



*“growing a family  
to reach a community”*

Loving God, loving one another, and embracing  
our community and world with Jesus

# **Lord's Day Worship**

October 11, 2020

## **Call to Worship**

Daniel 7:13-14

*In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.*

**Come Thou Fount**

Hymn #457

Jeremiah 9:23, 24

*This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise boast of their wisdom or the strong boast of their strength or the rich boast of their riches, but let the one who boasts boast about this: that they have the understanding to know me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the LORD.*

**I Will Boast in Christ Alone**

Song

Opening Prayer

## **Confessing Our Sins Together**

James 5:7-11

*Be patient, therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.*

**Our Father, we confess how easily we gravitate toward that which is quick and easy. We are impatient people who do not like to wait. We do not like hindrances that are complicated and difficult. We often avoid hardship, suffering, or your corrective hand, especially when the lessons you teach us take time to master. Forgive us our sin and enable us to follow the path our Savior set before us, even when it is hard to do so. Strengthen our faith in Christ's finished work, His present care, and His return in glory, so that we may do even the hardest things that glorify you. For we pray in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

## *Rejoicing in Our Forgiveness*

Galatians 3:13-14

*Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole." He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.*

***Worthy is the Lamb***

Song

***When Peace Like a River***

Hymn #691

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Giving of Tithes & Offerings

***Show Us Christ***

Song

## *Hearing God's Word Together*

The Gospel According to Acts

Acts 9. 19-31

*First Steps*

***This, I Believe***

Song

Benediction

1 Thessalonians 5:22-23

*May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.*

## *Scripture Reading*

### **Acts 9. 19-31** (English Standard Version)

For some days Saul was with the disciples at Damascus. <sup>20</sup> And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." <sup>21</sup> And all who heard him were amazed and said, "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?" <sup>22</sup> But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

<sup>23</sup> When many days had passed, the Jews plotted to kill him, <sup>24</sup> but their plot became known to Saul. They were watching the gates day and night in order to kill him, <sup>25</sup> but his disciples took him by night and let him down through an opening in the wall, lowering him in a basket.

<sup>26</sup> And when he had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples. And they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple. <sup>27</sup> But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles and declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus. <sup>28</sup> So he went in and out among them at Jerusalem, preaching boldly in the name of the Lord. <sup>29</sup> And he spoke and disputed against the Hellenists. But they were seeking to kill him. <sup>30</sup> And when the brothers learned this, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus.

<sup>31</sup> So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.

**The Gospel According to Acts**  
**Acts 9. 19-31**  
***First Steps***

*I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins & a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.*

Acts 26. 16-18

**I. Saul's Mission in Damascus (vs. 19-25)**

- A. An \_\_\_\_\_ mission
  
- B. A \_\_\_\_\_ mission
  
- C. An \_\_\_\_\_ mission
  
- D. A \_\_\_\_\_ mission

**II. Saul's Mission in Jerusalem (vs. 26-31)**

- A. A \_\_\_\_\_ mission
  
- B. A \_\_\_\_\_ mission

**III. Our Mission Today**

*For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

2 Corinthians 4. 5-6

## *Sermon Quotes and References*

*But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone; nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother. (In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie!) <sup>21</sup> Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia. And I was still unknown in person to the churches of Judea that are in Christ. They only were hearing it said, "He who used to persecute us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy." And they glorified God because of me.*

Galatians 1. 15-24

*If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.*

2 Corinthians 11. 30-33

We must not read this with Western Christian eyes as an exciting saga of endurance under pressure. We may read Paul's sufferings and admire his faithfulness and steadfastness... but his opponents would see all these "boasts" as signs of weakness and even stupidity: he does not even have enough sense to keep himself out of trouble. But Paul is determined to invert human boasting; he will boast about the things that display his weakness (11.30). Even his last shot runs along these lines (11.31-33). We tend to see Paul's escape from Damascus through Luke's eyes (Acts 9). Paul himself saw his flight as an embarrassing defeat. At a time when the highest Roman military honor went to the soldier of centurion rank or higher who was first over the wall and into the fray at the end of a siege, Paul admits that he was the first one to flee; he was the first down.

DA Carson, The Cross & Christian Ministry

# *Providence Activities & Events*

October 11, 2020

## **This Week:**

Today..... Providence Deep Dive – Politics, 6:00 p.m. at church  
Tuesday..... Ladies *2 Kings* Bible Study, 9:30 a.m. at church  
..... Ladies *Romans* Bible Study, 7:00 p.m. at Carol Lacock’s home  
Wednesday ..... Men’s Fellowship Breakfast, 8:00 a.m. at church  
Thursday ..... *Revelation* Bible Study, 9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall  
Saturday ..... Ladies *James* Bible Study, 8:30 a.m. at the Pavilion  
..... Christ’s Cupboard Distribution/Outreach, 8:30 a.m. at church

## **Future:**

October 17..... 3D Fall Fun Day, 1 - 4 p.m. at the Pavilion  
November 8..... Annual Congregational Meeting, more details to come

PROVIDENCE CHURCH'S

# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The Lord has blessed us in so many ways and we are very excited for our church building renovation!

The Providence Capital Campaign purpose is to raise funds that will be designated to complete items not included in our current building budget. These items include: completing the kitchen, replacing the roof and sound proofing the fellowship hall. Any remaining funds received will be applied to the mortgage. This pledge would be above your regular giving.

**PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER A PLEDGE TO THE  
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DURING THE MONTH  
OF OCTOBER!**

Pledge cards are available in the fellowship hall and sanctuary on the table next to our offering boxes.



**Tonight!**

# Providence·Deep·Dive

*Topic·Discussion*

Topic: Politics: God and the Government

When: Sunday·October·11<sup>th</sup>·@·6pm

Where: Providence·Presbyterian·Church



Pastor·Mark·Fodale will be teaching and having an open time of Q & A. As our culture gears up with their own talking points for their side of the political aisle, we will be gearing up with the Word and diving deep into Scripture to understand a Biblical vision of politics.

*Looking forward to seeing you there!*