

December 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent



PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rooted in Faith, Nurtured by Grace, Growing God's Kingdom

Gathering as the People of God

Words of Welcome

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.

Prelude

Prepare the Way, O Zion

Swedish carol

Opening Prayer

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

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Sung Response (Choir and Congregation)

*While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.*

Call to Worship

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

On those who live in a land of deep darkness - light has shined.

Come, let us worship our LORD

The LORD whose light brings hope to a weary world.

We light a candle in the darkness to help us find our way. In darkness we lose direction. We cannot see where we have been or where we are going. A single candle, flickering brightly, helps us find our way again.

Hymn 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

text by Charles Wesley, 1744
music by R. H. Pritchard, 1810

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

Affirmation of Faith

It pleased God, in His eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, His only-begotten Son, to be the mediator between God and men, the prophet, priest, and king; the head and Savior of the church, the heir of all things, and judge of the world; unto whom He did, from all eternity, give a people to be His seed, and to be by Him in time redeemed, called, justified, sanctified, and glorified. (WCF 8.1)

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

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.

It is never easy for us to confess our sins to our Lord, our Wonderful Counselor. There are hurts that we have caused to family and friends, which we would like to forget. There are those we believe are impossible to love, and so we don't try. There are people who live on the edge of our society, that we ignore. Lead us in humility down the streets of your kingdom. Teach us your truth, revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

We Hear God's Word

First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

Anthem

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

French noel melody
arr. John S. Dixon

Sacrament of Baptism

Opening Sentences

Presentation

Prayer Over the Water

Baptism

Welcome & prayer

Time with Young Disciples

Second Reading

Matthew 7:24-29

Sermon

Wonderful Counselor

Responding as People of Faith

Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

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.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Individual communion elements are available for those who do not wish to come forward for intinction. Raise your hand if you have not picked up your communion elements, prior to entering the sanctuary, and an usher will bring one to you.

Prayer

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Now Thank We All Our God

Martin Rinkhart, c.1636

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 353

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Edward Mote, 1814
William Bradbury, 1863

Benediction

Benediction Response

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel pre-9th century plainsong

***O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israe***

Postlude

Postlude on "Sleepers Wake"

John S. Dixon

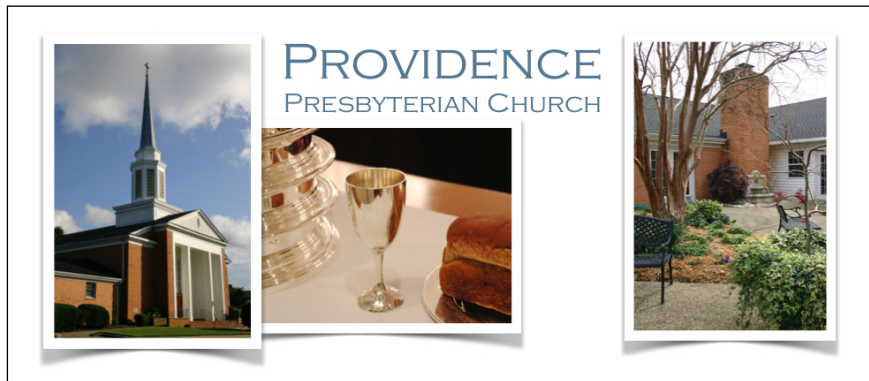
Pastor, Rev. Joel Phillips
 Today's Liturgist, Elizabeth Carter
 Director of Music, Valetta Fellenbaum
 Organist, John Dixon
 Administrative Assistant, Kristen Ferragut

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Session Members

Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Robin Birdwell - Worship	Elizabeth Carter - Administration Chair	Robie Armbruster - Clerk of the Session
Matt Clatterbuck - Worship Chair	Jane Pritchett - Fellowship Chair	Susan Ayers - Fellowship
Dale Passarella - Property Chair	Connie Salter - Christian Life Chair	Sue Crosland - Christian Life
Kevin Daley - Property	Ashley Schroeder - Mission Outreach Evangelism	Tom McMahan - Administration
Frances Stefonich - Mission Outreach Evangelism Chair	Nancy Lindgren - Congregational Care Chair	Brent Nielson - Congregational Care
Trustees		
Tracy Gilbert	Jerry Barnes	Karen Dixon



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