



**PROVIDENCE**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*September 7, 2025*

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*The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

# THE LORD'S DAY

September 7, 2025

Welcome and Announcements

RE Tom Sell

## Preparation for Worship

\* CALL TO WORSHIP - RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 16:1-11

*A Miktam of David.*

<sup>1</sup>Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

<sup>2</sup>I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord;  
I have no good apart from you."

<sup>3</sup>**As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones,  
in whom is all my delight.**

<sup>4</sup>The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply;  
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out  
or take their names on my lips.

<sup>5</sup>**The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;  
you hold my lot.**

<sup>6</sup>The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  
indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

<sup>7</sup>**I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;  
in the night also my heart instructs me.**

<sup>8</sup>I have set the LORD always before me;  
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

<sup>9</sup>**Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;  
my flesh also dwells secure.**

<sup>10</sup>For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,  
or let your holy one see corruption.

<sup>11</sup>**You make known to me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy;  
at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

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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**

*Psalm 16:7-11*

Tune: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1865 (*Crown Him with Many Crowns*)

<sup>7</sup>I'll praise and bless the Lord who has instructed me;  
Indeed, my heart and mind all night do counsel give to me.

<sup>8</sup>For I have set the Lord before me e'er to stand;  
And I will never shaken be, for He's at my right hand.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore, my heart is glad, my spirit does rejoice;  
My flesh will also dwell secure, and I'll lift up my voice.

<sup>10</sup>You won't abandon me to death and the grave's sway;  
You won't allow Your Holy One to undergo decay.

<sup>11</sup>You have made known to me the path of life, the Way;  
For in Your presence there is joy in all its full array.  
At Your right hand are found both joy and pleasures' store;  
For in Your presence, at Your hand, are pleasures evermore.

**\* PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION**

Rev. John D. Bennett

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Middleburg Liturgy*<sup>†</sup>

**O Lord, our heavenly Father,  
seeing you are our Maker, and we are the workmanship of your hands;  
seeing you are our Pastor, and we your flock;  
seeing also that you are our Redeemer, and we are the people whom you have bought;  
Finally, because you are our God, and we are your chosen inheritance –  
let not your anger be kindled against us, that you should punish us in your wrath,  
neither remember our wickedness so as to take vengeance for it,  
but rather chastise us according to your mercy.  
We confess, O Lord, that our misdeeds have inflamed your wrath against us,  
yet considering that by your grace we call upon your name,  
and make profession of your truth –  
maintain, we ask you, the work that you have begun in us,  
to the end that all the world may know that you are our God and Savior.  
You know that those you have destroyed and brought to confusion,  
do not set forth your praises, but the heavy souls, the humble hearts,  
the consciences oppressed and laden with the grievous burden of their sins,  
and therefore thirst after your grace,  
they shall set forth your praise and glory. – Amen.**

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<sup>†</sup>*The Middleburg Liturgy was penned in 1586 by the English Puritan Thomas Cartwright (1553-1603) after he and his congregation were exiled to Middleburg in the Netherlands.*

*(Silent Confession)*

**ASSURANCE OF PARDONING GRACE**

Romans 5:6-11

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

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>For one will scarcely die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die – <sup>8</sup>but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup>For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup>More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

**\* HYMN OF THANKSGIVING 616**

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

Words: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1887. Tune: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1887.

1. What a fellowship, what a joy divine,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms;  
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.  
**Refrain:** Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;  
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.
2. O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms;  
O how bright the path grows from day to day,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.  
**Refrain**
3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms?  
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.  
**Refrain**

**Question 82:** *Is God pleased with those who love and obey him?*

**Answer:** **Yes. God says, "I love them that love me." (KJV)**

**Question 83:** *Is God displeased with those who do not love and obey him?*

**Answer:** **Yes. "God is angry with the wicked every day." (KJV)**

**Question 84:** *What is the first commandment?*

**Answer:** **The first commandment is “You shall have no other gods before Me.” (NKJV)**

**We confess and acknowledge one only God,  
to whom alone we must cleave, whom only we must serve,  
whom only we must worship, and in whom only we put our trust.**

**Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable,  
incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible;  
one in substance and yet distinct in three persons,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.**

**By whom we confess and believe, all things in heaven and earth,  
as well visible as invisible, to have been created,  
to be retained in their being,  
and to be ruled and guided by His inscrutable providence,  
to such end as His eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed them  
to the manifestation of His own Glory.**

**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.**

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<sup>†</sup>*The Scots Confession is a Confession of Faith written in 1560 by six leaders of the Protestant Reformation in Scotland.  
The text of the Confession was the first subordinate standard for the Protestant church in Scotland.  
Along with the Book of Discipline and the Book of Common Order,  
this is considered to be a formational document for the Church of Scotland during the time.*

## SERMON

Rev. John D. Bennett

**Mark 9:30-41**

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<sup>30</sup>They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he did not want anyone to know, <sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise." <sup>32</sup>But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup>And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" <sup>34</sup>But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all." <sup>36</sup>And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."

<sup>38</sup>John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." <sup>39</sup>But Jesus said, "Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup>For the one who is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup>For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward.

Minister:     *The Word of the Lord!*

People:       **Thanks be to God!**

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**\* HYMN OF RESPONSE**

*To Christ The Lord Let Every Tongue*

©2001 Laura Taylor Music. Words: Samuel Stennett (1727-1795) and Laura Taylor (second half of verse 5). Music: Laura Taylor.

