



**PROVIDENCE**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*August 24, 2025*

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# THE LORD'S DAY

August 24, 2025

Welcome and Announcements

RE Tom Sell

## Preparation for Worship

\* CALL TO WORSHIP - RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 97:1-12

<sup>1</sup>The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice;

let the many coastlands be glad!

<sup>2</sup>**Clouds and thick darkness are all around him;**

**righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.**

<sup>3</sup>Fire goes before him

and burns up his adversaries all around.

<sup>4</sup>**His lightnings light up the world;**

**the earth sees and trembles.**

<sup>5</sup>The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,

before the LORD of all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>**The heavens proclaim his righteousness,**

**and all the peoples see his glory.**

<sup>7</sup>All worshipers of images are put to shame,

who make their boast in worthless idols;

worship him, all you gods!

<sup>8</sup>**Zion hears and is glad,**

**and the daughters of Judah rejoice,**

**because of your judgments, O LORD.**

<sup>9</sup>For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth;

you are exalted far above all gods.

<sup>10</sup>**O you who love the LORD, hate evil!**

**He preserves the lives of his saints;**

**he delivers them from the hand of the wicked.**

<sup>11</sup>Light is sown for the righteous,

and joy for the upright in heart.

<sup>12</sup>**Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,**

**and give thanks to his holy name!**

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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

*Father, Long Before Creation*

Words: Chinese hymn (trans. Francis P. Jones), 1952. Music: Andrew Osenga. ©2005 The Velvet Eagle Sings.

1. Father, long before creation Thou hadst chosen us in love,  
And that love so deep, so moving, draws us close to Christ above.  
Still it keeps us, still it keeps us firmly fixed in Christ alone.
2. Though the world may change its fashion, yet our God is e'er the same;  
His compassion and His covenant through all ages will remain.  
God's own children, God's own children must forever praise His name.
3. God's compassion is my story, is my boasting all the day;  
Mercy free and never failing moves my will, directs my way.  
God so loved us, God so loved us that His only Son He gave.
4. Loving Father, now before Thee, we will ever praise Thy love,  
And our songs will sound unceasing 'til we reach our home above,  
Giving glory, giving glory to our God and to the Lamb;  
Giving glory, giving glory to our God and to the Lamb.

## \* PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

Rev. John D. Bennett

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Clement of Rome*<sup>†</sup>

**Lord, your hand has shown us the everlasting fabric of the world.  
You created the earth.  
You are faithful throughout all generations, righteous in your judgments,  
marvelous in your strength and excellence.  
You are wise in creating and establishing what you have made.  
You are good and faithful toward those who trust in you.  
Forgive us, our sins, our unrighteous, our transgressions, and our shortcomings.  
Do not hold us to account for every sin but cleanse us with the cleansing of your truth.  
Guide our steps to walk in holiness, righteousness, and singleness of heart.  
Help us to do those things that are good and pleasing in your sight. – Amen.**

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<sup>†</sup>*Clement of Rome (35 AD-101 AD): Apostolic Church Father in the first century and author of **1 Clement**, one of the oldest Christian documents outside of Scripture. Clement was Bishop of Rome and is thought to be mentioned by Paul in Philippians 4:3. He was martyred by Emperor Trajan in 101 AD.*

*(Silent Confession)*

**ASSURANCE OF PARDONING GRACE**

Ephesians 2:4-7

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

<sup>4</sup>But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved – <sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

**\* HYMN OF THANKSGIVING**

*Thy Mercy, My God*

©2001 Same Old Dress Music (ASCAP). Words: John Stoker, 1776. Music: Sandra McCracken

1. Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,  
The joy of my heart, and the boast of my tongue;  
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,  
Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.
2. Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here;  
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;  
But, through Thy free goodness, my spirits revive,  
And He that first made me still keeps me alive.
3. Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,  
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;  
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground,  
And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.
4. Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own,  
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son;  
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine  
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.  
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine  
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

**\* CHILDREN’S CATECHISM**

*From: First Catechism ~ Teaching Children Bible Truths*

**Question 76:** *How many commandments did God give on Mount Sinai?*

**Answer:** **Ten commandments.**

**Question 77:** *Why should we obey the Ten Commandments?*

**Answer:** **Because God is our Creator, Savior, and King.**

**Question 78:** *What do the first four commandments teach?*

**Answer:** **What it means to love and serve God.**

**\* CONFESSION OF FAITH**

*The Apostles’ Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell;†  
the third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty.  
from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,‡  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. – Amen.**

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

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†We believe Christ suffered the wrath of God for our sins while He was on the cross.  
While His body was in the grave for three days, His Spirit was with the Father in heaven (Luke 23:43,46).

‡The word “Catholic” means *universal* or *whole*.  
It is not specifically referring to the Roman church, but all believers throughout the world.

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 9:2-13**

<sup>2</sup>And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, <sup>3</sup>and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>And Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup>For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup>And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." <sup>8</sup>And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only.

