOU INTO HEAVEN, WILL COME BACK IN THE SAME WAY YOU HAVE SEEN HIM GO INTO HEAVEN."

- ACTS 1:11

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

*We Gather in God's Name*

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

**Prelude**

*Anglaise*

J.C.F. Bach

**Words of Welcome**

**Opening Prayer**

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

**Introit**

*Praise to the Lord*

Michael Jothen

**Call to Worship**

Mighty Ruler,

**Most High,**

Lover of Justice,

**Holy Mystery hidden in a cloud,**

Great King,

**Forgiving God;**

You are exalted over all people.

**We praise your great and awesome name.**

We gather to worship you with joy.

**For you alone, O God, are holy!**

**Hymn 35**

*Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

J. Neander, 1680  
Catherin Winkworth, 1863

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

**Affirmation of Faith** - (Selected lines from A Declaration of Faith)

**We confess that Jesus is our living Lord.  
Jesus was dead and buried, but God raised him from the dead.  
The risen Lord appeared to his followers.  
They recognized him as their Master who had been crucified.  
We are certain that Jesus is Lord.  
His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that deform and destroy human life.  
We maintain that ultimate sovereignty now belongs to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life.  
Jesus is Lord!  
He had been Lord from the beginning.  
He will be Lord at the end.  
Even now he is Lord. 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**

**Merciful God, you know our strengths and our weaknesses. You know where we most need to listen, and where we most need to act. Forgive us for speaking when you need us to be silent. Forgive us for sitting still when you need us to move forward. Wash over us with your mercy and grace, that we may find strength, even in our weakness. Call to us with persistence and trust, that we may answer your call and live as your disciples.**

**Silent Prayer of Confession**

**Words of Assurance**

# *We Hear God's Word*

**First Reading**

John 17:1-11

**Anthem**

*Rain Down*

Jaime Cortez  
arr. John Carter

*(The congregation is invited to join in singing the refrain, as directed.)*

*(Refrain) Rain down, rain down, rain down your love on your people.  
Rain down, rain down, rain down your love, God of life.*

**Time with Young Disciples**

**Second Reading**

Acts 1:6-14

**Sermon**

Up, Up, and Away

# *We Respond in Thanks*

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving 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.

## **Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings**

Offertory

Doxology

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

Prayer of Dedication

## **Hymn 641**

*When in Our Music God Is Glorified*  
*(with Bells of Providence, Lyle Bagley, cornet, and Davis Main, horn)*

Fred Pratt Green, 1972  
Charles Stanford, 1904

## **Benediction**

### **Benediction Response**

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

Peter Lutkin

***The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord lift his countenance upon you;  
and give you peace, and give you peace.  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious unto you, and be gracious.  
The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.***

## **Postlude**

*American Pastorale*

John S. Dixon

*Have a blessed week!*

Interim Pastor, Rev. Libby Rollins  
 Today's Liturgist, Susan Ayers  
 Director of Music, Valetta Fellenbaum  
 Organist, John Dixon  
 Administrative Assistant, Kristen Ferragut

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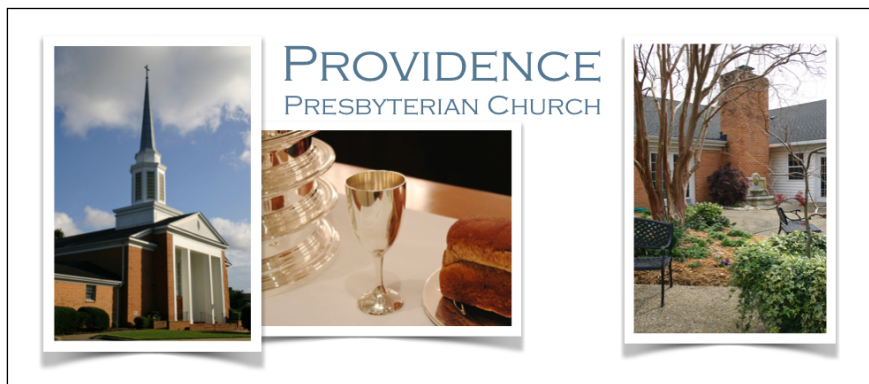
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### Ruling Elders

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Robie Armbruster - Clerk of the Session	Robin Birdwell - Worship Chair	Elizabeth Carter
Chris Bauman - Fellowship Chair	Matt Clatterbuck	Jane Pritchett
Sue Crosland	Kevin Daley	Connie Salter - Christian Life Chair
Tom McMahan - Administration Chair	Dale Passarella - Property Chair	Ashley Schroeder
Brent Nielson - Congregational Care Chair	Frances Stefonich - Mission Outreach Evangelism Chair	Nancy Lindgren



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