



PROVIDENCE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

August 31, 2025

THE LORD'S DAY

August 31, 2025

Welcome and Announcements

RE Tom Sell

Preparation for Worship

*** CALL TO WORSHIP - RESPONSIVE READING**

Psalm 65:1-8

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. A Song.

¹Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion,
and to you shall vows be performed.

²**O you who hear prayer,
to you shall all flesh come.**

³When iniquities prevail against me,
you atone for our transgressions.

⁴**Blessed 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;

⁶**the 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,

⁸**so 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.**

*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 457

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Words: Robert Robinson, 1758. Tune: NETTLETON, Asahel Nettleton, 1825.

Samuel ... named it Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far has the LORD helped us." 1 Sam. 7:12

D A D A D G D A D

1. Come, Thou Fount of ev-'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
 2. Here I raise my Eb-en-e-zer; hith-er by Thy help I'm come;
 3. O to grace how great a debt-or dai-ly I'm con-strained to be;

D A D A D G D A D

streams of mer-cy, nev-er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
 and I hope, by Thy good pleas-ure, safe-ly to ar-rive at home.
 let that grace now, like a fet-ter, bind my wan-d'ring heart to Thee.

D Em D F#m G D G D D Em D F#m G D D

Teach me some me-lo-dious son-net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;
 Je-sus sought me when a stran-ger, wan-d'ring from the fold of God:
 Prone to wan-der—Lord, I feel it—prone to leave the God I love:

D A D A D G D A D

praise the mount! I'm fixed up-on it, mount of God's un-changing love.
 He, to res-cue me from dan-ger, in-ter-posed His pre-cious blood.
 here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts a-bove.

* PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

Rev. John D. Bennett

Almighty God, we are unworthy to come into your presence, because of our many sins.
We do not deserve any grace or mercy from you, if you dealt with us as we deserve.
We have sinned against you, O Lord, and we have offended you.
And yet, O Lord, as we acknowledge our sins and offenses,
so also do we acknowledge you to be a merciful God,
a loving and favorable Father, to all who turn to you.
And so we humbly ask you, for the sake of Christ your son,
to show mercy to us, and forgive us all our offenses.
Forgive the sins of our youth, and the sins of our old age.
By your Spirit, O God, take possession of our hearts,
so that, not only the actions of our life, but also the words of our mouths,
and the smallest thought of our minds, may be guided and governed by you.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever. – Amen.

(Silent Confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDONING GRACE

Joel 2:12-13

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

¹²“Yet even now,” declares the LORD,
“return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
¹³and rend your hearts and not your garments.”
Return to the LORD your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;
and he relents over disaster.

* HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

Jesus, Cast a Look on Me

Words: John Berridge (1716-1793). Music: Matthew Perryman Jones. ©MPJ Music.

1. Jesus cast a look on me, give me sweet simplicity
Make me poor and keep me low, seeking only Thee to know

[†]John Knox (1514-1572): Leader of the Protestant Reformation in Scotland and chaplain to young King Edward VI.
He authored *The History of Reformation in Scotland* and *The Book of Common Order for the Presbyterian Church*.

2. All that feeds my busy pride, cast it evermore aside
Bid my will to Thine submit, lay me humbly at Thy feet
3. Make me like a little child, of my strength and wisdom spoiled
Seeing only in Thy light, walking only in Thy might
4. Leaning on Thy loving breast, where a weary soul can rest
Feeling well the peace of God, flowing from His precious blood
5. In this posture let me live, and hosannas daily give
In this temper let me die, and hosannas ever cry

*** CHILDREN'S CATECHISM**

From: First Catechism ~ Teaching Children Bible Truths

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 Heidelberg Catechism, Question 1[‡]

Minister: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

People: **That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death,
to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.
He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood,
and has set me free from the all the power of the devil.
He also preserves me in such a way
that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head;
indeed, all things must work together for my salvation.
Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life
and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

[‡]**Heidelberg Catechism:** *Written by Zacharias Ursinus in 1563, the catechism quickly became one of the most enduring documents of Continental Reformed Churches across Europe. Today it is used as a Standard by German, Dutch, and Swiss Reformed Churches.*

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.**

Interlude

SERMON

Rev. John D. Bennett

Mark 9:14-29

¹⁴And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. ¹⁵And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him. ¹⁶And he asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" ¹⁷And someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. ¹⁸And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." ¹⁹And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." ²⁰And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. ²¹And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. ²²And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." ²³And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible for one who believes." ²⁴Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" ²⁵And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." ²⁶And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. ²⁸And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" ²⁹And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."

