

PROVIDENCE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 1, 2023

THE LORD'S DAY

October 1 , 2023

Welcome and Announcements

RE Tom Sell

Preparation for Worship

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Psalm 119:12-16

¹²Blessed are you, O Lord;
teach me your statutes!

¹³With my lips I declare
all the rules of your mouth.

¹⁴In the way of your testimonies I delight
as much as in all riches.

¹⁵I will meditate on your precepts
and fix my eyes on your ways.

¹⁶I will delight in your statutes;
I will not forget your word.

*** Congregation Standing**

All hymns are for congregational singing.

Bold body of text recited together.

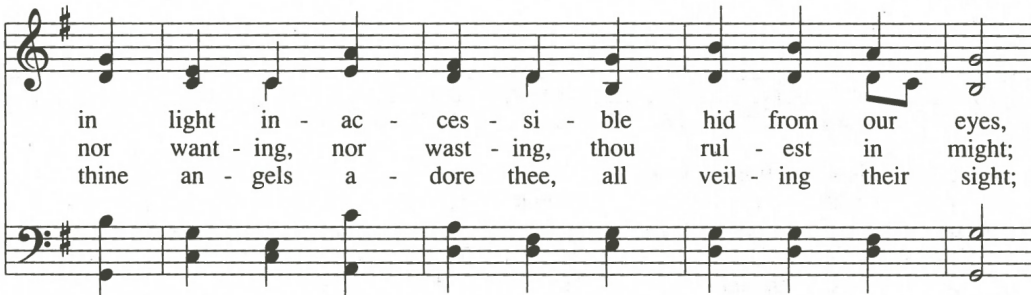
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Most Scripture References from: *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version (ESV)*
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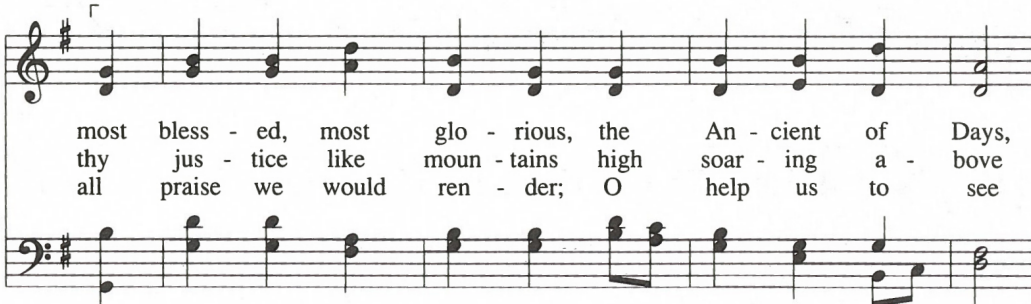
*Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory
for ever and ever. Amen. 1 Tim. 1:17*




1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing and si - lent as light,
3. Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains, high soar - ing a - bove
all praise we would ren - der; O help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

*** PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

William Wilberforce

**Dear God, I cast myself at the foot of the cross,
bewailing my exceeding sinfulness and unprofitableness deeply,
most deeply aggravated by the infinity of my mercies.
I plead your precious promises,
and earnestly pray to you to shed abroad in my heart
more love, more humility, more faith, more hope, more peace and joy;
in short, to fill me with all the fullness of God,
and make me worthy to be a partaker of the inheritance of the saints in light.
Then I shall also be better in all the relations of life
in which I am now so defective,
and my light will shine before men,
and I shall adorn the doctrine of my Savior in all things. – Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDONING GRACE

Romans 5:1-2

¹Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

* HYMN OF THANKSGIVING 521

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Words: Edward Mote, 1834. Music: William B. Bradbury, 1863.

