



**PROVIDENCE**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*April 6, 2025*

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# THE LORD'S DAY

April 6, 2025

Welcome and Announcements

RE Tom Sell

Preparation for Worship

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

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*A Psalm. A Song for the Sabbath.*

- <sup>1</sup>It is good to give thanks to the LORD,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;  
<sup>2</sup>to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
and your faithfulness by night,  
<sup>3</sup>to the music of the lute and the harp,  
to the melody of the lyre.  
<sup>4</sup>For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;  
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.
- <sup>12</sup>The righteous flourish like the palm tree  
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.  
<sup>13</sup>They are planted in the house of the LORD;  
they flourish in the courts of our God.  
<sup>14</sup>They still bear fruit in old age;  
they are ever full of sap and green,  
<sup>15</sup>to declare that the LORD is upright;  
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

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\*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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\* HYMN OF PRAISE 310

*Rejoice, the Lord is King*

Words: Charles Wesley, 1746. Tune: DARWALL, John Darwall, 1770.

*After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. Heb. 1:3*



1. Re - joice, the Lord is King: your Lord and King a - dore! Re -
2. Je - sus the Sav - ior reigns, the God of truth and love; when
3. His king - dom can - not fail, he rules o'er earth and heav'n; the
4. He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub - mit, and
5. Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Our Lord, the Judge, shall come, and



- joice, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more.  
he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove.  
• keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n. Lift up your  
bow to his com - mand, and fall be - neath his feet.  
take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home.



heart, lift up your voice! Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

\* PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

Rev. John D. Bennett

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Henrich Bullinger*<sup>†</sup>

**I, a poor sinful person,  
confess myself before you, my Lord God and Maker,  
that sadly I have sinned much,  
with my senses, thoughts, words, and deeds,  
as you, eternal God, know very well.  
I regret them and beg your grace. - Amen.**

<sup>†</sup>*Henrich Bullinger (1504-1575) Swiss German Protestant Reformer who ministered in Zurich; he authored Christian Order and Custom (1535) to shape his church's liturgy.*

*(Silent Confession)*

**ASSURANCE OF PARDONING GRACE**

Isaiah 12:2-3

**Minister:** *For all who have confessed their sins and have fled to Christ for mercy, hear this word of assurance:*

<sup>2</sup>“Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.”  
<sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

**\* HYMN OF THANKSGIVING**

*A Debtor to Mercy Alone*

©1998 Kevin Twit Music. Words: Augustus Toplady (1740-1778). Music: Kevin Twit.

1. A debtor to mercy alone, of covenant mercy I sing;  
Nor fear, with Thy righteousness on, my person and offering to bring.  
The terrors of law and of God with me can have nothing to do;  
My Savior’s obedience and blood hide all my transgressions from view
2. The work which His goodness began, the arm of His strength will complete;  
His promise is yea and amen, and never was forfeited yet.  
Things future, nor things that are now, not all things below nor above  
Can make Him His purpose forego, or sever my soul from His love.
3. My name from the palms of His hands eternity will not erase;  
Impressed on His heart it remains in marks of indelible grace.  
Yes, I to the end shall endure, as sure as the earnest is given  
More happy, but not more secure, the glorified spirits in heaven.

**\* CHILDREN’S CATECHISM**

From: *First Catechism ~ Teaching Children Bible Truths*

**Question 16:** *Who were our first parents?*

**Answer:** **Adam and Eve.**

**Question 17:** *How did God create man?*

**Answer:** **God created man, male and female, after his own image.**

**Question 18:** *Of what were our first parents made?*

**Answer:** **God made Adam's body out of the ground and Eve's body out of a rib from Adam.**

<sup>3</sup>For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

## RESPONDING TO THE LORD WITH HIS TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

### ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR JOHN LUKE, BRADY, AND JULIA GRIFFITH

**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)

### Covenant Vows to Parents and Congregation

#### Prayer for Covenantal Blessings

**Minister:** *Heavenly Father, we pray for these covenant children: Deliver them from the way of sin and death; wash them and renew them by your life-giving Spirit; open their heart to your grace and truth; drive them to Christ as their Savior and Lord; and keep them 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 these covenant children – loving them, disciplining them, teaching them, and praying with them – 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 these children to Christ, so that all the promises of the covenant may be fulfilled in their lives.*

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

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

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

1. Come Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.
  
2. Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I'm come;  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.
  
