



PROVIDENCE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 16, 2025

THE LORD'S DAY

March 16, 2025

Welcome and Announcements

RE Tom Sell

Preparation for Worship

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 65:4-8

⁴Blessed is the one you choose and bring near,
to dwell in your courts!
We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,
the holiness of your temple!
⁵By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness,
O God of our salvation,
the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas;
⁶the one who by his strength established the mountains,
being girded with might;
⁷who stills the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
the tumult of the peoples,
⁸so that those who dwell at the ends of the earth are in awe at your signs.
You make the going out of the morning and the evening to shout for joy.

* HYMN OF PRAISE 2

O Worship the King

Based on Psalm 104. Words: Robert Grant, 1833. Tune: LYONS, Johann Michael Haydn, 1737-1806.

1. O worship the King, all glorious above,
O gratefully sing His power and His love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.
2. O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, Whose canopy space,
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.
3. The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, Your pow'r has founded of old;
Has 'stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.

4. Your bountiful care, what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.
5. Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In You do we trust, nor find You to fail;
Your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.
6. O Measureless Might! Ineffable Love!
While angels delight to hymn You above,
The humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
With true adoration shall lisp to Your praise.

* PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

Rev. John D. Bennett

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Book of Common Prayer (1552)

**Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done,
and there is no health in us.
But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.
Spare those, O God, who confess their faults.
Restore those who are repentant,
according to your promises declared to mankind, in Christ Jesus our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of your holy name. – Amen.**

(Silent Confession)

*Congregation Standing ◦ **Bold body of text recited together.**

All hymns are for congregational singing. ◦ All music copied by permission of CCLI #2510011

Most Scripture References from: *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version (ESV)*
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Minister: *For all who have confessed their sins and have fled to Christ for mercy, hear this word of assurance:*

²⁸Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

*** HYMN OF THANKSGIVING**

Amazing Grace!

Words: John Newton, 1779. Tune: AMAZING GRACE, Traditional American Melody.

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.
3. Thro' many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
4. The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.
5. And when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil, a life of joy and peace.
6. When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun.

*** CHILDREN'S CATECHISM**

From: *First Catechism ~ Teaching Children Bible Truths*

Question 7: *In how many Persons does this one God exist?*

Answer: **In three Persons.**

Question 8: *Name these three Persons.*

Answer: **The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.**

Question 9: *What is God?*

Answer: **God is a Spirit and does not have a body like men.**

**I bind unto myself today, the strong name of the Trinity,
By invocation of the same, the Three in One and One in Three.**

**I bind this day to me forever, by power of faith, Christ's incarnation,
His baptism in the Jordan River,
His death on the cross for my salvation,
His bursting from the spiced tomb,
His riding up the heavenly way,
His coming at the day of doom,
I bind unto myself today.**

**Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.**

**I bind unto myself the name, the strong name of the Trinity,
By invocation of the same, the Three in One and One in Three.
Of whom all nature has creation; Eternal Father, Spirit, Word:
Praise to the Lord of my Salvation,
Salvation is of Christ the Lord.**

RESPONDING TO THE LORD WITH HIS TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR NORA SIOBHAN GRIMES

Covenant Promises

For to you is this promise, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call unto him. And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee and to thy seed after thee. Believe on the Lord Jesus, and thou shalt be saved, thou and thy house.

(Acts 2:39; Genesis 17:7; Acts 16:31; BCO 56-4)

Prayer for Covenantal Blessings

Minister: *Heavenly Father, we pray for this covenant child: Deliver her from the way of sin and death; wash her and renew her by your life-giving Spirit; open her heart to your grace and truth; drive her to Christ as her Savior and Lord; and keep her in the faith and fellowship of your church.*

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Minister: *We pray for this family: Grant them grace so to live before this covenant child – loving her, disciplining her, teaching her, and praying with her – that their lives would be a living picture of the Gospel. Lord, work through them, work beyond them, work against them when necessary, to point this child to Christ, so that all the promises of the covenant may be fulfilled in her life.*

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Minister: *And Lord, we pray for ourselves, the congregation of Providence Presbyterian Church: Grant us grace to see this child as our own; to love her and pray for her, and to assist these parents in the Christian nurture of their children.*

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

BAPTISMAL HYMN 535

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!

Words: Samuel Trevor Francis. Tune: EBENEZER (or TON-Y BOTEL), Thomas John Williams, 1890.

1. O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free,
Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me.
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of thy love;
Leading onward, leading homeward, to thy glorious rest above.
2. O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Spread His praise from shore to shore;
How he loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, nevermore;
How He watches o'er His loved ones, died to call them all His own;
How for them He intercedeth, watcheth o'er them from the throne.
3. O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Love of ev'ry love the best:
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'tis a haven sweet of rest.
O the deep, deep love of Jesus! 'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;
And it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to Thee.

