

PROVIDENCE FORGE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter  
May 10, 2020

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Susan Blaine

**Leader:** The Spirit is coming to bless us all with a new song: Let our joy be complete.

**People: Gifts for the good of all, poured out on all to teach us a new song: Love one another.**

**Leader:** Strangers and neighbors, foreigners and family will join in the new song: No longer servants but friends.

**People: Come, let our worship make a joyful noise, Rejoicing in the friendship of God.**

**PRAYER OF PRAISE**

Rev. Susan Blaine

Beloved One, all the ends of the earth marvel at your deeds of power. We feel your presence as growth returning to the countryside. We rejoice as we remember your faithfulness and steadfast love revealed in the risen Christ. Surround us with that faithfulness and steadfast love. Fill us with generosity and courage so that we may be called your friends and go forth to befriend your world. In Jesus' name. Amen

**SONG OF PRAISE #543 Abide with Me Melody Raef**

*Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;  
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;  
Change and decay in all around I see—  
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.*

*I need Thy presence every passing hour;  
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?  
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.*

*I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness;  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.*

*Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies;  
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.*

**SCRIPTURE - John 15:9-12 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

<sup>9</sup> As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup> "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

**ANTHEM – Precious Lord**

**Tom & Lisa Ballou**

**SERMON**

**Rev. Dr. Cindy Kissel-Ito**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**FOR CHILDREN**

**Psalm 23: 2-3a**

*"He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters, he restores my soul."*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

PCUSA website

Almighty, all-merciful God, through Christ Jesus you have taught us to love one another, to love our neighbors as ourselves, and even to love our enemies.

In times of fear, let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, so that we may not be overcome with evil but overcome evil with good. Help us to see each person in light of the love and grace you have shown us in Christ. Put away fear and anxiety

and awaken us to the dawning of your new creation. Establish among us a future where peace reigns, justice is done with mercy, and all are reconciled. We ask these things in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**OFFERING -- Ayars Lore**

Opportunities are Easytithe <https://app.easytithe.com/App/Giving/pfpc>  
C&F Bank for PFPC and mail to P.O. Box 239

**SONG OF RESPONSE - #323 Loving Spirit**

**Melody Raef**

*Loving Spirit, Holy Spirit, You have chosen me to be;  
You have drawn me to Your wonder, You have set Your sign on me.*

*Like a mother You enfold me, Hold my life within Your own,  
Feed me with Your very body, Form me of Your flesh and bone.*

*Like a father You protect me, Teach me the discerning eye,  
Hoist me up upon Your shoulder, Let me see the world from high.*

*Loving Spirit, in Your closeness I am known and held and blest:  
In Your promise is my comfort, In Your presence I may rest.*

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTON** Ephesians 3:16-20

*"I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit,<sup>17</sup> and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love.<sup>18</sup> I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth,<sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.<sup>20</sup> Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine,<sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever."*

**PEOPLE: PEACE BE WITH YOU!**