

Officers and Resource People

The Session (Pastors & Elders)

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Rev. Jeffrey J. Meyers | 314-842-9329 (O) | John McGowan | 636-273-3917 |
| Senior Pastor | 314-842-9309 (H) | John Moore | 314-984-9869 |
| Rev. Chris Smith (Assoc) | 314-962-1974 (O) | Monte Shields | 636-938-4779 |
| Steve Anderson | 314-849-8331 | John Keane | 636-938-3108 |
| George Devlin | 314-821-0360 | Randy Stone (Clerk of Session) | 636-798-2230 |

The Deacons

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Jack Boeve | 636-461-1398 | Curtis McCracken | 636-717-0637 |
| David Bromlow | 314-843-5536 | Clay Phillips (Treasurer) | 314-843-4025 |
| Bryan Carter | 636-938-4936 | Steve Shaffer | 314-843-1964 |
| Bill Coller | 314-968-9535 | Allan Wamsley | 636-257-3933 |
| Steve Dernlan | 314-352-3205 | Rodney Weedman | 314-846-0210 |
| Tom Hanley (Secretary) | 314-965-2205 | Tim Werkema | 314-727-6589 |
| Richard Hiers (Chairman) | 314-543-3010 | George Yoder | 314-729-0540 |
| Jeff Keane | 636-938-1037 | | |

Church Staff

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Church Office | 314-843-7994 | Bill Hoover (Music Dir.) | 314-966-3523 |
| Chris Smith | 314-962-1974 (Office) | Melanie Carter | 636-938-4936 |
| Associate Pastor | 314-962-1953 (Home) | Church Secretary | |
| Paul Jaeggi, Sr. | 314-843-7994 (Church) | April Phillips | 636-587-9757 |
| Asst. to the Pastor | 314-631-4394 (Home) | Financial Secretary | |

Pastoral Interns

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Jonathan Barlow | 314-429-6648 | Bryan Walker | 314-514-9647 |
| Jamison Galt | 314-432-8348 | Tim Weston | 314-205-2018 |
| Daniel McKinney | 314-752-3461 | Steve Sterner | 314-420-1229 |

Home and Foreign Ministries

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| Ross Dixon, | RUF Ministry (Mizzou) | Lian & Clara Tombing, | India |
| Daryl Madi, | RUF Ministry (Wash. U.) | Marcus Toole, | Canada |
| Eric & Maggie Dye, | Army Chaplain | Mort & Jenny Whitman, | Romania |
| Joel & Shelly Hampton, | USAF Chaplain | Bob & Shirley Woodson, | Peru |
| Emad & Michelle Mikhail, | Middle East | Bruce & Susan Young, | Japan |
| Blake & Cathy Purcell, | Russia | Dan & Becky Young, | Mexico |
| John & Cathy Rug, | Chile | | |

Children's Sunday School Program (Fall Semester)

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Ages 2 & 3 | Kathy Hoegemann | Grade 4 | Bryan Walker |
| Ages 4 & 5 | Allan & Pam Wamsley | Grades 5 & 6 | Brad Wood |
| Kindergarten | Steve & Amy Sterner | Grades 7 & 8 | Monte Shields |
| Grade 1 | Anne Hiers | High School | Daniel & Stephanie McKinney |
| Grade 2 | Leesa Coller | | |
| Grade 3 | Tim Weston | | |

The Covenant Renewal Service

Providence Reformed
Presbyterian Church



Epiphany Season

January 16, 2004

Welcome

If you are **visiting** our church today, we welcome you to our worship service and Christian community. Please find the black registration folder at the end of the pew and help us serve you better by leaving your name and contact information. We promise to keep this information confidential and only use it for personal contact with you and your family. Please join us downstairs for coffee after the service.

We have **Christian education** classes for all ages which meet after the service at 11:00 AM. The “visitor’s card” on the table in the foyer will help you find the meeting place for your child’s class. We’d love to have you return tonight at 6:00 PM for singing, prayer, Bible teaching, and fellowship in a more informal setting.

