

# The Worship of God

---

Sunday, April 28, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Eleven O' Clock in the Morning

---

## GATHERING

### CENTERING PRAYER

O Lord, we give you thanks  
that through Jesus Christ  
you have made us branches of your vine.  
Help us to abide in Christ  
and be disciples of your Word,  
that we may live and grow in him  
and bear good fruit for the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## PRAISE

### VOLUNTARY

Low in the Grave He Lay

arr. Brian Childers

### CALL TO WORSHIP

This Is the Feast

Andrew Pester

### † PROCESSIONAL HYMN, NO. 384

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

alt. HYFRYDOL

### PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### REGISTRATION OF ATTENDANCE

*Welcome! If you are in-person, write your name in the Friendship Pad found on the center aisle and pass it to your neighbor. First-time guests are encouraged to list your address, phone number or e-mail so that we may share additional information about our church. If you are with us online, email [connect@providenceumc.org](mailto:connect@providenceumc.org) or text to 704.476.1938 and type in the word CONNECT. We are glad you are with us!*

## PRAYERS

### CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

The Eyes of All

Andrew Pester

### CALL TO CONFESSION

Trusting in the mercy of God,  
let us confess our sins to God and to one another.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, we confess  
that we have not borne the fruit  
of the Spirit.  
We have not loved others as you have loved us.  
We have denied the promises of baptism

and cut ourselves off from you.  
Forgive us, restore us,  
that we may abide in your love  
and live out your mercy,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ,  
in whose name we pray. Amen.

#### SILENT PRAYER

#### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

You already have been cleansed by the word  
that God has spoken to you.  
In baptism God claimed you  
and joined you to Christ,  
as branches to a vine.  
Believe the promise given to you:  
in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Leader: Lord, in your mercy  
People: Hear our prayer.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.

## THE WORD

† PSALTER, HYMNAL PAGE 752, RESPONSE 2

Psalm 22. 25-31

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who worship the Lord.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek the Lord shall praise the Lord!  
May your hearts live for ever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the Lord;  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before the Lord.

For dominion belongs to the Lord  
who rules over the nations.

All who sleep in the earth  
shall bow down to the Lord.

All who go down to the dust shall bow before the Lord,  
and I shall live for God.

**Posterity will serve the Lord;**

each generation shall tell the Lord,  
and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn.

**Surely the Lord has done it.**

† SEQUENCE HYMN, NO. 121

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

alt. STUTTGART

† GOSPEL LESSON, NEW TESTAMENT PAGE 134

John 15. 9-17

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM

I Believe

I believe in the sun,  
Even when it's not shining.

I believe in love,  
Even when I don't feel it.

I believe in God,  
Even when God is silent.

—Anonymous Jewish Poem

Mark Miller

INTRODUCTION OF BISHOP

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

What's Love Got to Do With It?

## RESPONSE

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, NO. 885

A Modern Affirmation

*Leader:*

Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is one true church,  
apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare:

*Leader and People:*

**We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power, and love,  
whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed  
to his children's good.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man,  
the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope,  
and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, as the divine presence in our lives,  
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ,  
and find strength and help in time of need.**

We believe that this faith should manifest itself  
in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord,  
to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.

† GLORIA PATRI, NO. 71  
Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM  
Alleluia

Brian Tervo

† DOXOLOGY, NO. 94  
Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## SENDING FORTH

† HYMN AT THE PARTING PROCESSION, NO. 571  
Go, Make of All Disciples

LANCASHIRE

† BENEDICTION

† CHORAL RESPONSE  
Amen

Peter Lutkin

† SILENT PRAYER

† CHIMING THE TRINITY

† VOLUNTARY  
Hornpipe

John S. Dixon

---

† Please rise in body or in spirit.

**Our service of worship has ended.  
Our worship through service now begins.**

As we leave this Sanctuary,  
let us greet one another in Christ's name.

## LEADING IN WORSHIP

<b>Crucifer</b>	Alyssa Jeff
<b>Acolytes</b>	William Lockwood, Braxton Slack
<b>Preacher</b>	Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai
<b>Liturgist</b>	Teresa Dunn, Randy Harry
<b>Organist</b>	John Richardson
<b>Director of Choirs</b>	Adam Ward
<b>Choirs</b>	Chancel, Providence Handbell Ringers
<b>Audio Visual</b>	Kevin Sherwood, Richard Dukes
<b>Ushers</b>	Richard Boner, Lloyd Von Cannon; Tim Berkey, David Gibson, Tim Harris, Charles Tupes

*Each Sunday we highlight Christian symbols (sometimes visible in our Sanctuary, sometimes meaningful to the season) to deepen our understanding and enhance the worship experience for everyone, young and old.*

Originally used as a source of light, altar candles became a symbol of Christ, the Light of the World. The two candles may also be seen to represent the dual nature of Christ, both divine and human.

