



Omnia et in omnibus Christus - Christ all and in all

A Reformed Evangelical Congregation

The Lord's Service

December 4th 2016

2nd Sunday in Advent

Welcome

In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, we at Providence Church open wide our doors and welcome all who are spiritually weak and seek rest; all who mourn and long for comfort; all who struggle and desire victory; all who sin and need the Savior; all who are strangers and want fellowship; all who hunger and thirst for righteousness; all who are poor in spirit and desire the riches of the gospel; all who will come to Jesus Christ in living faith and repentance, looking to Him as both Liberator and Lord. If you are a visitor of Providence Church, we are grateful that you have joined us in our highest privilege, worshipping the Triune God. We hope you stay and talk with us after the service so we can get to know you better. If you would like to talk to Pastor Brito throughout the week, please feel free to either call him at 850.377.3049 or to email him at uriesou@gmail.com. Please visit our website at www.providencepensacola.org.

Advent Text:

The second candle—sometimes referred to as the “Bethlehem candle”—speaks to the immeasurable love the Father had in sending his only begotten Son. “Behold, what manner of love the Father has given unto us that we should be called the children of God.” Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace are the four candles displayed at this wreath. Love only makes sense if a lover has taught us what love is. Jesus loved us from birth to ascension; from cradle to the clouds. Indeed what manner of love! Let us prepare our hearts knowing that this love is ours.

Memory Verse for the Second Week of Advent:

Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips! 4Do not let my heart incline to any evil.

If God do not watch over our heart and tongue, there will confessedly be no bounds to words and thoughts of a sinful kind, — so rare a gift of the Spirit is moderation in language, while Satan is ever making suggestions which will be readily and easily complied with, unless God prevent. - John Calvin

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God is Renewing His Covenant With His People

God Calls Us And Cleanses Us

Prelude:

Miss Lydia Harris

Advent Choir

Call to Worship (Please Stand)

Pastor: Let us worship God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 18:20; 28:19

People: Amen

Salutation: The Lord be with you!

Ruth 2:4

People: And also with you!

I rejoiced when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord!"

Psalms 122:1-2

Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

Psalms 121:1-2

Maker of heaven and earth.

Pastor: Dearly beloved brethren if we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us, but if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice unto the throne of heavenly grace.

Come, let us worship and bow down.

Psalms 95:6

People: And kneel before the Lord our Maker.

(Let all who are able kneel)

Pastor: Most merciful God,

All: We confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; not only in outward transgressions, but also in secret thoughts and desires that we are not able to understand, but which are all known to you. For this reason, we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your grace, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Continue Kneeling for Silent Confession)

Assurance of Pardon

(Rise and Hear the Good News of God's Forgiveness)

Pastor: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in loving kindness. He has not dealt with us according to our sins nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. On this day know surely Your sins are forgiven through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Acts 13:38

All: Thanks be to God. Our sins are forgiven in Jesus' name. Amen!

Hymns of Faith (Please Stand)

All Glory, Laud, and Honor, pg. 268

People: Amen.

At the Name of Jesus, (Vss. 1-4), pg. 294

People: Amen.

God Consecrates and Raises Up to Heaven

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

**Responsive Psalm*

Psalm 24

Pastor: By David. A psalm.

Yahweh's is the earth and her fullness,

People: The world and those who dwell in her,

Because he himself founded her upon the seas,

And upon the rivers he established her.

Who may ascend to Yahweh's mountain?

And who may stand in his holy place?

The clean of hands and pure of heart,

Who has not lifted up his soul to vanity,

And has not sworn to falsehood.

He will receive a blessing from Yahweh

And righteousness from the God of his salvation.

This is the generation of those who seek him,

Who seek your face, O Jacob. Selah.

Lift up your heads, O gates,

And be lifted up, O everlasting doors,

And the king of glory will come in!

Who is this king of glory?

Yahweh, strong and mighty!

Yahweh, mighty in battle!

Lift up your heads, O gates,

And lift them up, you everlasting doors,

And the king of glory will come in!

