

Providence
Presbyterian
Church

Eighth Sunday after

TRINITY

July 25, 2021

WELCOME!

To all who want to approach God in true worship,
To all who sin and know they need the Savior,
To all who desire to serve God and their neighbor,
To all who want the fellowship of Christians,
Providence opens wide its doors, and in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord, says, "Welcome!"

CENTERED ON THE GOSPEL

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America, Providence is committed to the historic Christian faith as it is confessed in the Apostles', Nicene, and Chalcedonian Creeds. With the Church of all ages, we confess faith in the Lord Jesus Christ who entered history for us, took upon Himself our nature, voluntarily offered Himself as our substitute upon the cross, and conquered sin and death by His resurrection.

The Gospel is the Good News that Christ has secured salvation for us. We are set free from sin and death through faith in Christ. In response, we seek to worship the Lord, to grow in faith and obedience to Him, and to serve Him and one another.

A more complete explanation of our faith is found in the Westminster Confession of Faith.

SCHEDULE

Sunday 9:00 am	Sunday School	Wednesday 7:30 am	Morning Prayer
10:00 am	Worship	10:00 am	Women's Bible Study (during school months)
11:30 am	Fellowship Luncheon (first Sun. of the month)	Thursday 7:00 pm	Evensong
6:00 pm	Evensong (except first Sun. of the month)	Saturday 8:00 am	Men's Book Study (as announced)

THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper or Eucharist (a word meaning gratitude and grace) is distributed to Christ's covenant congregation each Lord's Day. All baptized members of Christ's Church are invited to participate. Those who are not active members of a Christian Church are requested to meet with the elders prior to participation in the Eucharist.

NURSERY

Children of all ages are welcome to worship with us. A nursery is also available upstairs for infants and young children during the morning worship service. An enclosed "cry room," with windows and speakers, is located at the rear of the sanctuary.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Children have an incredible capacity for learning God's Word and the doctrines of our faith; this instruction is so important that at the baptism of a covenant child, the members of the congregation promise to "assist the parents in the Christian nurture of their child." The children's Sunday School department, an integral part of our church's ministry, exists to aid parents in the spiritual training of the covenant children that God has entrusted to them. Classes for ages two through adult begin at 9:00 am.

LISTENING AID DEVICES

These devices are available for use during our worship services by those with hearing impairments. If you would like to use this equipment, please speak with the greeter.

CONTACT US

Ministers	Alan McCall, Seth Skogen
Elders	Ted Dravis, Emil Nassif
Deacons	Tom Coughlin, Jonathan Myers, Eric Smith

Pastor McCall may be reached at 281-980-2522 (281-980-0250). If you have prayer requests or spiritual needs, please make them known to the Pastor. The elders would be happy to meet with all inquirers and to answer questions concerning the Christian faith, the sacraments, and Church membership.

THE DIVINE SERVICE

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

*Feel free to greet those around you prior to the prelude.
Once the music begins, please observe prayerful silence,
and be sure all cell phones and other electronic devices are silenced.*

Entrance Hymn #15 *(Standing)*

Greeting

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

Who made heaven and earth.

Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

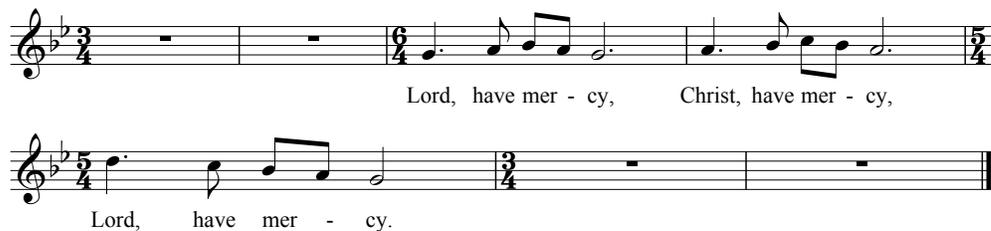
And let him return to the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

Confession and Forgiveness *(Kneeling)*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Almighty God,

You have lifted up our Lord Jesus from death into eternal life, and set Him over men and nations. We confess that we have not faithfully bowed before Him, or acknowledged His rule in our lives. We have gone along with the way of the world. Forgive us, O God, and lift us out of sin. Make us men and women who live to praise You, and to obey the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is King of the world and head of the church. Amen.



Assurance of Pardon *(Kneeling)*

Hear the good news! This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance: Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

As you have confessed your sins through faith in Him, God the Father assures you that you are forgiven.

