

In name, Providence Forge Presbyterian Church has existed since 1934, but the congregation traces its history back to Colonial America. Charles Jeffreys Smith, a Presbyterian missionary, established the village of Providence. And with a congregation that he brought with him, a thriving village existed by the time of the American Revolution.

After the Revolution, the congregation used St. Peter's Church, along with local Episcopalians for Sunday worship. In 1855, the Presbyterians decided it was time to have a church of their own and they purchased property just north of Providence Forge and established Olivet Church. Scarred by the War Between the States, Olivet survived as an active church until 1934.

Attendance at Olivet waned, partially due to the poor road conditions, but also due to the use of Townsend's Chapel, located in the Forge. Another chapel, Windsor Shades, also held Presbyterian services. Together with Bethany (in Charles City), these three small churches shared a minister until 1946 when Windsor Shades was dissolved. Later, in 1953, the union between Bethany and PFPC was dissolved.

PFPC has been served by six full time ministers: Lawrence Avent (1953-57), Vernon Inman (1957-1970), William Cox (1970-1976), Hall Wallof (1976-1998), Phillip Jacobs (1999-2004) and Stephen Hodges (2005-2019).

The Session serves as the governing body of PFPC. It oversees all phases of the church's life, including Finances, Christian Education, and Outreach, to mention a few.

The building has under gone many changes over the years. It began as a small clapboard building, with no bathroom facilities. Additions were made as the congregation grew, to include restrooms, a kitchen, a library and various classrooms and offices. The final addition to the church occurred in 1961 when the brick educational wing was built. The history of PFPC can be seen throughout the building in the form of donations to the church. But the heart of the church is the congregation.

Martha Martin Daugherty, 2011

welcome



**Providence Forge
Presbyterian Church**

To further God's Kingdom on Earth, one soul at a time.

**PROVIDENCE FORGE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 29, 2022**

PRELUDE Melody Raef

WELCOME Shannon Richard

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 31:1-3, 15-16

Leader: In you, O Lord, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put in shame; in your righteousness deliver me.

People: Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.

Leader: You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake, lead me and guide me.

People: My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

All: Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

***SONG OF PRAISE** #376 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)** *Book of Common Worship*
Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved you with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. Lord, you are full of compassion and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy; there is always forgiveness with you! Restore to us the joy of your salvation; bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills, and rest to our souls. Speak to each of us, and let your word abide with us until it has wrought in us your holy will. Amen.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

***RESPONSE TO GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE** #579 Gloria Patri

***THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you ... And also with you.

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY

While we "Pass the Peace" please consider filling out a "Welcome to our Church Family" card. Drop your card in the offering plate.

TIME FOR CHILDREN Genesis 9: 13 (ERV)

"I am putting a rainbow in the clouds as proof of the agreement between me and the earth."

COLLECTION FOR 5 CENTS A MEAL

PRESBYTERIAN MINUTE

READING from the PSALMS Psalm 31:1-5; 15-16
Pew Bible pp 439-440

READING from the NEW TESTAMENT John 14:1-14
Pew Bible p 877

ANTHEM

SERMON "Whatever You Ask" Rev. Dr. Cindy Kissel-Ito

***CONFESSION OF FAITH** Please see additional insert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and 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 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.

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

***SONG OF RESPONSE** #339 Be Thou My Vision

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Melody Raef



Please wear red on Sunday, June 5, to celebrate the Day of Pentecost. On this day, we remember the gift of the Holy Spirit descending in a mighty rush of wind and flame to inspire and empower the church's mission and ministry in the world.