



PROVIDENCE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent

THE LORD'S DAY

November 30, 2025

Welcome and Announcements

RE Tom Sell

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Preparation for Worship

*** CALL TO WORSHIP - RESPONSIVE READING**

Psalm 100

A Psalm for giving thanks.

¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

²**Serve the LORD with gladness!**
Come into his presence with singing!

³Know that the LORD, he is God!
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴**Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!**
Give thanks to him; bless his name!

⁵For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

*** HYMN OF PRAISE 195**

Joy to the World! The Lord is Come

Words: Based on Psalm 98, Isaac Watts, 1719. Tune: ANTIOCH, George Frederick Handel, 1742; arranged by Lowell Mason, 1836.

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Augustine of Hippo[†]

O Lord my God, light of the blind, and strength of the weak;
yes, also light of those that see, and strength of the strong –
hearken unto my soul, and hear it crying out of the depths.
Woe is me! ...

Lord, help us to turn and seek you;
for not as we have forsaken our Creator have you forsaken your creation.
Let us turn and seek you, for we know you are here in our heart,
when we confess to you, when we cast ourselves upon you,
and weep in your bosom, after all our rugged ways;
and you gently wipe away our tears, and we weep the more for joy,
because you, Lord – not man of flesh and blood –
but you, Lord, who made us, remake and comfort us. – Amen.

(Silent Confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDONING GRACE

Matthew 11:28-30

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

²⁸Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke
upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for
your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

* HYMN OF THANKSGIVING 230

Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor

Words: Frank Houghton, 1894-1972. Tune: QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGREABLE, French carol melody.

1. Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love’s sake becamest poor;
Thrones for a manger didst surrender, sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love’s sake becomes poor.

[†]*Augustine (354-430): North African church father and key founder of Western theology;
forerunner of the Protestant Reformation; author of **Confessions** and **The City of God**.*

*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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2. Thou who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becamest man;
Stooping so low, but sinners raising heavenwards by thine eternal plan.
Thou who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becamest man.
3. Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship thee.
Emmanuel, within us dwelling, make us what thou wouldst have us be.
Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship thee.

*** CHILDREN'S CATECHISM**

From: First Catechism ~ Teaching Children Bible Truths

Question 120: *What is the fourth petition?*

Answer: The fourth petition is "Give us this day our daily bread."

Question 121: *What does it mean to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread"?*

Answer: We are asking God to provide us with all that we really need.

Question 122: *What is the fifth petition?*

Answer: The fifth petition is "And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors."

*** 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.

RESPONDING TO THE LORD WITH HIS TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

[‡]**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.*

ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR JUNIA ROSEMARY MULKEY BROQUARD

Covenant Promises: For to you is this promise, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call unto him. And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee and to thy seed after thee. Believe on the Lord Jesus, and thou shalt be saved, thou and thy house.
(Acts 2:39; Genesis 17:7; Acts 16:31; BCO 56-4)

Covenant Vows for Parents

- Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
- Do you claim God's covenant promises in her behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for her salvation, as you do for your own?
- Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before her a godly example, that you will pray with and for her, that you will teach her the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring her up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

Covenant Vow for Congregation

- Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

BAPTISMAL PRAYER

Rev. Gene Cochran

BAPTISMAL HYMN

Pass the Promise

Words and Music: Kristyn Getty and Sandra McCracken, © Getty Music Publishing, 2021

Men sing *Call* • Women sing *Response* • All sing the *Chorus*

1. *Call:* I will pray rejoicing from my heart
Response: Pray rejoicing from my heart
Call: For in Him my victory's lifted high
Response: His salvation is my cry
Call: He has overcome my enemies
Response: Our praises scorn the enemy
Call: I delight in His deliverance
Response: The Lord is our deliverance
Chorus: Pass the promise to our sons and daughters
God most high, God our Father – We bear witness

