



Providence
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
"Where Life and Faith Connect"

Sunday, May 12, 2024

WELCOME VISITORS AND FRIENDS

Please silence your cell phone before worship.

WELCOME FRIEND! We are glad you are here.

The Sanctuary is equipped with Assistive Hearing Technology.



Here are some ways to meet people and get involved:

- Look for someone with a name tag! Ask questions; we're here to help.
- Read this bulletin; see information displays in the Gathering Areas.

Pew Cards Please let us know you joined us today by signing a pew card and returning it to the outer aisle of the pew / row. (Bonus: You can learn the names of others in your row!)

WELCOMING CHILDREN

- We have a Quiet Room located just outside the Sanctuary if you would like a quieter space for your child.
- A fully staffed nursery for infants and toddlers up to 3 years old, in Room 200 at the top of the ramp, is available during worship services.
- Most Sundays, children up to 3rd grade begin in worship with their families. After the anthem, children 3 years old to 3rd grade are invited to Godly Play. Breakfast & Bible Study and 4-6 Sunday School begin at 10 am.

We are glad you are here today! If you have any questions, please see the ushers or ask to be introduced to Paige Bach, our Dir. of Next Gen Ministry.

FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL: The Providence Flower Guild invites you to make a donation for flowers on a Sunday that has special meaning for you. When you sign up, please indicate the purpose of your flower donation: to the glory of God, in honor or memory of a special person in your life, in celebration of a special occasion. This information will be printed in the bulletin on the Sunday of your choice. The suggested donation for flowers is \$40. You may pay by check (please write "Flower Guild" on your check's memo line) or online (select the Flower Guild fund). Send your request to office@providencechurch.org at least one full week before your chosen Sunday.



The Presbyterian Church (USA) has officially recognized Providence as an Earth Care Congregation. To learn more about this initiative visit <https://www.providencechurch.org/earth-care-congregation/>



Gathering

PRELUDE All Things Bright and Beautiful –arr. Robert Powell
Jane Kaye, organ

CHIMES

WELCOME Rev. Matt Baker
Moment for the Mission of the Church: Glass Slipper Homestretch

INTROIT Holy, Holy, Holy –arr. Paul Sjolund
The Sanctuary Choir Men

CALL TO WORSHIP Laura Braceland

One: You have called people throughout history to rise to the occasion and speak your truth.

All: We rejoice with the voices of those who have gone before us.

One: You have given special messages of salvation to women of valor throughout our story.

All: We thank you for Miriam, Esther, Rahab, and Mary.

One: You are guiding us into a new story where we are called to speak truth to power and defend the powerless.

All: Gather us like a mother hen gathers her chicks and empower us to face the days to come.

One: Be present in our worship.

All: Be present in our story.

***HYMN #307** (Purple) God of Grace and God of Glory CWM RHONDDA
(Lyrics: See page 7.)

CALL TO CONFESSION Laura Braceland

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all that is seen and unseen, you established the heavens and the earth, and you promise to make all things new. Yet, we doubt your power and presence. We fear doing what is right when it might cost us something. We tremble before the principalities and powers of this world. We shy away from sharing the message of hope that we know to be true. Give us voices like Esther's, that we might be bold to proclaim your presence in the darkest of places. Give us courage to be ambassadors of your kingdom, which uplifts the lowly and forgotten. Give us patience and

hope that all will be made well. Show us grace that we may extend grace to others. We humbly pray, Amen.

(Time for silent and personal confession.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.

***RESPONSE** (Purple #240)

ALLELUIA NO. 1

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His name.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Word

FIRST READING

Proverbs 31:10-31
(Text: See page 9.)

Laura Braceland

ANTHEM

I Will Be a Child of Peace
The Sanctuary Choir Men
(Lyrics: See page 7.)

–arr. E. Hagenberg

(Children are invited to Godly Play.)

SECOND READING

Esther
(Text: See page 10.)

Rev. Matt Baker

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Eshet Chayil”
Rev. Matt Baker

***HYMN #201**

A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING
(Lyrics: See page 8.)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (unison)
from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

Rev. Rodgers

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love, God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we

rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God’s commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God’s condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Rodgers

The Lord’s Prayer (debts)

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Rev. Baker

(Please place your tithes & offerings in the basket at the rear of the Sanctuary.)