Who is this king of glory?

Yahweh of hosts!

He is the king of glory! Selah.

All: Amen! Yes, Amen!

Confession of the Nicene Creed (*please remain standing*)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Pastoral prayer and Sung Lord's Prayer (see hymnal's back cover)

Please respond at the end of each section:

Pastor: Father, hear our prayer!

People: For Your Steadfast Love Endures Forever!

Reading of God's Word (*Please Stand*)

Old Covenant Reading:

Isaiah 2:1-5

Pastor: *This is the Word of the Lord.* **People: Thanks be to God.**

New Covenant Reading:

1 John 1:5-10

Pastor: *This is the Word of the Lord.* **People: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading in the Midst of the People:

John 5:1-15

Pastor: *The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.* **People: Thanks be to God.**

Hymn of Faith:

At the Name of Jesus, (Vss. 5-8), pg. 295

People: Amen!

Sermon:

Pastor Uri Brito

Title:

Onward Christian Soldiers!

Text

Isaiah 2:1-5

Offertory:

(Ex. 23:15; 34:20; Dt. 16:16)

Pastor: *Let us worship God with our tithes and offerings.*

Hymn:

Psalm 130, LORD, from the Depths to Thee I Cried, pg. 167

People: Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Pastor: *Christians, how do you respond to our Lord?*

People: We give only what the Lord has first given to us.

We present ourselves as living sacrifices,

And we offer the sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving.

We cheerfully give these tithes and offerings

In obedience to the Lord, for the glory of His Name,

The health of the Church, and for the sake of the world. Amen.

God Communes With Us

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 Session 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. If you have any doubt about your participation, please speak to one of the pastors before or after the service.

Celebration of Holy Communion ***(Please be seated)***

Passing of the Bread (*"The Lord be with you" "The Lord bless you"*)

Passing of the Wine (*"The Peace of Christ be with you" "And also with you"*)

Congregational Response

Gloria Patri

(Please Stand with Hands Raised)

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, A-men, A-men.

God Commissions Us

The Lord's Commission

Matthew 28:18-20

Pastor: *Our mouths will speak the praise of the Lord!*

People: Let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever. AMEN!

Psalms 145:21

Closing Hymn:

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People, pg. 226

People: Amen!

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

Threefold Amen

Pastor: *Go in Peace to Love and to Serve our Risen Christ!*

All: Amen!

Announcements:

Mark your calendars for these December events:

Advent Vespers on Wednesdays (7th, 14th, 21st) as we prepare to celebrate the arrival of our Lord.

The Vespers service on the 14th will start at 5:30pm with a soup and salad dinner to follow. Please bring a soup to share with the congregation.

***Singing at Retirement Home, December 18**

We will leave after fellowship and gather at University Pines at midday. Please plan to attend.

***Providence hosting the joint service with Christ Church on Christmas Eve at 6pm. We are looking for 2 more families to provide some light refreshment (Wassail and Eggnog).**

***New Year Celebration at Camp Koinonia Friday, December 30th starting at 4pm. Bring Chili, games and outdoor clothes. Camping/cabins available if you wish to stay the night.**

***Adult Wine Tasting on Epiphany. January 6th at 6:00pm. Location: Traylor's Home.**

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Outline:

- I. Textual Transmission
- II. Isaiah's Use of Imagery to Emphasize the Church
- III. Hebrews as Key to Interpreting Isaiah
- IV. Isaiah 2:2-3 - The Role of Prophecy as Initiating and Continuing
- V. Hebrew Parallelism:
 - a. Zion and Jerusalem
 - b. Law and Word of the Lord
- VI. The Church is a Law-Saturated Institution
- VII. The Church is a Justice-Saturated Institution
- VIII. The Church is a Peace-Saturated Institution

Children:

- I. What Book Speaks About Reconciliation? (Hint: We had a recent series on this short letter)
- II. From Zion Goes Forth the _____.
- III. The Mountain of the Lord is an Imagery for the _____.

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Providence Church is a member of the Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches (CREC),
and members of the Athanasius Presbytery