Hymn of Praise *(Standing)*

8

Glo-ry to God in the high est, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther we wor - ship you, we give you

thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high est, and peace to his

peo - ple on earth. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are

seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. Glo - ry to God in the

high est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. For you a - lone are the

Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ.

with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God, the Fa - ther A - men A - men

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his

peo - ple on earth.

Prayer for Illumination *(Standing)*

First Lesson

Acts 24:1 – 25:12

¹ Now after five days Ananias the high priest came down with the elders and a certain orator *named* Tertullus. These gave evidence to the governor against Paul.

² And when he was called upon, Tertullus began his accusation, saying: “Seeing that through you we enjoy great peace, and prosperity is being brought to this nation by your foresight, ³ we accept *it* always and in all places, most noble Felix, with all thankfulness. ⁴ Nevertheless, not to be tedious to you any further, I beg you to hear, by your courtesy, a few words from us. ⁵ For we have found this man a plague, a creator of dissension among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes. ⁶ He even tried to profane the temple, and we seized him, and wanted to judge him according to our law. ⁷ But the commander Lysias came by and with great violence took *him* out of our hands, ⁸ commanding his accusers to come to you. By examining him yourself you may ascertain all these things of which we accuse him.” ⁹ And the Jews also assented, maintaining that these things were so.

¹⁰ Then Paul, after the governor had nodded to him to speak, answered: “Inasmuch as I know that you have been for many years a judge of this nation, I do the more cheerfully answer for myself, ¹¹ because you may ascertain that it is no more than twelve days since I went up to Jerusalem to worship. ¹² And they neither found me in the temple disputing with anyone nor inciting the crowd, either in the synagogues or in the city. ¹³ Nor can they prove the things of which they now accuse me. ¹⁴ But this I confess to you, that according to the Way which they call a sect, so I worship the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the Law and in the Prophets. ¹⁵ I have hope in God, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of *the* dead, both of *the* just and *the* unjust. ¹⁶ This *being* so, I myself always strive to have a conscience without offense toward God and men.

¹⁷ “Now after many years I came to bring alms and offerings to my nation, ¹⁸ in the midst of which some Jews from Asia found me purified in the temple, neither with a mob nor with tumult. ¹⁹ They ought to have been here before you to object if they had anything against me. ²⁰ Or else let those who are *here* themselves say if they found any wrongdoing in me while I stood before the council, ²¹ unless *it is* for this one statement which I cried out, standing among them, ‘Concerning the resurrection of the dead I am being judged by you this day.’ ”

²² But when Felix heard these things, having more accurate knowledge of *the* Way, he adjourned the proceedings and said, “When Lysias the commander comes down, I will make a decision on your case.” ²³ So he commanded the centurion to keep Paul and to let *him* have liberty, and told him not to forbid any of his friends to provide for or visit him.

²⁴ And after some days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, he sent for Paul and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. ²⁵ Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and answered, “Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you.” ²⁶ Meanwhile he also hoped that money would be given him by Paul, that he might release him. Therefore he sent for him more often and conversed with him.

²⁷ But after two years Porcius Festus succeeded Felix; and Felix, wanting to do the Jews a favor, left Paul bound.

¹ Now when Festus had come to the province, after three days he went up from Caesarea to Jerusalem. ² Then the high priest and the chief men of the Jews informed him against Paul; and they petitioned him, ³ asking a favor against him, that he would summon him to Jerusalem—while *they* lay in ambush along the road to kill him. ⁴ But Festus answered that Paul should be kept at Caesarea, and that he himself was going *there* shortly. ⁵ “Therefore,” he said, “let those who have authority among you go down with *me* and accuse this man, to see if there is any fault in him.”

⁶ And when he had remained among them more than ten days, he went down to Caesarea. And the next day, sitting on the judgment seat, he commanded Paul to be brought. ⁷ When he had come, the Jews who had come down from Jerusalem stood about and laid many serious complaints against Paul, which they could not prove, ⁸ while he answered for himself, “Neither against the law of the Jews, nor against the temple, nor against Caesar have I offended in anything at all.”

⁹ But Festus, wanting to do the Jews a favor, answered Paul and said, “Are you willing to go up to Jerusalem and there be judged before me concerning these things?”

¹⁰ So Paul said, “I stand at Caesar’s judgment seat, where I ought to be judged. To the Jews I have done no wrong, as you very well know. ¹¹ For if I am an offender, or have committed anything deserving of death, I do not object to dying; but if there is nothing in these things of which these men accuse me, no one can deliver me to them. I appeal to Caesar.”

¹² Then Festus, when he had conferred with the council, answered, “You have appealed to Caesar? To Caesar you shall go!”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 63



O God, thou art my God; Early will I seek thee.