***DOXOLOGY** (Purple #608)

PRAISE GOD

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 praise Christ, all people here below;
 praise Holy Spirit evermore;
 praise Triune God, whom we adore.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Rev. Baker

Sending

***HYMN #547** (Purple) Go, My Children, with My Blessing
 (Lyrics: See page 9.)

AR HYD Y NOS

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Rodgers

(Please remain standing unless otherwise directed.)

***RESPONSE**

Three-Fold Amen
 The Sanctuary Choir Men

–David Haas

POSTLUDE

Fantasia in A
 Jane Kaye, piano

–Wayne Wold

May 12, 2024

GATHERING MUSIC

*River of Life

Mac Powell

*Rescuer

Rend Collective

WELCOME

Moment for the Mission of the Church: Glass Slipper

Homestretch

*Goodness of God

Bethel Music

PRAYER OF CONFESSION / ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PASSING OF THE PEACE

FIRST READING

Proverbs 31:10-31

(Children are invited to Godly Play.)

SECOND READING

Esther

SERMON

“Eshet Chayil”

Rev. Matt Baker

*Yet Not I But Christ in Me

CityAlight

PRAYERS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

(Please place your tithes & offerings in the basket at the rear of Taylor Hall.)

*Deep (Way Down)

Selah

*BENEDICTION

**Please stand.*

#307 God of Grace and God of Glory CWM RHONDDA

1 God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

3 Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

4 Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

ANTHEM I Will Be a Child of Peace –arr. Elaine Hagenberg

O Holy Father I will be a child of peace
and purity for well I know Thy hand will bless
the seeker after righteousness.

#201 A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

1 A prophet-woman broke a jar,
by Love's divine appointing.
With rare perfume she filled the room,
presiding and anointing.
A prophet-woman broke a jar,
the sneers of scorn defying.
With rare perfume she filled the room,
preparing Christ for dying.

2 A faithful woman left a tomb
by Love's divine commission.
She saw; she heard; she preached the Word,
arising from submission.
A faithful woman left a tomb,
with resurrection gospel.
She saw; she heard; she preached the Word,
apostle to apostles.

3 Though woman-wisdom, woman-truth,
for centuries were hidden,
unsung, unwritten, and unheard,
derided and forbidden,
the Spirit's breath, the Spirit's fire,
on free and slave descending,
can tumble our dividing walls,
our shame and sadness mending.

4 The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls,
by Love's divine ordaining,
the friends we need, to serve and lead,
their powers and gifts unchaining.
The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls,
from women, men and children,
the friends we need, to serve and lead.
Rejoice, and make them welcome!

547 Go, My Children, with My Blessing AR HYD Y NOS

1 "Go, my children, with my blessing,
never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you,
you are my own.

In my love's baptismal river

I have made you mine forever.

Go, my children, with my blessing,
you are my own."

2 "Go, my children, sins forgiven,
at peace and pure.

Here you learned how much I love you,
what I can cure.

Here you heard my dear Son's story;
here you touched him, saw his glory.

Go, my children, sins forgiven,
at peace and pure."

3 "Go, my children, fed and nourished,
closer to me.

Grow in love and love by serving,
joyful and free.

Here my Spirit's power filled you;
here my tender comfort stilled you.

Go, my children, fed and nourished,
joyful and free."

Proverbs 31:10-31, NRSVUE

Ode to a Woman of Strength

¹⁰ A woman of strength who can find?

She is far more precious than jewels.

¹¹ The heart of her husband trusts in her,

and he will have no lack of gain.

¹² She does him good and not harm

all the days of her life.

¹³ She seeks wool and flax

and works with willing hands.

- ¹⁴ She is like the ships of the merchant;
she brings her food from far away.
- ¹⁵ She rises while it is still night
and provides food for her household
and tasks for her female servants.
- ¹⁶ She considers a field and buys it;
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.
- ¹⁷ She girds herself with strength
and makes her arms strong.
- ¹⁸ She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.
Her lamp does not go out at night.
- ¹⁹ She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her hands hold the spindle.
- ²⁰ She opens her hand to the poor
and reaches out her hands to the needy.
- ²¹ She is not afraid for her household when it snows,
for all her household are clothed in crimson.
- ²² She makes herself coverings;
her clothing is fine linen and purple.
- ²³ Her husband is known in the city gates,
taking his seat among the elders of the land.
- ²⁴ She makes linen garments and sells them;
she supplies the merchant with sashes.
- ²⁵ Strength and dignity are her clothing,
and she laughs at the time to come.
- ²⁶ She opens her mouth with wisdom,
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
- ²⁷ She looks well to the ways of her household
and does not eat the bread of idleness.
- ²⁸ Her children rise up and call her happy;
her husband, too, and he praises her:
- ²⁹ "Many women have done excellently,
but you surpass them all."
- ³⁰ Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain,
but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.
- ³¹ Give her a share in the fruit of her hands,
and let her works praise her in the city gates.