If you are unfamiliar with **our form of worship**, please feel free to speak with one of the Pastors or Elders. We have resources that will help you understand the biblical rationale for why we worship the way we do. Pastor Meyers’s book *The Lord’s Service: The Grace of Covenant Renewal Worship* (Canon Press, 2003) is also available on our book table. Visit our website for articles, essays, and other helpful information on our worship and life at Providence: www.prpc-stl.org

The **Lord’s Supper** is observed every Sunday as the climax of covenant renewal worship. We invite to the Lord’s Table all those who are baptized disciples of Jesus Christ, under the authority of Christ and his body, the Church. By eating the bread and wine with us as a visitor, you are acknowledging to the elders of this local church that you are in covenant with God as an active member of a congregation in which the Gospel is faithfully confessed, taught, and believed. You also acknowledge that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. If you have any doubt about your participation, please speak to one of the elders or the pastor before or after the service. **Note:** The middle circle of cups in each tray contains grape juice, the larger outer ring contains wine. (The grape juice has a darker color than the wine.)

Jesus Christ - Conqueror (Front Cover)



The traditional monograms **IC** and **XC** are ancient Latin abbreviations for **Jesus** (*IHCOCYX*, a Latinized form of his Greek name) and **Christ** (*XRICTOC*). **NIKA** means Victor or Conqueror. Jesus Christ was born to conquer sin, death, and the Devil. The cross in the center of the world reminds us that Jesus has conquered by means of his suffering, death, and resurrection. Jesus now reigns *because* he died for us.

Today our Pulpit and Table paraments are **white**, as is this service’s cover sheet. We are using white this year for **CHRISTMAS** and **Epiphany**. It symbolizes joy, celebration, gladness, light, and purity.

The Lord’s Service at Home

Epiphany Season

What does Epiphany mean? The English word is derived from the Greek *epiphainein*, which means “to appear” or “manifest.” The Epiphany season has to do with the Lord’s *manifestation* or *appearance* to the nations. Epiphany (January 6) and the season called by the same name (from January 6 through February 27) celebrate the manifestation of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, beginning with the visit of the Eastern Kings (the Magi) in Matthew 2. Of course, the manifestation of the Person and mission of Jesus was only gradually unveiled, so the season focuses on the progressive unveiling of our Lord’s mission to the world in his teaching. The four main events commemorated during Epiphany are the adoration of the Magi, the story of Christ’s visit to the temple as a twelve-year-old boy, our Lord’s baptism in the Jordan, and the miracle of turning water into wine for the marriage feast at Cana in Galilee. All four events served progressively to unveil the Lord Jesus Christ to the humanity in significant ways at the beginning of his life and the inauguration of his Gospel ministry.

How should I pray? Once again, it is important to remember that Epiphany, like Advent and Christmas, is not merely an opportunity to remember the history of our Lord’s work. More than that, the season calls upon us to memorialize our Lord’s life in prayer before God. The Lord has manifested himself to the Gentiles (representatively to the Magi), he is still manifesting himself to them (in the mission work of the church), and will finally manifest himself fully to all the nations at the last day as Lord and King. Epiphany therefore is a time to reflect upon all of these ways in which the Lord manifests himself. Please remember that the purpose of Epiphany is not primarily to think historical thoughts about Jesus’ life and work. The purpose of Epiphany, like every season in the church year, is to pray—in particular, to pray for the manifestation of the Lord to those who do not know him. Epiphany is a time to reflect upon and pray for the evangelistic mission of the Church.

Color: White - symbolizing joy, celebration, gladness, light, and the shining forth of God’s glory to the nations through Jesus Christ.

Epiphany Hymns: Trinity Hymnal #434, 123, 133, 136, 154, 167, 224.

Christmas Scripture Readings – This Week

| | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|----------|--------------|--------------|
| Monday, Jan. 17 | – 1 Sam. 8:1-9 | Psalm 31 | Luke 4:14-30 | Romans 1:1-7 |
| Tuesday, Jan. 18 | – 1 Sam. 8:10-18 | Psalm 32 | Luke 4:31-37 | Rom. 1:8-15 |
| Wednesday, Jan. 19 | – 1 Sam. 8:20-22 | Psalm 33 | Luke 4:38-44 | Rom. 1:16-17 |
| Thursday, Jan. 20 | – 1 Sam. 9:1-10 | Psalm 34 | Luke 5:1-11 | Rom. 1:18-23 |
| Friday, Jan. 21 | – 1 Sam. 9:11-27 | Psalm 35 | Luke 5:12-16 | Rom. 1:24-32 |
| Saturday, Jan. 22 | – 1 Sam. 10:1-8 | Psalm 36 | Luke 5:17-26 | Rom. 2:1-10 |

†The *Gloria Patri*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen!