My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh also long - eth af - ter thee,



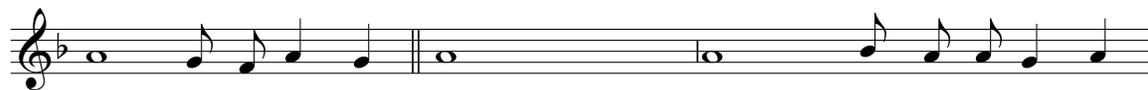
in a barren and dry land where no wa - ter is. Thus have I looked for thee in the sanc - tu - ar - y,



That I might behold thy pow'r and glo - ry. For thy loving-kindness is better than the life it - self;



my lips shall praise thee. As long as I live will I magnify thee in this man - ner,



and lift up my hands in thy Name. My soul shall be satisfied, even as it were with mar - row and fat - ness,



when my mouth praiseth thee with joy - ful lips. Have I not remembered thee in my bed,



and thought upon thee when I was wak - ing? Because thou hast been my help - er;



therefore under the shadow of thy wings will I re - joice. My soul hang - eth up - on thee;

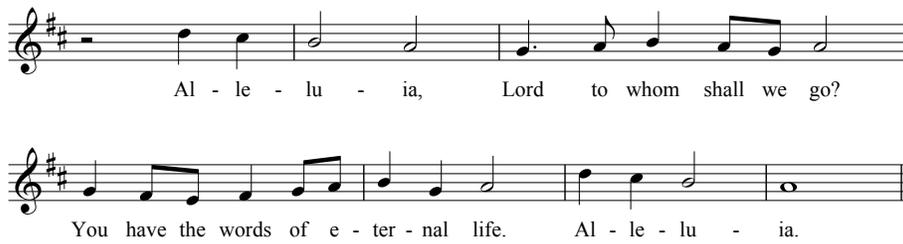


thy right hand hath up - hold - en me. These also that seek the hurt of my soul,

they shall go un - der the earth. Let them fall upon the edge of the sword,
 that they may be a por - tion for fox - es.
 But the King shall rejoice in God; all they also that swear by him shall be com - mend - ed;
 for the mouth of them that speak lies shall be stop - ped. Glory be to the Fath - er and to the Son,
 and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be,
 world with - out end. A - men.

Gospel Lesson (*Standing*)

The Gospel of our Lord according to Matthew 10:24-35



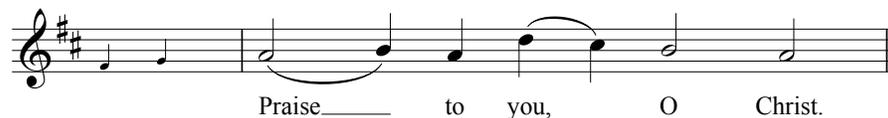
²⁴“A disciple is not above *his* teacher, nor a servant above his master. ²⁵It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more *will they call* those of his household! ²⁶Therefore do not fear them. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.

²⁷“Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops. ²⁸And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father’s will. ³⁰But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. ³³But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

³⁴“Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. ³⁵For I have come to ‘set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law’;

The Gospel of our Lord.



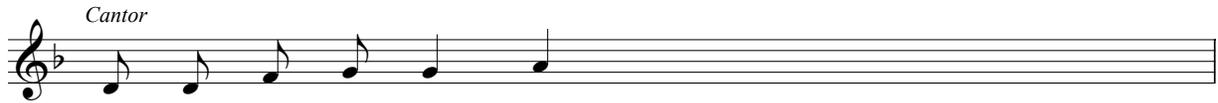
Sermon

Paul in the Court of the Gentiles

Pastor Alan

Affirmation of Faith *(Standing)*

Cantor



I be - lieve in one God,

Congregation



the Fa - ther Al - migh - ty, Ma - ker of heav'n and earth, And of all things vi - si - ble and in - vi - si - ble:



And in one Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly be - got - ten Son of God;



Be - got - ten of his Fa - ther be - fore all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Ve - ry God of ve - ry God;



Be - got - ten, not made; Be - ing of one sub - stance with the Fa - ther; By whom all things were made:



Who for us men and for our sal - va - tion came down from hea - ven,



And was in - car - nate by the Ho - ly Ghost of the Vir - gin, Ma - ry, And was made man:



And was cru - ci - fied al - so for us un - der Pon - tius Pi - late; He suf - fer'd and was bur - ied:



And the third day he rose a - gain ac - cord - ing to the Scrip - tures:



And as - cen - ded in - to hea - ven, And sit - teth on the right hand of the Fa - ther:



And he shall come a - gain, with glo - ry, to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose king - dom shall have no end.