2. *Call:* There is no one holy like the Lord

Response: Holy, holy is the Lord

Call: Our Rock and refuge is our God

Response: All the earth belongs to God

Call: Do not speak with pride of noble deeds

Response: The Lord will weigh our every deed

Call: See the strong have lost, the weak have gained

Response: And from the dust my life He raised

Chorus: Pass the promise to our sons and daughters
God most high, God our Father – We bear witness

3. *Call:* He will guard the feet of faithful ones

Response: He will hold His faithful ones

Call: But the wicked they will not prevail

Response: Not by might will man prevail

Call: He is coming soon to judge the earth

Response: He is coming soon to judge the earth

Call: For the Lord gives power to His King

Response: All Strength to His Anointed King

Chorus: Pass the promise to our sons and daughters
God most high, God our Father – We bear witness

Chorus: Pass the promise to our sons and daughters
God most high, God our Father – We bear witness

Chorus: Pass the promise to our sons and daughters
God most high, God our Father – We bear witness
We bear witness – We bear witness

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

RE Dr. 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

- ¹Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.
²He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street;
³a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
⁴He will not grow faint or be discouraged 'til he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his law.
⁵Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it:
⁶"I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations,
⁷to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
⁸I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.
⁹Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth I tell you of them."

Minister: *The Word of the Lord!*

People: **Thanks be to God!**

* HYMN OF RESPONSE 198

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!

Based on Psalm 24. Words by Georg Weissel, 1642; translated by Catherine Winkworth, 1855. Tune: TRURO, Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789.

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near, the Savior of the world is here.
2. A helper just he comes to thee, his chariot is humility,
His kingly crown is holiness, his scepter, pity in distress.
3. O blest the land, the city blest, where Christ the Ruler is confessed!
O happy hearts and happy homes to whom this King in triumph comes!
4. Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
From earthly use for heav'n's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.
5. Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide!
Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.
6. So come, my Sovereign, enter in! Let new and nobler life begin!
Thy Holy Spirit, guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.

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, through your only begotten Son Jesus Christ, the King of kings and Lord of lords; for you have seated him at your right hand in glory, and put all things in subjection under his feet, that he may present them to you, O Father, perfectly restored in beauty, truth, and love. 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

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 Invitation to the Lord's Table†

The Words of Institution

†Ushers will escort congregants to the communion table during the **Hymn of Communion**. Please take the elements back to your seat. After **The Words of Institution**, we will partake together.

‡*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 196

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Words: Charles Wesley, 1744 (v. 1, 4), Mark E. Hunt, 1978 (v. 2, 3). Tune: HYFRYDOL, Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855.

1. Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free,
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
2. Joy to those who long to see Thee, Day-spring from on high, appear.
Come, Thou promised Rod of Jesse, of Thy birth, we long to hear!
O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth;
"Go to Him your praises bringing, Christ the Lord has come to earth!"
3. Come to earth to taste our sadness, He whose glories knew no end.
By His life He brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;
This the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.
4. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us for ever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

* DOXOLOGY

Tune: VENI EMMANUEL (*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*)

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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* BENEDICTION

2 Corinthians 13:14

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

Sunday School

- ❖ Sunday School meets 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, Room 10
 - **The Book of Isaiah:** Jeremy Dalton, Teacher, Room 11
- Because of the Thanksgiving weekend, Sunday School did not meet today but will resume next week.

Events This Week

- ❖ **Morning Men's Group** meets Tuesday from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m.
- ❖ **Youth Large Group** meets on Wednesday from 5:45 to 7:30 p.m.
- ❖ **Evening Women's Bible Study** will meet Wednesday at 5:45 p.m. Child care and dinner are provided. This will be the final meeting for the fall.
- ❖ **Women's Christmas Brunch:** Saturday, December 6, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Upcoming Events

- ❖ **Morning Women's Bible Study** has finished for the fall. The study will resume in late January or early February 2026.
- ❖ **Covenant Kids** will meet Wednesday, December 10, from 5:45 to 7:30 p.m.
- ❖ **Community Groups** will meet on Wednesday, December 10, and Sunday, December 14.
- ❖ **Joint Sunday School on December 14:** Matt Megill, missionary to West Africa, will make a presentation on his work. Matt will also speak briefly at the beginning of the worship service.
- ❖ **Providence Missions Conference:** Friday, January 30 to Sunday, February 1, 2026

Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at Texas Tech

- ❖ 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 Beth Herring at bethsherring@yahoo.com.
 - 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.

