



Providence Church

A Reformed Evangelical Congregation

THE LORD'S SERVICE

March 1st 2020

First Sunday in Lent

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.

Providence
Church

In that famous Lenten text, the Gospels describe Jesus' ascent to the mountain to be tempted:

"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry."

Tolkien once said that "Shortcuts make for long delays." Shortcuts are usually seen as a way of avoiding areas/places we don't wish to encounter. Perhaps it is easier to choose the easy route; the road which demands less commitment or less repentance. It's quite true that when we go on a journey, we need to know where we are going. But instead of a short route through beautiful sceneries, Lent provides a long and winding road filled with unseemly terrain which continues in these next thirty-eight days. But this is all necessary because our destination is Easter. Thus, we may fast on certain occasions, choose to serve others more consistently, to repent with greater vigor; the purpose of these things is not to earn some merit, but to learn just how precious are the merits of Jesus.

The road to the empty grave is a difficult road, but the only true road to glory. We can't take shortcuts on this journey. We must walk through the desert places and step on serpent's heads and take naps surrounded by wild animals. On this Lenten Season, we give thanks that our Lord Jesus did not take shortcuts on his journey to Calvary. Lent is a concentrated time to boast on the cross (Gal. 6:14) and to reorient our spiritual direction.

Prayer: O, blessed Lord Jesus, who did fast for 40 days, grant us the vision of our blessed destination as we journey with you in this season and do not cease to give us opportunities to make our calling and election sure through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

(From Pastor Brito's Lenten Devotions <https://www.uribrito.com/>)



GOD IS RENEWING HIS COVENANT WITH HIS PEOPLE

GOD CALLS US AND CLEANSSES US

Baptisms and New Members

Pastor Brito

Baptismal Hymn:

St. Patrick's Breastplate, vs. 1-4 (249-251)

Prelude:

As Many as Have Been Baptized Into Christ (Men's quintet)

Processional Hymn (Please Stand):

St. Patrick's Breastplate, vs. 5-9 (250-252)

Call to Worship

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!

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

Psalm 122:1-2

People: Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord!

People: 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.

Pastor: Come, let us worship and bow down!

People: And kneel before the Lord our Maker. *(Let all who are able kneel)*

Psalm 95:6

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 lovingkindness. 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!**

Hymn of Faith:

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee, pg. 359

People: Amen.

GOD CONSECRATES AND RAISES US UP TO HEAVEN

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

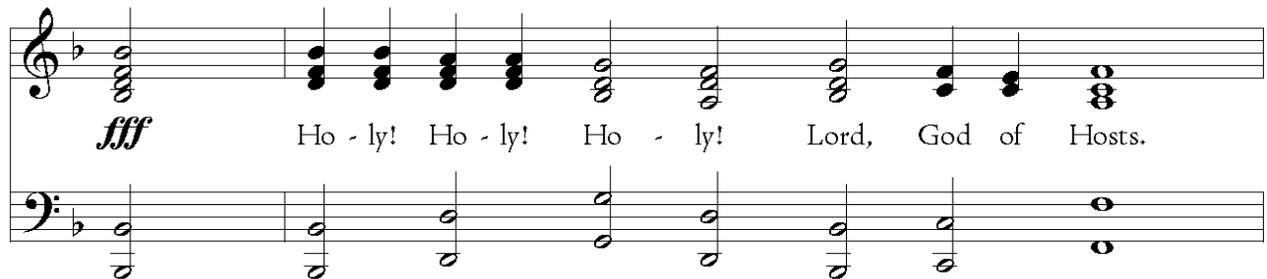
People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

People: It is proper and right to do so.

SANCTUS

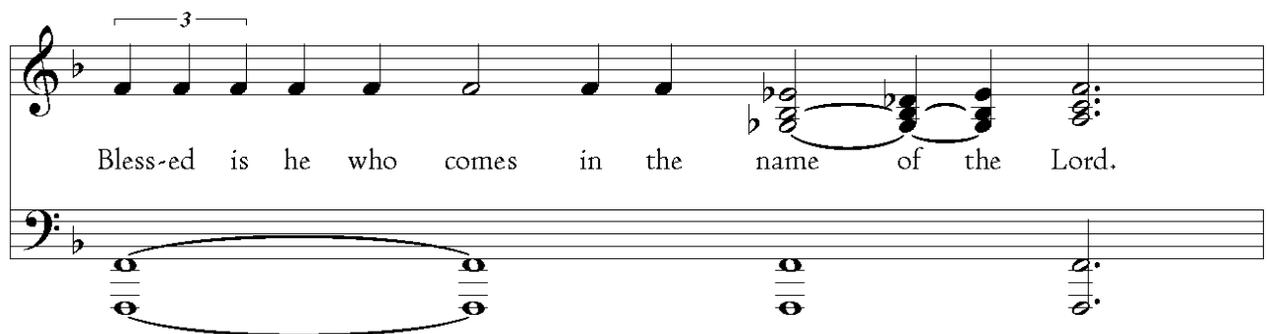
Pastor: Truly it is fitting, right, wholesome and beneficial that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks to You O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels, with all the company of heaven, and with all the Church on earth, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