No one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1 Cor. 3:11

Capo III D A D G A D

1. My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and right-eous-ness;
 2. When darkness veils His love-ly face, I rest on His un - chang-ing grace;
 3. His oath, His cov - e - nant, His blood sup - port me in the whelming flood;
 4. When He shall come with trum-pet sound, O may I then in Him be found;

A D G A D

I dare not trust the sweet-est frame, but whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 in ev - 'ry high and storm-y gale my an-chor holds with - in the veil.
 when all a-round my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.
 dressed in His right - eous - ness a - lone, fault - less to stand be - fore the throne.

G D

On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is

A D G D A7 D

sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Question 79: *What do the last six commandments teach?*

Answer: **What it means to love and serve my neighbor.**

Question 80: *What do the Ten Commandments teach?*

Answer: **To love God with all my heart, and my neighbor as myself.**

Question 81: *Who is your neighbor?*

Answer: **Everybody is my neighbor.**

*** CONFESSION OF FAITH**

The Belgic Confession, Article VIII

According to this truth and this Word of God, we believe in one only God, who is the one single essence, in which are three persons, really, truly, and eternally distinct according to their incommunicable properties; namely, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Father is the cause, origin, and beginning of all things visible and invisible; the Son is the word, wisdom, and image of the Father; the Holy Spirit is the eternal power and might, proceeding from the Father and the Son. Nevertheless, God is not by this distinction divided into three, since the Holy Scriptures teach us that the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit have each His personality, distinguished by Their properties; but in such wise that these three persons are but one only God.

Hence, then, it is evident that the Father is not the Son, nor the Son the Father, and likewise the Holy Spirit is neither the Father nor the Son. Nevertheless, these persons thus distinguished are not divided, nor intermixed; for the Father has not assumed the flesh, nor has the Holy Spirit, but the Son only. The Father has never been without His Son, or without His Holy Spirit, For They are all three co-eternal and co-essential. There is neither first, nor last; for They are all three one, in truth, in power, in goodness, and in mercy.

RESPONDING TO THE LORD WITH HIS TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

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.

SERMON

Rev. John D. Bennett

Nehemiah 8

¹And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. ²So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. ³And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. ⁴And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose. And beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand, and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. ⁶And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁷Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, helped the people to understand the Law, while the people remained in their places. ⁸They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength." ¹¹So the Levites calmed all the people, saying, "Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved." ¹²And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

¹³On the second day the heads of fathers' houses of all the people, with the priests and the Levites, came together to Ezra the scribe in order to study the words of the Law. ¹⁴And they found it written in the Law that the LORD had commanded by Moses that the people of Israel should dwell in booths during the feast of the seventh month, ¹⁵and that they should proclaim it and publish it in all their towns and in Jerusalem, "Go out to the hills and bring branches of olive, wild olive, myrtle, palm, and other leafy trees to make booths, as it is written." ¹⁶So the people went out and brought them and made booths for themselves, each on his roof, and in their courts and in the courts of the house of God, and in the square at the Water Gate and in the square at the Gate of Ephraim. ¹⁷And all the assembly of those who had returned from the captivity made booths and lived in the booths, for from the days of Jeshua the son of Nun to that day the people of Israel had not done so. And there was very great rejoicing. ¹⁸And day by day, from the first day to the last day, he read from the Book of the Law of God. They kept the feast seven days, and on the eighth day there was a solemn assembly, according to the rule.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

*** HYMN OF RESPONSE**

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

©2001 Laura Taylor Music. Words: John Newton, 1774. Music: Laura Taylor.