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1. To Christ the Lord let every tongue its noblest tribute bring  
When He's the subject of the song who can refuse to sing?  
Survey the beauties of His face and on His glories dwell  
Think of the wonder of His grace and all His triumphs tell
2. Majestic sweetness sits enthroned upon His awful brow  
His head with radiant glories crowned, His lips with grace overflow  
No mortal can with Him compare among the sons of men  
Fairer He is than all the fair that fill the Heavenly train
3. He saw me plunged in deep distress, He fled to my relief  
For me He bore the shameful cross and carried all my grief  
His hand a thousand blessings pours upon my guilty head  
His presence gilds my darkest hours and guards my sleeping bed
4. To Him I owe my life and breath and all the joys I have  
He makes me triumph over death and saves me from the grave  
To Heaven the place of His abode He brings my weary feet  
Shows me the glories of my God and makes my joy complete
5. Since from His bounty I receive such proofs of love divine  
Had I a thousand hearts to give, Lord, they should all be Thine  
A thousand men could not compose a worthy song to bring  
Yet Your love is a melody our hearts can't help but sing!  
A thousand men could not compose a worthy song to bring  
Yet Your love is a melody our hearts can't help but sing!

## 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

## *Good Shepherd of My Soul*

Words and Music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Fionan de Barra, and Stuart Townend  
© 2013 Getty Music Publishing (BMI) and Fionan de Barra (admin MusicServices.org) and Townend Songs

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1. Good Shepherd of my soul come dwell within me.  
Take all I am and mould Your likeness in me.  
Before the cross of Christ, This is my sacrifice:  
A life laid down and ready to follow.
2. The troubled find their peace In true surrender.  
The prisoners their release from chains of anger.  
In springs of living grace, I find a resting place  
To rise refreshed, determined to follow.
3. I'll walk this narrow road with Christ before me  
Where thorns and thistles grow and cords ensnare me.  
Though doubted and denied, He never leaves my side  
But lifts my head and calls me to follow.
4. And when my days are gone, my strength is failing  
He'll carry me along through death's unveiling  
Earth's struggles overcome, heav'n's journey just begun  
To search Christ's depths and ever to follow ...  
To search Christ's depths and ever to follow.

## \* 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

Numbers 6:24-26

<sup>24</sup>The LORD bless you and keep you;  
<sup>25</sup>the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
<sup>26</sup>the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

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## Sunday School

- ❖ Sunday School meet weekly from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. Classes are available for all ages. Adult classes include:
  - **Union with Christ – Living Out Our Identity in Jesus:** Larry LaFreniere, Teacher
  - **The Book of Isaiah:** Jeremy Dalton, Teacher

## Events This Week

- ❖ **Morning Women's Bible Study** meets Mondays from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Child care is provided.
- ❖ **Morning Men's Group** meets Tuesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m.
- ❖ **Covenant Kids** will begin for the fall this Wednesday, September 10, at 5:45 p.m.
- ❖ **Youth Large Group** meets Wednesdays from 5:45 to 7:30 p.m.
- ❖ **Community Groups** begin this Wednesday, September 10, at 6:00 p.m., and next Sunday, September 14, at 12:30 p.m. and at 5:00 p.m.
- ❖ **Young Professionals Dinner:** Friday, 6:00 p.m.

## Upcoming Events

- ❖ **Evening Women's Bible Study** will meet on Wednesday, September 17, at 5:45 p.m. Child care and dinner are provided.
- ❖ **Providence Practical Theology Conference on Marriage:** Friday and Saturday, September 26-27, with Dr. John Kwasny.
- ❖ **Monthly Congregation-Wide Fellowship Lunch:** Sunday, October 5, following the morning worship.

## 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](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*

- Brian Nicholson ◦ Keith Morwood  
Tom Brooks ◦ Shane Shepherd

### ❖ *Serving next Sunday*

- Brandon Mulkey ◦ Paul Herring  
Michael Landess ◦ Tom Sell

## Nursery

### ❖ *Serving today*

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

### ❖ *Serving next Sunday*

- **Infant/Toddler:** Courtney Steele ◦ Jenny Hudnall ◦ Christie Mulkey  
• **Pre-School:** Erin Herendeen ◦ Nan Mulkey ◦ Catelyn Steele

## ***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 September 7-13, 2025**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Psalms/Wisdom</i>	<i>Pentateuch/History</i>	<i>Chronicles/Prophets</i>	<i>Gospels/Epistles</i>
09/07	Psalms 36	1 Samuel 27	Daniel 8	Luke 5:1 - 6:16
09/08	Psalms 37	1 Samuel 28	Daniel 9	Luke 6:17-49
09/09	Psalms 38	1 Samuel 29-30	Daniel 10:1 - 11:1	Luke 7:1-35
09/10	Psalms 39	1 Samuel 31	Daniel 11:2-45	Luke 7:36 - 8:3
09/11	Psalms 40	2 Samuel 1	Daniel 12	Luke 8:4-21
09/12	Psalms 41	2 Samuel 2	Ezekiel 1	Luke 8:22-56
09/13	Psalms 42-43	2 Samuel 3	Ezekiel 2-3	Luke 9:1-50

# 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** ..... Ann Griffith ◦ 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.