And I be - lieve in the Ho - ly Ghost, The Lord, and Giv - er of Life, Who pro - ceed - eth from the Fa - ther and the Son;



Who with the Fa - ther and the Son to - geth - er is wor - shipped and glo - ri - fied; Who spake by the Proph - ets:



And I be - lieve one Cath - o - lic and Ap - os - tol - ic Church:



I ack - now - ledge one Bap - tism for the re - mis - sion of sins:



And I look for the Re - sur - rec - tion of the dead: And the Life of the world to come. A - men.

Prayers of the Church *(Standing)*

Silent Prayer,

Pastoral Prayer,

. . . Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our 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 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.

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings (*Standing*)

2
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless - ing.
Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hymns and praise of all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer.
Grace our - ta - ble with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Great Thanksgiving (*Standing*)

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We have lifted them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

It is right that we should at all times give thanks unto You, O Lord, our heavenly Father, for You did create the heavens and the earth and all that is in them; You did make man in Your own image and your tender mercies are over all Your works. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we worship and adore Your glorious name, evermore praising You—

4
Ho - ly, Ho - ly Ho - ly, Lord, God of
pow - er, God of might, 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, _____ Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night in which He was betrayed, took bread and gave thanks.

Prayer

When He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

In like manner also He took the cup after supper, and gave thanks.

Prayer

When He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Invitation and Participation

Come in the faith you have professed; come in joyous thanksgiving and partake of the feast which God has set for you; come to the table of our Lord.

*All baptized members of Christ's Church are invited to participate.
Please come forward to receive the bread and wine, and wait until all are served to partake.*

Let us eat and drink together from the food which God has graciously given to nourish and sustain us in the faith.

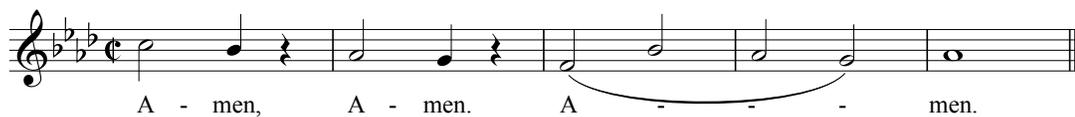
Prayer of Thanksgiving *(Standing)*

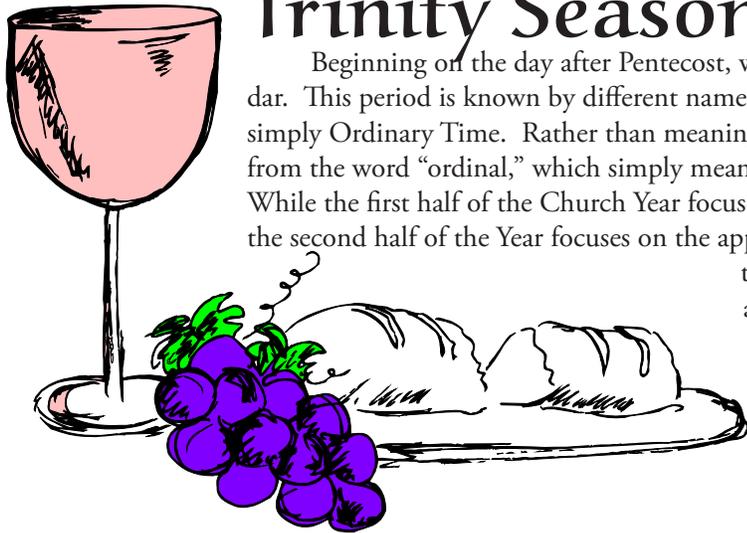
Lord now you let your ser-vant go in peace; your word has been ful - filled. My own_ eyes have
seen_ the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the sight of ev -'ry peo-ple; A light to re -
veal you to the na - tions and the glo-ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry to the
Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be -
gin-ning, is_ now_ and_ will_ be for - ev - er, A - men.

Hymn: #288 (*Standing*)

Benediction (*Standing*)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.





Trinity Season

Beginning on the day after Pentecost, we enter the final period of the Church calendar. This period is known by different names in various traditions: Trinity, Pentecost, or simply Ordinary Time. Rather than meaning “common” or “mundane,” this term comes from the word “ordinal,” which simply means counted time (1st Sunday after Trinity, etc.) While the first half of the Church Year focuses on the life and work of the incarnate Son, the second half of the Year focuses on the application of that work by the Spirit, and hence the teachings of Jesus (and of the whole Bible) are in view during this period.

Counted time after Pentecost always begins with Trinity Sunday (the first Sunday after Pentecost) and ends with the beginning of Advent.

Providence Presbyterian Church

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