Esther

Please listen for the word of God.

Announcements

LAY READER: Laura Braceland

WELCOMING DEACONS: 10–Ann Roman; 11:15–George Minde

A/V & Live Streaming: 10–Charlie Brewer; 11:15–Grace & Danny Hagner

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL are to the glory of God.

Children’s Choir will not meet today; it will resume May 19.

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WEBSTER SPRINGS MISSION TRIP **Joining together people from all walks of life as we work and serve in the community of Webster Springs, WV.** This mission trip will take place **June 22-29, 2024.** This trip is intentionally intergenerational – we encourage families to come and serve together. REGISTER HERE: <https://tinyurl.com/ymh5xmvm>, or scan the QR code. POC: Kate Zander at kathryn.e.zander@gmail.com.



REGISTRATION EXTENDED TO MAY 19.

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Crossing Paths

1. Were you born between the Apollo 11 and Mars Pathfinder missions?
2. Do you have children from babies to high schoolers?
3. Are you single or married, without children, and can answer yes to the first question?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, you are invited to be a part of **Crossing Paths / 30-49ers!**

Upcoming:

Cookout! Coed! Bring your kids! **May 19, 4:30-7:00** at Kyle & Jim Durbin’s house. (We will carpool the youth to PYF!)

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SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS DUE ON MONDAYS!

All announcements submitted to Kathy **by 9:00 am on Monday** will appear in Providence communications (bulletin, weekly emails, hallway monitors, etc.) for the Sunday immediately following (unless different timing is requested). Items received after that deadline will begin to run for the Sunday of the following week. For example: the deadline for all communications for **May 19 is Monday, May 13.** (There is a different deadline for worship information and the prayer list.)

Providence Readers will meet on **May 19th**, from 3:00 - 4:30 pm in the Parlor to discuss *Tom Lake* by Ann Patchett. This book is a meditation on youthful love, married love, and the lives parents have led before their children were born. Both hopeful and elegiac, it explores what it means to be happy even when the world is falling apart. During the summer break, please read *The Innocents Abroad* by Mark Twain to discuss in September. Providence Readers meets the third Sunday of most months and is open to anyone interested in attending. Please feel free to stop by whenever the book or topic interests you. For more information, please contact Paula Rogers at 703-495-9144 or par9144@msn.com.

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ADULT MINISTRY BIBLE STUDY – Second Corinthians: Living Letters in Christ Please join us in this intriguing Bible study of Paul’s second letter to the church at Corinth. The class will be held on Monday evenings at 7:30 in the church Parlor, and also via Zoom, through May. David Kepley and Ray Monroe will lead us through this insightful letter. Questions: David Kepley (kepley.david@gmail.com)

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PROVIDENCE IS AN EARTH CARE CONGREGATION!

NexTrex Recycling Challenge

We continue to collect reusable shopping bags in support of Falls Church City High School as they participate in the **NexTrex Challenge**, sponsored by Trex, a company which makes composite wood products. Participating schools can win cash prizes, as well as benches made by Trex from recycled materials. Bring your plastic items from the list below to church each week and deposit them in the marked container in the coat closet. All items must be CLEAN and DRY. **Collection ends on Sunday, May 26.**

Mailers (Amazon included) / Grocery bags / Bubble wrap / Ziploc bags / Bread bags / Newspaper sleeves

Questions? Contact Susanne Fitch at swunner@yahoo.com.

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Mission Committee's Glass Slipper* presentation: Homestretch.

The mission of Homestretch is to empower homeless families with children to secure permanent housing and to attain the skills, knowledge and hope they need to achieve lasting self-sufficiency. Homestretch provides housing and a wide array of services to fifty families at a time, including job placement, education and training assistance, therapy, housing location, credit counseling, debt reduction and savings assistance, and many services for children, including a licensed preschool. Due to its individualized approach for meeting the needs of each family, and its evidence-based outcomes, Homestretch has earned a reputation as one of the most successful programs for the homeless in the nation. Homestretch is a partner in the Glebe View project of Fairfax Presbyterian that Providence has supported.