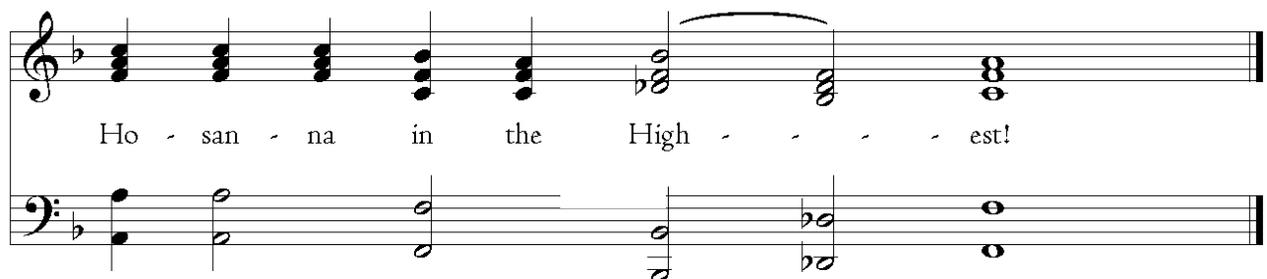
fff Ho - ly! Ho - ly! Ho - ly! Lord, God of Hosts.



Hea-ven and earth are full of Your glo-ry! Ho-san-na in the High - est!



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na in the High - - - est!

Pastor: Happy is he whose transgression is forgiven,

People: Whose impurity is covered up.

Happy is the man to whom Yahweh does not impute liability,

And in whose spirit there is no deceit.

When I kept silent, my bones wasted away

In my groaning all the day,

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me.

My best oil was turned into the droughts of summer. Selah.

My impurity I acknowledged to you,

And my liability I did not cover up.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to Yahweh";

And you forgave the liability of my impurity. Selah.

For this, let every loyal one pray to you in a time for finding you;

Surely when many waters rise they will not reach him.

You are my hiding place; from oppression you preserve me;

With songs of deliverance you surround me. Selah.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should walk;

I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

Do not be like a horse, like a mule, having no understanding.

By bit and bridle he is harnessed for control;

He does not come near you.

Many are the pains of the wicked one;

But he who trusts in Yahweh: loyalty surrounds him.

Be glad in Yahweh and rejoice, you righteous ones,

And sing out, all you who are upright in heart!

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

Please respond at the end of each section:

Pastor: Father, hear our prayer!

People: For Your steadfast love endures forever!

The Lord's Prayer

Our Fa - ther, who art in heav - en, hal-low-ed be Thy name, Thy king - dom come,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly bread,

and for - give us our debts, as we for - give our debt - ors,

and lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.

For thine is the king - dom, and the pow - er, and the glo - ry for - ev - er. A - men!

READING OF GOD'S WORD

(Please Stand)

Old Covenant Reading:

II Samuel 12:1-10

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

New Covenant Reading:

I 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:

Luke 15:11-32

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn:

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word, pg. 368

People: Amen.

SERMON

Pastor: Uri Brito

Title: Confession as Life (Outline back page)

Text: Psalm 32

OFFERTORY

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

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

Communion Hymn:

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded, pg. 263

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.

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:

Jesus, Lover of My Soul, pg. 358

People: Amen!

Benediction:

Numbers 6:24-26

Threefold Amen

Announcements

Pastor: Go in peace to love and to serve our Risen Lord!

All: Amen!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events

Feb 26 - Apr. 5	ECCFL 40 Days for Life	Prayer outside the Abortion Clinic from 6am – 6pm. Providence has two dates to pray. March 13 th & 28 th
Mar. 4th	Vespers	5:30pm, Pizza and Salad Meal
Apr. 17-19	Music Conference and Folk Dance	We are looking for volunteers

LENT AND EASTER EVENTS

Upcoming Events

Weds.	Vespers	Vespers every Wednesday in Lent, 5:30pm
Apr. 5th	Palm Sunday	Glorious Day of Worship!
Apr. 9th	Maundy Thursday	Worship service Lord's Supper 6PM
Apr. 10th	Good Friday Service	Joint Service with Christ Church. 6:00pm at Providence.
Apr. 12th	EASTER SUNDAY!	6:15AM Sunrise Singing and Scripture Reading at Bayview Cemetery 8AM Breakfast Feast 9:30AM Worship

OUTLINE

Text: Psalm 32

This Psalm reflects David's experience after his repentance for the sin of adultery, the attempted cover-up of the pregnancy of Bathsheba, and then several entangled murders to effect a final cover-up (2 Sam. 11, see v21). Only after the well-known confrontation of the prophet Nathan, does David accept responsibility and make a confession. Thus, Psalm 32 likely follows Psalm 51 as a testimony to his restoration. David apparently kept silent for some time prior to his brokenness after the confrontation with Nathan. In Psalm 32, he now reports how blessed is the state of forgiveness.

- I. Selah: An Invitation to Musical Reflection
- II. The Context: David's Many Cover-Ups
- III. The Role of Unconfessed Sin in Human Weakness
- IV. Confession as the Remedy

PROVIDENCE CHURCH

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

THE SESSION

Senior Pastor:	Uri Brito	(850) 377-3049	Deacon:	Ron Smith (850) 516-2074
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