**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.**

Interlude

SERMON

Rev. John D. Bennett

Mark 2:23 – 3:6

^{2:23}One Sabbath he was going through the grainfields, and as they made their way, his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. ²⁴And the Pharisees were saying to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?" ²⁵And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did, when he was in need and was hungry, he and those who were with him: ²⁶how he entered the house of God, in the time of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those who were with him?" ²⁷And he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. ²⁸So the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath."

^{3:1}Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there with a withered hand. ²And they watched Jesus, to see whether he would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse him. ³And he said to the man with the withered hand, "Come here." ⁴And he said to them, "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. ⁵And he looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. ⁶The Pharisees went out and immediately held counsel with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

Minister: *The Word of the Lord!*

People: **Thanks be to God!**

*** HYMN OF RESPONSE**

Guide Me. O Thou Great Jehovah

©2002 2037 Music (ASCAP) admin. by The Loving Company. Words: William Williams, 1745 (alt. Jeremy Casella). Music: Jeremy Casella.

1. Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; hold me with Thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore.
Bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore.
2. Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, be Thou still my Strength and Shield.
Strong Deliverer, be Thou still my Strength and Shield.
3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee; songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Please see *Celebrating the Lord's Supper at Providence* on page 10 of the bulletin.

The Great Thanksgiving‡

Minister: *The Lord be with you.*

People: **And with your spirit.**

Minister: *Lift up your hearts!*

People: **We lift them up to the Lord!**

Minister: *Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.*

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Minister: *It is good and right, our duty and privilege, to at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious name; evermore praising you, and saying:*

People: **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Glory be to You, O Lord Most High!**

1. Abide with me: fast falls the eventide:
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide:
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.
2. Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.
3. I need thy presence every passing hour;
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.
4. I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless:
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.
5. Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes:
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies:
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee:
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

*** DOXOLOGY***Old Hundredth - Hymn 731*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise him, all creatures here below:
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost - Amen.

*** BENEDICTION**

Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

‡*The Great Thanksgiving*, includes the *Sursum Corda* (Latin for "lift up your hearts," which dates back to the early 3rd century). The *Sursum Corda* calls us to be heavenly minded while we are summoned into the Lord's presence. Variations of this first phrase can be found in the liturgies of Augustine, Calvin, Knox, and Bucer. Being spiritually lifted into the throne room of Christ, we join the angels in worship, proclaiming "Holy, Holy, Holy" (Isaiah 6:3, Revelation 4:8).

Sunday School

❖ Sunday School classes are available for all ages. Adult Sunday School classes include:

- **Study of Colossians and Philemon** (Room 10): Jeremy Dalton, Teacher
- **Westminster Confession of Faith** (Room 11): Ronnie Booth, Teacher
- **From Dust to Glory** (Room 9): Larry Lafreniere, Teacher

Note: Sunday School will *not* meet March 16 and 23 for Spring Break.

Events This Week

❖ **Young Professionals Hike:** Saturday, March 22. For more details, contact Clint Bingham, 806-891-3725.

Upcoming Events

❖ **Mark Your Calendar:** Church Work Day in April
❖ **Church-Wide Easter Lunch:** Sunday, April 20

Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at Texas Tech

❖ Davis Sweatt, davis.sweatt@ruf.org, is the campus minister. Raegan Watkins is the RUF intern.

- Large Group meets Wednesday at 8:00 p.m.

Providence Weekly

❖ To receive the weekly Providence email newsletter, subscribe by entering your email at the bottom of the Home page at the church's website (www.providencepca.org).

Meal Ministry

❖ **Shared Joy, Shared Pain, Shared Meal:** The women of Providence bring meals to people in the church as needed, such as births, deaths, hospitalizations, and illnesses. If you can provide meals or if you need a meal, contact Wendy Wilkerson, WendyInIdalou@gmail.com, or 806-831-5447, Meal requests will be registered at: www.TakeThemAMeal.com.

Nursery

... **is available during worship for children 5 and under**, although babies and children are welcomed and valued in our service. However, in order to facilitate a restful and reverent worship for all who enter, parents are encouraged to take advantage of the many resources we have available for children who become noisy or fussy.

(1) A cry room with a live stream of the service is set up in Room 1, across the hall from the nursery, located at the west side of the building.

(2) Snacks and coloring pages are located along the back wall of the sanctuary.

(3) Children's Bulletins are located on the back table of the sanctuary.

Feel free to ask an usher or congregant for help in locating any of these helpful resources.

