

PROVIDENCE FORGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
P.O. Box 239, 9310 Townsend Road
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CHURCH STAFF

Covenant Pastor	Rev. Dr. Cindy Kissel-Ito
Administrative Assistant	Kristel Lamp
Organist & Choir Director	Melody Raef
Sunshine Nursery School Director	Cathy Davis
Church Treasurer	Paul Robinson

THE SESSION 2023

Clerk of Session

Ginny Taylor 2021-2023

Deputy Clerk

Ayars Lore 2022-2024

Administration

Jamie Gray 2022-2024

Ayars Lore 2022-2024

Nathan Richards 2023-2025

Christian Life

Leigh Quick 2021-2023

Patricia Robinson 2021-2023

Jo White 2022-2024

Community & Mission

Paul Davis 2023-2025

Davis Gammon 2021-2023



*That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection,
and the fellowship of his sufferings. PHILIPPIANS 3:10*

PROVIDENCE FORGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

First Sunday in Lent

February 26, 2023

**All who are able are invited to stand*

Worship Leaders: Ainsley Allen, Ilyssa Allen, Olivia Davis, Claire Richards, Paige Richards, Will Richards, Grady Van Dyke

PRELUDE Melody Raef

WELCOME

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION Melody Raef

LENTEN READING Nathan & Laura Richards

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: This is the season of Lent, a season to remember the sufferings of Jesus Christ.

People: A season to remember that to follow Christ is to take up our crosses and to be servants of all.

Leader: A season to remember Jesus' question, "Are you able to drink the cup that I drink?"

People: A season to ask ourselves how we, like Simon the Cyrene, might help to bear the cross.

Leader: A season to ask ourselves how we, like the crowd, misunderstand the witness of Jesus.

People: A season to ask ourselves how we, like Peter, are afraid and turn away.

Leader: A season to ask ourselves what we, like the woman with the fine ointment, have to offer.

People: A season to give sacrificially to others, following the example of Jesus Christ.

Leader: A season to watch and wait with Christ, that we may have courage in the hour of testing.

People: A season to proclaim with Mary Magdalene that Christ is not dead, but alive! Let us worship God with songs of praise!

***SONG OF PRAISE** #361 *How Firm A Foundation*

***CALL TO CONFESSION** *Psalm 139: 23, 24*

Hear the words of the writer of Psalms. "Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts! See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Let us confess our sins together.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Most merciful God, whose son Jesus Christ was tempted in every way, yet was without sin, we confess before you our own sinfulness. We have hungered after that which does not satisfy. We have not always

walked in your way, nor sought what is good. We have doubted your power to protect us. Forgive our lack of faith. Have mercy on our weakness. Restore in us such trust and love that we may walk in your ways and delight in doing your will. In mercy renew us and bring us to life, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

***WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

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

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

TIME FOR CHILDREN

John 13:34

Jesus said, "I give you a new command: Love one another. You must love each other as I loved you."

5 CENTS A MEAL

PRESBYTERIAN MINUTE

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Psalm 32:1-5; Pew Bible p. 440*

GOSPEL READING *Matthew 16:13-20; Pew Bible p. 798*

ANTHEM

SERMON "The Wilderness" Rev. Dr. Cindy Kissel-Ito

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *Apostles' Creed (Traditional); Hymnal p. 14*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Traditional) Hymnal p. 16

WE OFFER OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

#592 Doxology

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***SONG OF SENDING** #81 *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Melody Raef