## PARISH NOTES

**Welcome!** We are glad you are joining us today; your presence is important! To learn more about Providence UMC and its many missions and ministries for all ages, please visit [www.providencumc.org](http://www.providencumc.org) or contact Brandon Dirks, [bdirks@providencumc.org](mailto:bdirks@providencumc.org), 704.366.9378.

**The flowers on the altar** are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Curt Yarborough by Julie Higgins and Morgan Yarborough; and by David and Valerie Wilson in memory of our mothers, Lorraine Trofatter and Winifred Wilson, and in honor of Marion Wilson.

**This morning we welcome** Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai, resident bishop of the Iowa Conference as our guest preacher.

**The United Methodist General Conference** is meeting in Charlotte, NC through May 3.

**The Providence UMW General Meeting** will meet Tuesday, May 7, at 10:30 am in the Chapel. The Reverend Dr. Randy Harry will give an update on the decisions made at the United Methodist Church General Conference held in Charlotte. Lunch will be served after the meeting to those with reservations. To make reservations, please call 704-714-9382 before noon on May 3.

**The UMC Metro District is sponsoring a food drive** April 21 – May 5 to collect non-perishable food items for *Nourish Up*. Our church is a collection point.

On Friday, May 3 at 7:00 in the evening, our Sanctuary will be filled with the sounds of bells! The final concert of the 2023-2024 Season of our **David Bashor Memorial Organ Concert Series** will feature the **Queen City Ringers** under the direction of Laura Blauch. Come out to hear and SEE these talented ringers as they share a varied program that will feature the Robinson Family Pipe Organ played by our John Richardson and our Adam Ward. The concert is free and open to the public. Join us and bring your friends!

**An international mission trip** to Slovakia is planned for May 15 – 25. Donations may be made by check (*Memo Line: International Mission*) or via online giving.

**It is time to register for Adult Church Softball** for adults 16 years and up who enjoy friendly and sometimes challenging competition with neighboring churches. Games are on Mondays/Fridays starting June 3 – early August. Register now at [www.providencumc.org/upcoming](http://www.providencumc.org/upcoming) or via the link in *Providence This Week*.

**Youth Ministry** events: Mission Mondays, begins June 17, 9:00 am-noon; the Middle School Mission Trip, June 23 – 28; the High School Mission Trip, June 25 – 30; and the Garden City Beach Retreat, July 14 – 19. For more details, contact Olivia Tobin, [otobin@providencumc.org](mailto:otobin@providencumc.org).

**Vacation Bible School (VBS)** is planned for July 23 – 25. Registration will be begin in May. For more details, contact Rhonda Hermann, [rhermann@providencumc.org](mailto:rhermann@providencumc.org).

**The Attic Sale for Missions** is planned for August 23 – 24. Monies raised will benefit local and global missions of Providence UMC. More details and information on ways to help will be coming soon. Donations may be brought to the church August 8 – 19.



**Because of you, hearts, lives and futures are being shaped** within our church community and around the world. Thank you for the many gifts that support the missions and ministries of Providence United Methodist Church. Financial ways to give: during today's collection of tithes and offerings, bill-pay, mail, our website, text. Review our Giving Page, [www.providencumc.org/give](http://www.providencumc.org/give).



**Our Stephen Ministers** are ready to provide you support when needed, for as long as needed. Connect: contact Susan Wollin, 704-779-6209, or Jim Wollin, 704-724-7942. All calls are confidential.

**Notify the church** of an address/email change, illness, hospitalization, death, or a prayer request: please contact Bill Jeffries, [bjeffries@providencumc.org](mailto:bjeffries@providencumc.org).

### Our Mission

*To Be the Growing  
Body of Christ,  
Glorifying God and  
Serving Others*

### Our Ministers

*All of the People of Providence  
United Methodist Church*

### Our Ministry Staff

**The Reverend Dr.  
Randolph Harry**  
Senior Pastor

**The Reverend Dr.  
William Jeffries**  
Senior Associate Pastor  
of Congregational Care

**The Reverend  
Brandon Dirks**  
Minister of  
Missions & Outreach

**The Reverend Teresa Dunn**  
Minister of Discipleship  
& Adult Education

**The Reverend  
Rhonda Hermann**  
Minister of Children

**Olivia Tobin**  
Director of  
Youth Ministries

**Anna Smith**  
Director of Weekday School

**Adam Ward, DMA**  
Director of Music Ministries

**John Richardson**  
Organist & Music Associate

*For a full staff directory, visit  
[www.providencumc.org/staff](http://www.providencumc.org/staff).*

**Providence  
United Methodist Church**  
2810 Providence Road  
Charlotte, NC 28211  
704.366.2823  
[www.providencumc.org](http://www.providencumc.org)

*Loving God  
Worshipping Boldly  
Changing Lives*