

December 21, 2025



PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Enter Into Worship

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.

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.

Prelude

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen
(Lyle Bagley, cornet)

arr. Molly Ijames

Call to Worship and Lighting of the Advent Candle

Leader: God's love was revealed among us when He sent His only Son into the world.

People: We live in the light of that love and share it with one another.

Leader: The angel said to Joseph, "You shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

People: In Jesus, God's perfect love casts out fear.

Leader: Love came down at Christmas—love divine, all loves excelling.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, dwell in our hearts with your perfect love.

Leader: We light this candle as a sign of the love we find in Christ, who renews our strength and restores our hope.

Sung Response

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

Hymn 140

Once in Royal David's City

text by C.F. Alexander, 1848
music by H.J. Gauntlett, 1849

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we confess that we often fail to be obedient. We have not done your will; we have broken your law and resisted your love. We have not loved our neighbors and have refused to hear the cry of the needy. Forgive us and free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confessional Response

*Kyrie Eleison (Lord have mercy)
Christe Eleison (Christ have mercy)
Kyrie Eleison (Lord have mercy)*

Assurance of Pardon

Response to God's Grace

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Hymn 123	<i>It Came Upon the Midnight Clear</i> (seated)	text by E.H. Sears, 1848 music by R.S. Willis, 1850
Anthem	<i>Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus</i> [See Hymn 82 for the text]	arr. Donald McCullough

Time with Young Disciples

The Word

Scripture Reading	Matthew 1:18-25
Sermon	Waiting with Love

Responding to the Word

Prayers of Consecration and the 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

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory	<i>Appalachian Carol</i> (Lyle Bagley, comet)	arr. Molly Ijames
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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

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

Hymn 137

He Came Down That We My Have Love

Cameroon song

The Sending

Benediction

Benediction Response

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

9th century plainsong

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples 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

Riu, riu, chiu

Spanish carol



The Longest Night Service - offers a quiet, contemplative space in the midst of a busy holiday season. Through prayers, simple music, Scripture, and candlelight, we gather to rest in Christ's comforting light and hope **tonight, at 6:00 pm.**

Advent Devotional (Last Week) - During the season of Advent, a time of welcoming the Christ child into our hearts and home, you may access this devotional by using the link provided online, or you can find a printed copy in the Narthex for your use! For further information, contact **Sue Crosland** at suecrosland2940@outlook.com.

Christmas Food Baskets and Giving Tree - Food and gift items for the Christmas Baskets and Giving Tree are due **today**. If you forgot to bring your items today, you must bring them to the church by 10:00 am on Monday. Thank you to all who participated.

2026 Offering Envelopes - are now available in the narthex. Please pick yours up following worship.

2026 Congregational Meeting - On Sunday, January 11, following worship, for the purpose of electing elders and approving pastoral terms of call.

Chili Cook-off - Fellowship will host a "Chili" celebration on **Sunday, January 11**, following worship. Please make your favorite chili recipe and/or cornbread and bring it in for all to share. A sign-up sheet will be posted at the church. For more information, please contact **Jane Pritchett** at gloriajpritchett@yahoo.com.

*The flowers that grace our sanctuary today
are given to the glory of God by Carolyn Knowles,
in honor of Dawn Hill and in memory of her husband David.*

Pastor, Rev. Joel Phillips
Director of Music, Valetta Fellenbaum
Organist, John S. Dixon
Administrative Assistant, Kristen Ferragut

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2025 Session

Administrative Committee

Elizabeth Carter
Tom McMahan

Christian Life Committee

Connie Salter
Sue Crosland

Congregational Care Committee

Nancy Lindgren
Brent Nielson
Michelle Bolton

Fellowship Committee

Jane Pritchett
Susan Ayers

Mission/Outreach/Evangelism

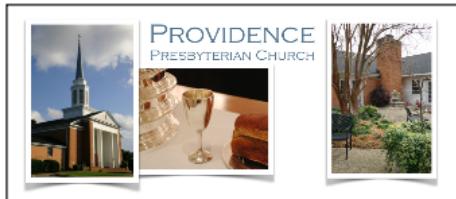
Committee
Ashley Schroeder
Chris Veraque

Property Committee

Kevin Daley
Julie Bauman

Worship Committee

Matt Clatterbuck
Robie Armbruster



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