3. O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

**PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND LORD'S PRAYER**RE Jeremy Dalton

**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 4:1-20**

<sup>1</sup>Again he began to teach beside the sea. And a very large crowd gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat in it on the sea, and the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land. <sup>2</sup>And he was teaching them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: <sup>3</sup>"Listen! Behold, a sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured it. <sup>5</sup>Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and immediately it sprang up, since it had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup>And when the sun rose, it was scorched, and since it had no root, it withered away.

<sup>7</sup>Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. <sup>8</sup>And other seeds fell into good soil and produced grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.” <sup>9</sup>And he said, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

<sup>10</sup>And when he was alone, those around him with the twelve asked him about the parables. <sup>11</sup>And he said to them, “To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside everything is in parables, <sup>12</sup>so that

“they may indeed see but not perceive,  
and may indeed hear but not understand,  
lest they should turn and be forgiven.”

<sup>13</sup>And he said to them, “Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables? <sup>14</sup>The sower sows the word. <sup>15</sup>And these are the ones along the path, where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. <sup>16</sup>And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: the ones who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy. <sup>17</sup>And they have no root in themselves, but endure for a while; then, when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away. <sup>18</sup>And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word, <sup>19</sup>but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. <sup>20</sup>But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.”

Minister: *The Word of the Lord!*

People: **Thanks be to God!**

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**\* HYMN OF RESPONSE**

*How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds*

© Bill Moore Music. Words: John Newton, 1779. Music: Alexander Reinagle (arr. Bill Moore).

1. How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear!  
It soothes his sorrow, heals his wounds, and drives away his fear.
2. It makes the wounded spirit whole, and calms the troubled breast;  
'Tis manna to the hungry soul, and to the weary, rest.
3. Dear Name, the rock on which I build, my shield and hiding place,  
My never failing treasury, filled with boundless stores of grace!

4. By Thee, my prayers acceptance gain, although with sin defiled;  
Satan accuses me in vain, and I am owned a child.
5. Jesus, my Shepherd, Brother, Friend, my Prophet, Priest, and King,  
My Lord, my life, my way, my end, accept the praise I bring.
6. Weak is the effort of my heart, and cold my warmest thought;  
But when I see Thee as Thou art, I'll praise Thee as I ought.
7. 'Til then I would Thy love proclaim with every fleeting breath,  
And may the music of Thy name refresh my soul in death.

## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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

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### *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!**

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‡*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).



# HYMN OF COMMUNION 253

## *There is a Fountain Filled with Blood*

Words: William Cowper, 1771. Tune: FOUNTAIN, Lowell Mason, 1830.

*On that day a fountain will be opened to the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem,  
to cleanse them from sin and impurity. - Zechariah 13:1*



1. There is a foun - tain filled with blood, drawn from Im - man - uel's veins;  
2. The dy - ing thief re - joiced to see that foun - tain in his day;  
3. E'er since by faith I saw the stream your flow - ing wounds sup - ply,  
4. Then in a no - bler, sweet - er song I'll sing your pow'r to save,  
5. Dear dy - ing Lamb, your pre - cious blood shall nev - er lose its pow'r,



and sin - ners, plunged be - neath that flood, lose all their guilt - y stains:  
and there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins a - way:  
re - deem - ing love has been my theme, and shall be till I die:  
when this poor lisp - ing, stam - m'ring tongue lies si - lent in the grave:  
till all the ran - somed church of God be saved to sin no more:



lose all their guilt - y stains,                      lose all their guilt - y stains;  
washed all my sins a - way,                      washed all my sins a - way;  
and shall be till I die,                      and shall be till I die;  
lies si - lent in the grave,                      lies sil - ent in the grave;  
be saved to sin no more,                      be saved to sin no more;



and sin - ners, plunged be - neath that flood, lose all their guilt - y stains.  
and there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins a - way.  
re - deem - ing love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.  
when this poor lisp - ing, stam - m'ring tongue lies si - lent in the grave.  
till all the ran - somed church of God be saved to sin no more.