Types of hands-on opportunities to support the organization:

- » Tutoring of children or adults
- » Supply drives for families (household goods, cleaning supplies, hygiene supplies, gift cards for transportation, etc.)
- » Staging a home for an incoming family
- » Reading to children or engage in activities with children in the preschool
- » Preparing meals for families for evening Life Skills classes

For most activities, a volunteer should be 18 or older, but some activities can be performed by both adults and children (like supply drives, or staging a home).

Some volunteer activities can be done once and for just a few hours, while others, like tutoring, should be more regular and for a longer period of time to be effective.

Organization Point of Contact: Julie Crain

E-Mail: jcrain@homestretchva.org

Phone: 703-237-2035

Organization website address: www.homestretchva.org



***(Opportunities for Service)**



GRADUATION SUNDAY

On Sunday, May 26, we will celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2024 graduates in our church family during both worship services. Please let us know: school name, degree (if applicable), and what their future plans might be. Send Information to Kathy Knorr at office@providencechurch.org or Paige Bach at paige@providencechurch.org **by Friday, May 17**. Pictures are welcome. We look forward to celebrating our graduates!



Camp Firelight
A SUMMER CAMP Psalms 56:3
ADVENTURE WITH GOD

VACATION BIBLE CAMP

WHENEVER I'M AFRAID, I PUT MY TRUST IN YOU.
PSALM 56:3

JUNE 24-28, 2024
9AM - 12:30PM
Age 4 - 6th grade

\$25
per child

PLEASE REGISTER BY JUNE 3
Scan the QR Code or use this URL: bit.ly/3y2RKZW



HOMELAND



SYMPHONIC CHORUS

U.S. NAVY BAND SEA CHANTERS

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SUNDAY, MAY 19, 4:00PM

OUTSIDE GROUP EVENT: Fairfax Choral Society invites everyone to
Homeland: Free Concert of Patriotic Favorites

United States Navy Sea Changers and Symphonic Chorus
Sunday, May 19, 2024, 4:00 pm, Providence

(Another example of how our church space is used. For other FCS events see the
Community Resources bulletin board across from the Food Pantry.)

Calendar

SUNDAY SCHEDULE (most Sundays)

(Worship is live streamed through Providence's YouTube channel.)

Traditional service at 10 am, The Sanctuary, with Choir

Contemporary service at 11:15, Taylor Hall, with Band

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (every Sunday, except First Sunday)

Breakfast & Bible Study, 10 am: Youth Lounge (Room 201)

4-6 Sunday School, 10 am, Rm 205; Godly Play, 10 & 11:15 am, Rm 202

Children's Choir-11 am, Parlor

Sunday, May 12

Children's Choir will not meet today; it will resume May 19.

Monday, May 13

Adult Min Bible Study-7:30 pm, Parlor

Tuesday, May 14

CL&F Yoga-10:30 am & 4:00 pm, Mission Hall

Wednesday, May 15

Food Pantry open-12-2 pm

CL&F Yoga- 4:30 pm, Mission Hall

Board of Deacons meeting-7:30 pm, Parlor

Thursday, May 16 (music rehearsals)

Providence Singers-6:45 pm, Parlor

Worship Band-7:00 pm, Taylor Hall

Sanctuary Choir-8:00 pm, Sanctuary

Friday, May 17

Memorial Service: Lynne Hutchison-10:00 am, Taylor Hall

Sunday, May 19

Children's Choir resumes at 11:00 in the Parlor.

Providence Readers-3:00 pm, Parlor

Crossing Paths Cookout-4:30 pm, Jim & Kyle Durbin's home

PYF-5:30 pm, Youth Lounge

Core office hours: Monday through Friday, 10 am to 2 pm.

It is church practice to keep the doors locked most of the time, even during core hours.

Please ring the doorbell for assistance or make arrangements ahead of your visit.

Subject to change ~ for current information, go to
<https://www.providencechurch.org/events/calander/>



Providence Prayer Ministries

Many of us have experienced the power of prayer. In times of crisis, change, loss, fear – and joy – it is encouraging to have the prayerful support and gratitude of a body of friends and believers. Here are two ways to offer prayers for friends and loved ones:

Bulletin Prayer List: Each week we print the names of those requested by loved ones to be included on our Prayer List (see back inside cover). Please contact the church office with your prayer request. Requests for prayer will be listed in the bulletin for up to three weeks. If you wish to continue prayers, simply notify us. Those on the deployed list remain until they return from their duties.