The Sacrifice of Peace

†Prayer of Thanksgiving & Memorial
The Words of Institution

Hymn #298 "Shout, for the blessed Jesus reigns" *Trinity Hymnal*

†The Song of Simeon (*Nunc Dimittis*): Luke 2:30-32

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy Word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou has prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

†Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

Congregation: **And his mercy endures forever!**

Pastoral Prayer: Almighty and everlasting God, you who govern all things in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the prayers of your people, and grant us your peace all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, age after age.

Congregation: **Amen!**

Benediction

†Hymn #498 "O God of Bethel" *Trinity Hymnal* (Tune of #26)

†Benediction: *Numbers* 6:24-26

†Three-fold Amen

†Postlude

Shepherding Groups meet this afternoon and this evening. Please check with your sheperding group elder or talk with one of the pastors if you are new or a regular attendee.

The Morning Service

The Lord's Day — January 16, 2005

Epiphany Season

Preparation For Worship: *Psalms* 139

Organ - Mr. Bill Hoover

Welcome & Announcements - Pastor Jeffrey J. Meyers

The Entrance

Silent Preparation

Call to Worship: *Psalms* 118:24

Pastor Jeffrey J. Meyers

†Hymn #324 "This day at thy creating word" *Trinity Hymnal*

†Salutation & Responsive Scripture

Pastor: In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit!

Congregation: **Amen!** *Matthew* 28:19

The Lord be with you!

Ruth 2:4

And also with you!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of Yahweh! *Psalms* 118:26-27

We bless you from the house of the Lord!

Yahweh is God!

And he has made his light to shine upon us!

†Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord:

O God, you are infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, glorious in holiness, full of love and compassion, abundant in grace and truth: all your works praise you in all places of your dominion, and your glory is revealed in Jesus Christ, your Son. Therefore, we praise you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, blessed for ever. Amen!

Purification

†Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us humbly confess our sins to God our Father, seeking his grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ:

O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up;

You discern my thoughts from a far.

Psalms 139:1-12

†The congregation stands

You search out my path and my lying down

And are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue,

Behold, O Yahweh, you know it altogether.

You hem me in, behind and before,

and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;

It is high; I cannot attain it.

Where shall I go from your Spirit?

Or where shall I flee from your presence?

If I ascend to heaven, you are there!

If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

If I take the wings of the morning

And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

Even there your hand shall lead me,

Your right hand shall hold me.

If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,

And the light about me be night,"

Even the darkness is not dark to you;

The night is bright as day, for darkness is as light with you.

Most holy and merciful Father; we acknowledge and confess before you, our sinful nature prone to evil and slothful in good, and all our shortcomings and offenses. You alone know how often we have sinned against you, in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy on us. Teach us to hate our errors and cleanse us from our secret faults. Silent prayer. Amen!

†Pastor: Now lift up your heads and hear the good news . . . !

Ascension

†Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord!

†Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

It is proper and right to do so.

without adequate jobs, education, health care, and the support of family and community. Please help your church provide the relationships and resources to support women and men in need so that they will not be tempted by the lie that abortion will bring relief from life's pressures and problems:

Lord, in your mercy...

God of justice, hear our prayer.

For the thousands of children in America needing adoptive homes and the millions of orphans around the world, we cry out to you, holy Trinity. Within you is relationship, community, and mutual love; restore that relationship, community, and love in us, whom you are renewing in your image. Raise up for these children loving homes where they will be cared for, nurtured, and instructed in the Christian faith.

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

For the foster and adoptive families who open up their homes to children, we thank you for this living example and witness of your adoption of us into your family. We ask for your strength and wisdom to help these families persevere through the special challenges—financial, legal, medical, relational—that often accompany foster care and adoption.

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

We pray, Sovereign Lord, for the moral state of our nation, for our culture and its institutions, and for all who are in positions of influence within our society. We pray for a renewed culture of life that would recognize and value every human being at every stage and condition of life. Righteousness exalts a nation, and so we beg you to give us righteous leaders in every sphere of our culture who love and fear you rather than men, who have the discernment to know good and evil, the wisdom to craft and apply just policies, and the courage to stand against the attack of those captive to culture of death. We thank you and pray for your protection and wisdom for Christians who confront the lies and opposition of the culture of death in our society. We ask you to call and equip more Christians to defend the sanctity of human life in every institution in our society—in media and journalism, in law, in medicine, in education, in business, in government.