### \* 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

Psalm 67:1-2

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,  
that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations.

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## 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

## Events This Week

- ❖ **Women's Morning Bible Study** meets Monday from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Child care is provided.
- ❖ **Morning Men's Group** meets Tuesday from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m.
- ❖ **Youth Large Group** meets this Wednesday from 5:45 to 7:45 p.m.
- ❖ **Covenant Kids** meets this Wednesday from 5:45 to 7:45 p.m.
- ❖ **Community Groups** meets this Wednesday, April 9, and next Sunday, April 13.

## Upcoming Events

- ❖ **Evening Women's Bible Study** will meet Wednesday, April 16, from 5:45 to 7:45 p.m. Child care and supper are provided.
- ❖ **Young Professionals Lunch:** Friday, April 18, 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.
- ❖ **Good Friday Service:** April 18
- ❖ **Church-Wide Easter Lunch:** Sunday, April 20

## Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at Texas Tech

- ❖ Davis Sweatt, [davis.sweatt@ruf.org](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:WendyInIdalou@gmail.com), or 806-831-544. Meal requests are registered at: [www.TakeThemAMeal.com](http://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*

- Brian Nicholson ◦ Ronnie Booth  
Tom Brooks ◦ Shane Shepherd

### ❖ *Serving next Sunday*

- Brandon Mulkey ◦ TJ Harwood  
Michael Landess ◦ Tom Sell

## Nursery

### ❖ *Serving today*

- **Infant/Toddler:** Betty Bingham ◦ Missy Landess ◦ Alisha Donet  
Elizabeth Stewart ◦ Georgia Mulkey ◦ Caleb Bredemeyer

### ❖ *Serving next Sunday*

- **Infant/Toddler:** Kathryn Clendennen ◦ Susan LaFreniere ◦ Faith Mulkey  
Corrie King ◦ Merrill Mulkey ◦ Henry Mulkey

## ***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 April 6-12, 2025**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Psalms/Wisdom</i>	<i>Pentateuch/History</i>	<i>Chronicles/Prophets</i>	<i>Gospels/Epistles</i>
04/06	Psalm 96	Leviticus 2	Esther 9-10	1 Corinthians 14
04/07	Psalm 97	Leviticus 3	Isaiah 1	1 Corinthians 15
04/08	Psalm 98	Leviticus 4:1 - 5:13	Isaiah 2	1 Corinthians 16
04/09	Psalm 99	Leviticus 5:14 - 6:7	Isaiah 3-4	2 Corinthians 1:1-11
04/10	Psalm 100	Leviticus 6:8 - 7:38	Isaiah 5	2 Corinthians 1:12 - 2:11
04/11	Psalm 101	Leviticus 8	Isaiah 6	2 Corinthians 2:12 - 3:18
04/12	Psalm 102	Leviticus 9	Isaiah 7-8	2 Corinthians 4:1 - 5:10

# Sermon Notes

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## Providence Presbyterian Church (PCA)

3301 34<sup>th</sup> Street • Lubbock, Texas 79410 • 806-516-5745 • [www.providencepca.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:john.bennett@providencepca.org)

#### Beth Herring, Administrative Assistant

[admin@providencepca.org](mailto:admin@providencepca.org)

#### Rachel Myers, Financial Administrator

[finance@providencepca.org](mailto:finance@providencepca.org)

#### Valerye Sweatt, Ministry Coordinator

[ministries@providencepca.org](mailto:ministries@providencepca.org)

#### Davis Sweatt, RUF Campus Minister

[davis.sweatt@ruf.org](mailto:davis.sweatt@ruf.org)

#### Jeffrey Clendennen,

#### Pastoral Intern and Youth Director

[jeffrey.clendennen@providencepca.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@providencepca.org)

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