Prayer Blossom: For the times when you need the prayers of others, let the Providence “Prayer Blossom” take care of you. When you fill out a Prayer Request card or send an email request to the church office, a member of the Pastoral Care Committee will write a prayer specifically for you; that prayer will be sent through our Prayer Blossom email chain to the committee along with a few other members of our congregation. Prayer Request cards can be found in the pew racks in the Sanctuary and at the back of the Taylor Hall worship space. Our Prayer Blossom email chain is open to all members of our congregation; please notify the church office if you would like to be added to the list.

Prayer List ~ May 12, 2024

Bereavement

JoAnn Hathaway, on the death of her husband, **Jim Hathaway**

Roger & Elly Brtva, on the death of his mother, **Eleonore Brtva**

Robin Wilbur, cousin of Kyle Durbin, on the death of her husband, **Curt Wilbur**

Recovering from Surgery

***Ed Knorr**

***Peter McClintock**

Undergoing Treatment

Nancy Jones

Richard Mudd

Glynda Johnson, friend of Niki Gamble

Mitzi Anh Kweder,
childhood friend of Kate Zander

Faith Perkins & Katie Pulsifer,
16-year-old friends of Kate Zander

Kara Owen,
family friend of Rhoda Waters

Guy Goodwin,
USCG (Ret.), friend of Rick Witton

Virginia Holian,
friend of David & Brenda Kepley

Jennifer Porter, cousin of David Kepley

Mary C. Davis Bishop,
daughter of Martha Lamb

Continuing Care

Martyn Cusworth,
brother-in-law of Lesley McKeever

Zachary Hasley,
friend of Toni Medwedeff

Michiyo Laing,
sister of Chikako Hadeisho

Lucille Daly,
cousin of Paul Krumhaus

Rick Hofscher, nephew of
David & Kathi Ranowsky

Mike Gelb,
friend of David Kepley

Janet Knorr,
mother of Ed Knorr

Jim Saros,
brother of Niki Gamble

Elsie Hamilton,
mother of Chloe Hamilton Sapp

Karen Renner,
sister of Doris Gearing

Nancy Evans,
sister of Sara Bennett

Ongoing Concern

The Ardan Family, who live in Lviv, Ukr.;
extended family of Elly (Ardan) Brtva

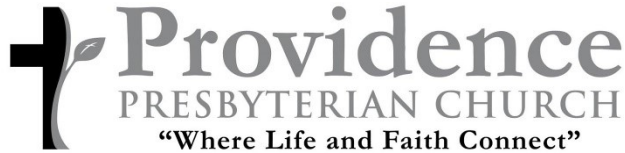
***New to Prayer List / Change in listing**

Help us keep the Prayer List up to date:

Please contact the church office when anyone's status has changed.

If you wish to add a loved one to our prayer list,

contact the church office at office@providencechurch.org.



9019 Little River Turnpike
Fairfax, VA 22031
www.providencechurch.org
703-978-3934

PROGRAM STAFF

Rev. Matt Baker, Pastor / Head of Staff x1003, RevMatt@providencechurch.org
Rev. Mary Rodgers, Associate Pastor x1004, RevMary@providencechurch.org
Paige Bach, Director of Next Generation Ministry x1005, Paige@providencechurch.org

MUSIC STAFF

Gene Kaye, Director of Traditional Music Ministry /
Director of Providence Singers DirMus@providencechurch.org
Jane Kaye, Organist / Pianist Organist@providencechurch.org
Geoff Pemble, Worship Band Leader
Andrew Jonas, Children's Choir Director

ADMIN STAFF

Kyle Durbin, Financial Manager x1007, BusMgr@providencechurch.org
Kathy Knorr, Communications Coordinator x1001, Office@providencechurch.org
Mark Miller, Facilities Manager x1006, Facilities@providencechurch.org

CHURCH HOURS

On Sundays, we are open from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Core office hours:

Monday through Friday, 10 am to 2 pm.

It is church policy to keep the doors locked
most of the time, even during core hours.
Please ring the doorbell for assistance.



TO GIVE:
Scan (above) or
text Giveppc to 73256