

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 overgone 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, 2011

welcome



 **Providence Forge
Presbyterian Church**

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

**PROVIDENCE FORGE
PREBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sunday, May 1, 2022**

Third Sunday of Easter & Holy Communion

PRELUDE Melody Raef

WELCOME Johanna Davis

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 90:1-2;17

Leader: Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

People: Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world,

Leader: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

All: May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; Establish the work of our hands for us- yes, establish the work of our hands.

***SONG OF PRAISE** #118 *The Day of Resurrection!*

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

PCUSA, Book of Common Worship

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. 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

Luke 24:31 (NRSV)

Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight.

PRESBYTERIAN MINUTE

READING from the OLD TESTAMENT

**Psalm 90;
Pew Bible pp 476-477**

READING from the GOSPELS

**Luke 24:13-35;
Pew Bible 860-865**

ANTHEM

SERMON "Jesus Made Known to Us" Rev. Dr. Cindy Kissel-Ito

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

SONG OF PREPARATION #319 Spirit

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Sharing the Elements

Prayer

***SONG OF RESPONSE** #466 *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Melody Raef