<sup>9</sup>And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. <sup>10</sup>So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead might mean. <sup>11</sup>And they asked him, "Why do the scribes say that first Elijah must come?" <sup>12</sup>And he said to them, "Elijah does come first to restore all things. And how is it written of the Son of Man that he should suffer many things and be treated with contempt? <sup>13</sup>But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written of him."

Minister: *The Word of the Lord!*

People: **Thanks be to God!**

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE 235

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

Words: Theodulph of Orleans, 820; translated by John Mason Neale, 1854. Tune: ST. THEODULPH, Melchior Teschner, 1615.

*"Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the King of Israel!" John 12:13*

Capo III

1. All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King,  
 2. The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;  
 3. Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!  
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent:  
 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King!

Thou art the King of Is - rael, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,  
 to thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;  
 All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King,

who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One!  
 to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
 to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!

## 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 indeed good and right and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks unto You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, 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!**

### **The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

### **The Words of Institution**

### **The Invitation to the Lord's Table**

**Minister:** *The gifts of God for the people of God.*

*Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,*

*and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.*

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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 257

*Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted*

Music. Words: Thomas Kelly. Music: 17th century German Tune, O MEIN JESU, ICH MUSS STERBEN, *Geistliche Volkslieder*, Paderborn, 1850.

1. Stricken, smitten, and afflicted, see him dying on the tree!  
'Tis the Christ by man rejected; yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he!  
'Tis the long-expected Prophet, David's Son, yet David's Lord;  
By his Son God now has spoken: 'tis the true and faithful Word.
2. Tell me, ye who hear him groaning, was there ever grief like his?  
Friends thro' fear his cause disowning, foes insulting his distress;  
Many hands were raised to wound him, none would interpose to save;  
But the deepest stroke that pierced him was the stroke that Justice gave.
3. Ye who think of sin but lightly nor suppose the evil great  
Here may view its nature rightly, here its guilt may estimate.  
Mark the sacrifice appointed, see who bears the awful load;  
'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed, Son of Man and Son of God.
4. Here we have a firm foundation, here the refuge of the lost;  
Christ's the Rock of our salvation, his the name of which we boast.  
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded, sacrifice to cancel guilt!  
None shall ever be confounded who on him their hope have built.

### \* 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

<sup>1</sup>May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face to shine upon us,  
<sup>2</sup>that [His] way may be known on earth,  
[His] saving power among all nations.

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## Events This Week

- ❖ **Morning Men's Group** meets Tuesday from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m.
- ❖ **Youth Large Group resumes:** Wednesday, August 27. Dinner is provided; all 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome.

## Upcoming Events

- ❖ **Welcome Back RUF/Churchwide Lunch/Ministry Fair:** Next Sunday, August 31. If you are able, please bring a main dish and a side dish to share.
- ❖ **Inquirer's Class:** Saturday, September 6, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, with breakfast and childcare provided.
- ❖ **West Texas Conference on Reformed Theology:** Dr. John Fesko, will be speaking at Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Amarillo, Saturday and Sunday, September 6-7.
- ❖ **Fall Sunday School begins:** September 7
- ❖ **Providence Practical Theology Conference on Marriage:** Friday and Saturday, September 26-27, with Dr. John Kwasny.

## Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at Texas Tech

- ❖ Raegan Watkins is the RUF intern. *RUF Pastor Search in process.*

## 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 806-831-5447.

- 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*

- Jason Mulkey ◦ Ryan Henry  
Tom Nicholson ◦ Trace Hunt

### ❖ *Serving next Sunday*

- Levi Myers ◦ John Haley  
Larry LaFreniere ◦ Peter Griffith

## Nursery

### ❖ *Serving today*

- **Infant/Toddler:** Amanda Castner ◦ Sara Booth ◦ Rose Mulkey  
• **Pre-School:** Elizabeth Stewart ◦ Cana and Selah Dalton

### ❖ *Serving next Sunday*

- **Infant/Toddler:** Rachel Myers ◦ Alexis Bingham ◦ Ann Moushon  
• **Pre-School:** Brianna Bingham ◦ Cate Myers ◦ Wyatt Myers

## ***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 of August 24-30, 2025**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Psalms/Wisdom</i>	<i>Pentateuch/History</i>	<i>Chronicles/Prophets</i>	<i>Gospels/Epistles</i>
08/24	Psalms 22	1 Samuel 10:17 - 11:15	Lamentations 2	1 Peter 3:13 -4:19
08/25	Psalms 23	1 Samuel 12	Lamentations 3	1 Peter 5
08/26	Psalms 24	1 Samuel 13	Lamentations 4	2 Peter 1:1-11
08/27	Psalms 25	1 Samuel 14	Lamentations 5	2 Peter 1:12-21
08/28	Psalms 26	1 Samuel 15	Habakkuk 1:1-11	2 Peter 2
08/29	Psalms 27	1 Samuel 16	Habakkuk 1:12 - 2:20	2 Peter 3
08/30	Psalms 28	1 Samuel 17	Habakkuk 3	Luke 1:1-25

# Sermon Notes

## 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)

**RUF Campus Minister**  
*RUF Pastor Search in process*

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