The Reason for the Advent Season

Advent, from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming" or "arrival" is a long-celebrated season of the Western Church dating back to the fourth century. The earliest official mention of Advent comes at the Council of Sargossa (AD 380). By the fifth and sixth centuries, we find evidence of Advent sermon series being preached. For the present day, Advent begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day, which is the Sunday nearest November 30. It ends on Christmas Eve with the lighting of the Christ Candle.

Very early on in the West, the season was focused on the first Advent of Christ. Later it would come to have a twin focus. The Latin word *adventus* was a translation of the Greek *parousia* – a word used for both the coming of Christ in human flesh, as well as his return.

For the first two weeks of Advent, the church would have customarily reflected on the Second Coming of Christ. Christians would chasten their hearts, confess their sins, and spend time hoping for the quick return of the Lord. The last two weeks of Advent would then transition to focus on the first *parousia*, Christ in the manger.

Traditionally, the colors of the candles represent a specific theme and focus for that particular week. The three purple candles symbolize the royalty of the newborn king while anticipating the suffering that he would endure. The pink or rose candle highlights the transition in the third week to the theme of joy and expectation of the Christ child. In addition, these four are arranged around the white candle. This center light is to remind the worshipper that Christ was without sin and lived in complete obedience to God and the Law.

– Adapted from *The Gospel Coalition*

November 30 ~ *Hope* ♦ December 7 ~ *Peace* ♦ December 14 ~ *Joy*
December 21 ~ *Love* ♦ December 24 ~ *Christ*

Ushers

❖ *Serving today*

- Jason Mulkey ◦ Ryan Henry
Tom Nicholson ◦ Trace Hunt

❖ *Serving next Sunday*

- Brian Nicholson ◦ Ian Schlagel
Tom Brooks ◦ Shane Shepherd

Nursery

❖ *Serving today*

- **Infant/Toddler:** Faith Tate ◦ Lily Donet ◦ Julia Kinkade
• **Pre-School:** Jenny Lawson ◦ Ava Smith ◦ Raylan Tate

❖ *Serving next Sunday*

- **Infant/Toddler:** Kristen Bredemeyer ◦ Kayla Harwood ◦ Catelyn Steele
• **Pre-School:** Sarah Scott ◦ Av ery Augesen ◦ Paige Bredemeyer

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 November 30 to December 6, 2025

<i>Date</i>	<i>Psalms/Wisdom</i>	<i>Pentateuch/History</i>	<i>Chronicles/Prophets</i>	<i>Gospels/Epistles</i>
11/30	Psalms 120	Job 3	Isaiah 24	John 20
12/01	Psalms 121	Job 4-5	Isaiah 25	John 21
12/02	Psalms 122	Job 6-7	Isaiah 26-27	1 John 1:1 - 2:6
12/03	Psalms 123	Job 8	Isaiah 28	1 John 2:7-17
12/04	Psalms 124	Job 9-10	Isaiah 29:1 - 30:17	1 John 2:18 - 3:3
12/05	Psalms 125	Job 11	Isaiah 30:18 - 32:20	1 John 3:4-24
12/06	Psalms 126	Job 12	Isaiah 33-34	1 John 4

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,

Youth & Family Ministry 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 Anne Griffith ◦ Kyla Sell
womensministry@providencepca.org

Please contact Jeffrey Clendennen

(jeffrey.clendennen@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.