1. Let us love and sing and wonder, let us praise the Savior's name
He has hushed the law's loud thunder,
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame
He has washed us with His blood, He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood, He has brought us nigh to God
2. Let us love the Lord Who bought us pitied us when enemies
Called us by His grace and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes
He has washed us with His blood, He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood, He presents our souls to God
3. Let us sing though fierce temptation threaten hard to bear us down
For the Lord, our strong salvation, holds in view the conqu'ror's crown
He, Who washed us with His blood, He, Who washed us with His blood,
He, Who washed us with His blood, soon will bring us home to God

4. Let us wonder grace and justice join and point to mercy's store
When through grace in Christ our trust is justice smiles and asks no more
He Who washed us with His blood, He Who washed us with His blood
He Who washed us with His blood, Has secured our way to God
5. Let us praise and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high
Here they trusted Him before us now their praises fill the sky
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood, Thou hast washed us with Thy blood
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood, Thou art worthy Lamb of God.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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

HYMN OF COMMUNION

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

Words: John Bowring, 1825. Music: Brian Moss. ©2002, Parson John Publishing

1. In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.
2. When the woes of life o'er take me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me; Lo! It glows with peace and joy.
3. When the sun of bliss is beaming, light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.
4. Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide

*** DOXOLOGY**

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

- ²⁴The Lord bless you and keep you;
²⁵the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
²⁶the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.
-
-

First Sunday Congregation-Wide Fellowship Meal Today

- ❖ Following the morning worship service, please join us in the Fellowship Hall for our congregation-wide meal. All are welcome!

Women's Bible Studies

- ❖ Two women's studies are available. Each will be using Rosaria Butterfield's book, *The Gospel Comes with a House Key*. Books are available.
 - Through November 13, the Women's AM Bible Study will meet on Mondays from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. in the parlor, with Melynn Henry and Kyla Sell leading. Childcare will be provided.
 - Through November 15, the Women's PM Bible Study will meet the first and third Wednesday from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for study and a meal. The next meeting is this week, October 4.

Dessert with the Donets!

- ❖ Wednesday, October 4, 7:00 p.m. – Adult Sunday School Class 1. Please join us for dessert and a presentation about how God has blessed our work! Learn about the Dagchi people and get to know our key local partners! (Please RSVP to Alisha at 806-905-7563.)

Morning Men's Group

... meets on Tuesday from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m.

Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at Texas Tech

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

Save the Date

- ❖ RUF Reunion & Celebration!! November 11, 2023, 5:00 p.m., Ranching Heritage Center. Dinner, Reminiscing, and Dancing. \$50/person. RUF alumni and supporters from any generation are invited to attend! Details will be announced in September.

Meal Ministry

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

Nursery

... is available during worship for children 4 and under.

Ushers

- ❖ *Serving today*
 - Brian Nicholson ◦ Ronnie Booth
 - Paul Herring ◦ Shane Shepherd
- ❖ *Serving next Sunday*
 - Brandon Mulkey ◦ Wes Blanchard
 - Michael Landess ◦ Tom Sell

Nursery

- ❖ *Serving today*
 - **Adult Volunteers:** Kristen Bredemeyer ◦ Christie Mulkey
 - Lily Lashaway
 - **Youth Volunteers:** Rylee and Paige Bredemeyer ◦ Henry Mulkey
- ❖ *Serving next Sunday*
 - **Adult Volunteers:** Rachel Myers ◦ Emma Mulkey ◦ Beth Herring
 - **Youth Volunteers:** Cate and Wyatt Myers ◦ Grace Herring

ESV Daily Bible Reading Plan for Week of October 1-7, 2023

| Date | Psalms/Wisdom | Pentateuch/History | Chronicles/Prophets | Gospels/Epistles |
|-------|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 10/01 | Psalms 61 | 2 Samuel 21 | Ezekiel 22 | Luke 22:47 - 23:25 |
| 10/02 | Psalms 62 | 2 Samuel 22:1 - 23:7 | Ezekiel 23 | Luke 23:26-56 |
| 10/03 | Psalms 63 | 2 Samuel 23:8-39 | Ezekiel 24 | Luke 24 |
| 10/04 | Psalms 64 | 2 Samuel 24 | Ezekiel 25 | Romans 1:1-17 |
| 10/05 | Psalms 65 | 1 Kings 1:1-27 | Ezekiel 26 | Romans 1:18-32 |
| 10/06 | Psalms 66 | 1 Kings 1:28-53 | Ezekiel 27 | Romans 2:1-16 |
| 10/07 | Psalms 67 | 1 Kings 2 | Ezekiel 28 | Romans 2:17-3:8 |

Welcome to Providence Presbyterian Church (PCA)

3301 34th Street • Lubbock, Texas 79410 • 806-686-3940 • 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.