Minister: *The Word of the Lord!*

People: **Thanks be to God!**

*** HYMN OF RESPONSE**

God, Be Merciful to Me

©1997 Christopher Miner Music. Words: *The Psalter*, 1912. Music: Christopher Miner.

1. God, be merciful to me; on Thy grace I rest my plea
Plenteous in compassion Thou, blot out my transgressions now;
Wash me, make me pure within;
 cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.
2. My transgressions I confess; grief and guilt my soul oppress.
I have sinned against Thy grace, and provoked Thee to Thy face.
I confess Thy judgement just;
 speechless, I Thy mercy trust.
3. I am evil, born in sin; Thou desirest truth within.
Thou alone my Savior art, teach Thy wisdom to my heart;
Make me pure, Thy grace bestow,
 wash me whiter than the snow.
4. Broken, humbled to the dust by Thy wrath and judgment just,
Let my contrite heart rejoice, and in gladness hear Thy voice;
From my sins O hide Thy face,
 blot them out in boundless grace.
5. Gracious God, my heart renew, make my spirit right and true.
Cast me not away from Thee, let Thy Spirit dwell in me;
Thy salvation's joy impart,
 steadfast make my willing heart.
6. Sinners then shall learn from me, and return, O God, to Thee
Savior all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing Thy love
Touch my silent lips, O Lord,
 and my mouth shall praise accord.
 Touch my silent lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.

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 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.*

‡*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

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

Keith Getty, Jordan Kauflin, Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, and Matthew Merker. ©2022 Getty Music Publishing.

1. What is our hope in life and death? Christ alone, Christ alone.
What is our only confidence? That our souls to him belong.
Who holds our days within his hand? What comes, apart from his command?
And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand.

Chorus: O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal;
O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death.

2. What truth can calm the troubled soul? God is good, God is good.
Where is his grace and goodness known? In our great Redeemer's blood.
Who holds our faith when fears arise? Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

Chorus

3. Unto the grave, what shall we sing? "Christ, he lives; Christ, he lives!"
And what reward will heaven bring? Everlasting life with him.
There we will rise to meet the Lord, then sin and death will be destroyed,
And we will feast in endless joy, when Christ is ours forevermore.

Chorus: O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal;
O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death. *(Repeat)*
Now and ever we confess Christ our hope in life and death.

* 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

2 Corinthians 13:14

¹⁴The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Sunday School

- ❖ Fall Sunday School begins next Sunday, September 7. Classes will be available for all ages.

Events This Week

- ❖ **Morning Men's Group** meets Tuesday from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m.
- ❖ **Welcome Back RUF/Churchwide Lunch/Ministry Fair** is today following the morning worship service in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!
- ❖ **Inquirer's Class:** This 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.

Upcoming Events

- ❖ **Covenant Kids:** will begin for the fall on Wednesday, September 10, at 5:45 p.m.
- ❖ **Providence Practical Theology Conference on Marriage:** Friday and Saturday, September 26-27, with Dr. John Kwasny.

Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at Texas Tech

- ❖ Large Group meetings are Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. 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).

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 are 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*

- Brian Nicholson ◦ Keith Morwood
Tom Brooks ◦ Shane Shepherd

Nursery

❖ *Serving today*

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

❖ *Serving next Sunday*

- **Infant/Toddler:** Stefanie Bennett ◦ Della and Julia Kramedjian
• **Pre-School:** Maria Scott ◦ Mary Abbott Kramedjian ◦ Elizabeth Stewart

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 31 to September 6, 2025

<i>Date</i>	<i>Psalms/Wisdom</i>	<i>Pentateuch/History</i>	<i>Chronicles/Prophets</i>	<i>Gospels/Epistles</i>
08/31	Psalms 29	1 Samuel 18	Daniel 1	Luke 1:26-56
09/01	Psalms 30	1 Samuel 19	Daniel 2	Luke 1:57-80
09/02	Psalms 31	1 Samuel 20	Daniel 3	Luke 2:1-21
09/03	Psalms 32	1 Samuel 21-22	Daniel 4	Luke 2:22-52
09/04	Psalms 33	1 Samuel 23-24	Daniel 5	Luke 3:1-22
09/05	Psalms 34	1 Samuel 25	Daniel 6	Luke 3:23 - 4:13
09/06	Psalms 35	1 Samuel 26	Daniel 7	Luke 4:14-44

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

RUF Campus Minister

RUF Pastor Search in process

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

(ministries@providencepca.org)

*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.