Ushers

❖ *Serving today*

- Levi Myers ◦ John Haley
Larry LaFreniere ◦ Peter Griffith

❖ *Serving next Sunday*

- Jason Mulkey ◦ Ryan Henry
Tom Nicholson ◦ Trace Hunt

Nursery

❖ *Serving today*

- **Infant/Toddler:** Amanda Castner ◦ Sara Booth ◦ Julia Kinkade
Elizabeth Stewart ◦ Cana and Selah Dalton ◦ Nan Mulkey

❖ *Serving next Sunday*

- **Infant/Toddler:** Stefanie Bennett ◦ Della and Julia Kramedjian
Maria Scott ◦ Mary Abbott Kramedjian ◦ Simeon Dalton

Celebrating the Lord's Supper at Providence

The Lord Jesus Christ is present with us by his Spirit at this table, so in His name we invite everyone who trusts Him for salvation and is a baptized member in a church which faithfully proclaims His gospel. However, we are warned not to partake if you do not trust Him or if you are living in unrepentant sin; instead, please let the bread and the cup pass by (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). Rather, turn to Him in repentance and faith, so you may join in this glad and holy celebration of His saving death and resurrection life for all His people. Children who have made a public profession of faith and been received as members by the leadership of their church are also invited to the table. Children who have not yet made such a profession are asked to let the bread and the cup pass. We use wine in the Supper, but the outer ring of the tray is grape juice; we also hold the elements until everyone is served. Let us rejoice together in Him!

Prayers of Meditation for Those Not Participating in Communion

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, You claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following You as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what You claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and show me the reality of who You are. – *Amen*.

Prayer of Belief

Heavenly Father, I admit that I am more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through Your Son Jesus, I can be more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank You that He lived the life I should have lived, and paid the debt and punishment I deserved. Receive me now for His sake. I turn from my sins and receive Jesus to be my Lord and Savior. – *Amen*.

Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, help me to look to You as the fulfillment of all my needs, and to turn from every false satisfaction to feed on You, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to You, the pioneer and perfecter of my faith. – *Amen*.

Prayer of Commitment

Lord Jesus, You have called us to follow You in a life of committed discipleship in Your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with Your people, and live in the fullness of Your Spirit. – *Amen*.

ESV Daily Bible Reading Plan for Week March 16-22, 2025

<i>Date</i>	<i>Psalms/Wisdom</i>	<i>Pentateuch/History</i>	<i>Chronicles/Prophets</i>	<i>Gospels/Epistles</i>
03/16	Psalm 75	Exodus 20:18 - 21:11	Nehemiah 1	Romans 11
03/17	Psalm 76	Exodus 21:12 - 22:15	Nehemiah 2	Romans 12
03/18	Psalm 77	Exodus 22:16 - 23:9	Nehemiah 3	Romans 13
03/19	Psalm 78	Exodus 23:10-33	Nehemiah 4	Romans 14
03/20	Psalm 79	Exodus 24	Nehemiah 5	Romans 15:1-13
03/21	Psalm 80	Exodus 25	Nehemiah 6	Romans 15:14-33
03/22	Psalm 81	Exodus 26	Nehemiah 7	Romans 16

Sermon Notes

Providence Presbyterian Church (PCA)

3301 34th Street • Lubbock, Texas 79410 • 806-516-5745 • www.providencepca.org

Purpose Statement

Providence Presbyterian Church aims to worship and serve the one true and living God through Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, and to bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people in Lubbock, West Texas, and the world. In doing this we will encourage and equip believers to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, and to grow in our love for one another and our neighbors; all the while endeavoring to know, live, and speak the love, joy, peace, hope, and truth of God's word revealed to us in the Scriptures.

The Session

(elders@providencepca.org)

John D. Bennett, *Teaching Elder*
Dr. Jeremy Dalton, *Ruling Elder*
Peter Griffith, Sr., *Ruling Elder*
Chris Kramedjian, *Ruling Elder*
Dr. Brian Nicholson, *Ruling Elder*
Tom Sell, *Ruling Elder*

Deacons

(deacons@providencepca.org)

Ben Donet
David Lawson
Levi Myers
Matthew Smith
Aaron Stewart
Shane Shepherd (*On Sabbatical*)

Providence Staff

John D. Bennett, Senior Pastor

john.bennett@providencepca.org

Beth Herring, Administrative Assistant

admin@providencepca.org

Rachel Myers, Financial Administrator

finance@providencepca.org

Valerye Sweatt, Ministry Coordinator

ministries@providencepca.org

Davis Sweatt, RUF Campus Minister

davis.sweatt@ruf.org

Jeffrey Clendennen,

Pastoral Intern and Youth Director

jeffrey.clendennen@providencepca.org

Providence Lay Ministry Teams Leadership

Christian Education Team Jeremy Dalton

Hospitality Team Alisha Donet, Leader ◦
Assistants: Tori Donet ◦ Kayla Harwood

Missions Team Rebecca Mulkey ◦ Brenda Hayes

Music Team Matthew and Allison Smith

Women's Ministry Team Melynn Henry ◦ Kyla Sell ◦
womensministry@providencepca.org

*Please contact the Ministry Coordinator
for more information on serving on one of these teams
or with other ministry opportunities.*

General information: admin@providencepca.org

Church Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.