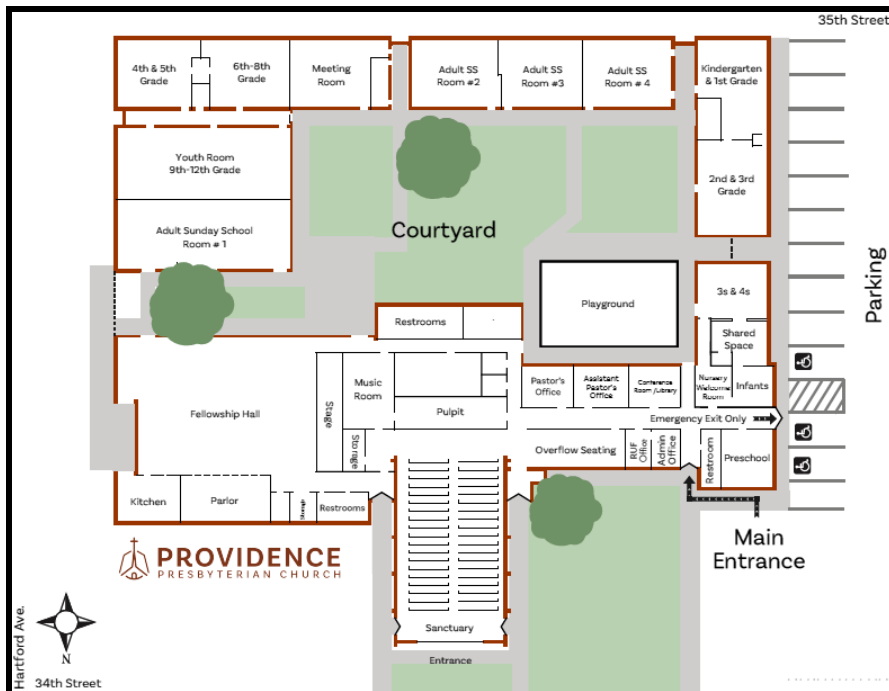
The Session (elders@providencepca.org)

John D. Bennett, *Teaching Elder*
Dr. Jeremy Dalton, *Ruling Elder*
Peter Griffith, *Ruling Elder*

Brandon Mulkey, *Ruling Elder*
Tom Sell, *Ruling Elder*

Deacons

deacons@providencepca.org
Levi Myers
Shane Shepherd
Matthew Smith



Sunday School is available for all ages.

Three adult classes are available:

- ***Gospel of John*** - Adult Room 1
- ***Tim Keller's Book Forgive*** - Adult Room 2
- ***Young Adult/College*** - Meeting Room

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.

Providence Staff

John Bennett, Senior Pastor

john.bennett@providencepca.org

Rebecca Mulkey, Ministry Coordinator

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Rachel Myers, Financial Administrator

finance@providencepca.org

Davis Sweatt, RUF Campus Minister

davis.sweatt@ruf.org

Jeffrey Clendennen, Youth Director

jeffrey.clendennen@providencepca.org

Providence Lay Ministry Teams Leadership

Christian Education Team. . Jeremy Dalton ◊ Rebecca Mulkey

Deacon Assistants Team . Brandon Mulkey ◊ Matthew Smith

Hospitality Team Summer Shepherd ◊ Lydia Shivers

Missions Team Levi Myers

Music Team. Matthew and Allison Smith

Women's Ministry Team Melynn Henry ◊ Kyla Sell

To serve on one of these teams, please contact Rebecca Mulkey.

General information: admin@providencepca.org