Lord of heaven and earth, be gracious to us, hear, and answer our prayers.

We ask you to guide and protect our ministers and elders. Grant them wisdom and courage to proclaim and teach your truth; insight and strength to lead your church in serving and defending life; hope to persevere in ministering to broken and wounded sinners both inside and outside the church; and protection from the evil one who would discourage and destroy them:

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

Lord, look with pity on the lives of the unborn, and especially those who are in danger of being murdered by abortionists. Protect them from those who would harm them. We beseech you O God: end abortion! Bring this holocaust to closure. Rise up, O Lord, and give aid to the innocent:

Lord, hear our prayer and bring us deliverance!

For all those who have made unwise decisions, and especially for those who have had an abortion, encouraged an abortion, or even performed an abortion, we seek the comfort of your gospel. We pray that they would find peace and rest for their souls in your abundant grace that leads them to godly sorrow and true repentance. Deliver them from despair and depression, from grief over death, and from the trauma that always follows in the wake of abortion. Grant them reconciliation, healing, and freedom from guilt, fear, and shame. May they find this restoration in the gracious embrace of your church:

Lord of grace, hear our prayer.

We pray that you would bless your church with an abundance of children. Help us to recognize and reject our culture's pervasive lie that children are an intolerable burden and a barrier to the good life. Make us a fruitful and faithful people who embrace children as your sacred gift and raise them to love and serve you with all their heart, mind, and strength.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We praise you, Father, for the gift of life, and seek your protection for those who are pregnant or in labor, your mercy to those who grieve the loss of a child, and your compassion on those unable to have children:

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are poor, who struggle to nurture life

‡Truly it is fitting and our greatest joy to give thanks to you at all times and in every place, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, and with the church on earth, we praise and magnify your glorious Name, evermore praising you and singing . . .

‡Hymn #304 "Open now thy gates of beauty"
The Old Testament Reading: *Psalm 139:13-24*

Trinity Hymnal

For you formed me in my inward parts;
You knitted me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you
For I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works;
My soul knows it very well.

My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret places,

Intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes saw my unformed substance;
In your book were written, every one of them,

The days were formed for me,
When as yet there were none of them.

How precious are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!

If I would count them, they are more than the sand.
I awake, and I am still with you.

Oh that you would slay the wicked, O God!
O men of blood, depart from me!

They speak against you with malicious intent;
Your enemies take your name in vain!

Do I not hate those who hate you, O Yahweh?
And do I not loathe those who rise up against you?

I hate them with complete hatred;
I count them my enemies.

Search me, O God, and know my heart!
Try me and know my thoughts!

And see if there be any grievous way in me,
And lead me in the way everlasting!

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

The Epistle Reading: *James 2:8-26*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

†The Gospel Reading: *Matthew 21:12-22*

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Praise be to you, O Christ!

†We Confess our Faith: *The Nicene Creed*

I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds: God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made:

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried;

and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven,

and sits on the right hand of the Father.

And he shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen!

Sermon: **ROOT & FRUIT**

Pastor Jeffrey J. Meyers

LXIV. EXPOSITION OF THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW

†Hymn of Response #583 (*Psalms 25*)

“Lord, I lift my soul to thee” *Trinity Hymnal* (Tune of #492)

†We Recite God’s Holy Standard for Living

Matthew 5:2-12

Jesus opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

Blessed are the poor in spirit,

For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,

For they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,

For they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,

For they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful,

For they shall receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,

For they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,

For they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake,

For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you

And utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad for your reward is great in heaven,

For so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Tribute Offering

We Offer Ourselves Through Tithes and Offerings

Offertory “Holy lovely shines the Morning star!” *Trinity Hymnal* #434

†The Prayer of the Church – A Litany

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we pray first for your Church, that you would look with favor upon her and wash her of her sins, granting her the grace to be a culture of life in the midst of this culture of death. We ask that every aspect of our church life—our worship; our service to the poor & defenseless; our friendships and family life; our feasts and festivals, our evangelism; our work and play—that all would be a revelation and celebration of the beautiful and glorious life that flows from your joyful communion as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:

Congregation: **Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.**