Futhering God's Kingdom on earth, one soul at a time

PROVIDENCE FORGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
9310 Townsend Road, Providence Forge, VA 23140 | (804) 966–2079 | pfpc.org
Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday 9:00 – 2:00

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Crystal Varner Parker **|** pastor@pfpc.org **|** 804-420-2287
Please contact with all pastoral concerns, prayer requests, and information about membership.
Administrative Assistant Erin Begonia **|** office@pfpc.org **|** 804-966–2079
Please contact with any news for the insert or events for the church calendar.
Organist & Choir Director Melody Raef
Sunshine Nursery School Director Laura Richards
Church Treasurer Paul Robinson

THE SESSION OF PFPC

Clerk of Session: Chuck Hasbrouck (2026)
Admin Pillar: Pete Adamson (2026), Lisa Ballou (2027), Kenny Evans (2027)
Christian Life Pillar: Patty Robinson (2026), Paul Davis (2028), Davis Gammon (2026)
Community & Missions Pillar: Marcia Gardy (2028), Hayden VanDyke (2027), Jo White (2026)

LET US KNOW THAT YOU ARE HERE TODAY

Scan the QR code or go to https://bit.ly/PFPCtoday
to let us know that you are here today, update your contact information, submit a pastoral concern, or to get involved in a ministry of PFPC.

CONNECT WITH US & STAY IN THE LOOP

To subscribe to our newsletter, please scan the QR code or go to:
https://bit.ly/PFPCnews

@pfpres @providenceforgechurch

Unless otherwise noted, worship liturgy is from the Book of Common Worship

Sunday, August 9, 2026
Summer Series: Bible Beach Reads

We say the words printed in **bold** together. | ✠ Indicates that we stand as we are able.

Welcome Rev. Crystal Varner Parker

Gathering to Worship
If you are new to PFPC or new to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), welcome!

Reformed worship is centered around the Word, both the Word of scripture and Christ as the Word Incarnate. In worship we gather around the Word, engage with the Word, and respond to the Word.

✠ **Call to Worship**
Let us hear what the Lord will speak.
God will speak peace to the faithful.
Taste and see that the Lord is Good.
Happy are those who trust in God.
Faith is the assurance of things hoped for,
the conviction of things not seen.

✠ **Hymn of Praise** GTG #375 Shall We Gather at the River

1. Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod;
with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?
Refrain:
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.
2. On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,
We will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day.
[Refrain]
3. Ere we reach the shining river, lay we ev'ry burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown.
[Refrain]
4. Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease; soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.
[Refrain]

Confessing to God's Mercy
In the presence of a holy God, we turn from communal praise to corporate confession, established on the promise of God's grace, is one of the hallmarks of the Reformed tradition. Being aware of the ways we fall short of God's best hopes for us, we turn to God in prayer, asking for forgiveness.

✠ **Call to Confession**

✠ **Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love. We have not loved our neighbors, and we have refused to hear the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Passing of the Peace is one of the most ancient responses in worship. Let us share this peace with our neighbors.

✠ **Declaration of Forgiveness**

Proclaiming God's Word

This prayer calls on the Holy Spirit to empower the reading, understanding, Proclaiming, and living of God's word. This sense of utter reliance on the Spirit is an important and distinctive mark of our Reformed tradition.

Responding to God's Love

In the Presbyterian Church (USA), Baptism is a sign and seal of our incorporation into Jesus Christ. Baptism is a sign of God's covenant. The water of Baptism is linked with the waters of creation, the flood, and the exodus. Baptism enacts and seals what the word proclaims: God's redeeming grace offered to all people. Both believers and children are included in God's covenant love.

Time for Children Rev. Crystal Varner Parker

At this time, the young (and young at heart) are invited to come forward to the front "pew" for a conversation around the scripture.

Sacrament of Baptism

Presentation

Questions for the Parents:
Do you desire that Caden be baptized? **I do.**
Relying on God's grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith, and to teach that faith to your child? **I do.**
Questions for the Sponsors:
Will you, by your prayers and witness, help Caden to grow into the full stature of Christ? **I will.**
Questions for the Children of the Church:
Will we help Caden remember that God loves them and we love them? **We will.**
Will we share the stories of Jesus with Caden? **We will.**
Questions for the Congregation:
Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Caden by word and deed, with love and prayer? **We do.**
Will you encourage him to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of his church? **We will.**

Profession of Faith

Questions for the Parents
Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? **I do.**
Who is your Lord and Savior? **Jesus is my Lord and Savior.**
Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love? **I will with God's help.**

All Gathered Believers:
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.

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sacrament of Baptism (continued)

The Baptism
Welcome

In the Presbyterian Church (USA), our book of Confessions has various creeds and confessions that help us to put into words what we believe.

✠ **Passing of the Peace**

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

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson Titus

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Special Music

Sermon Rev. Crystal Varner Parker

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

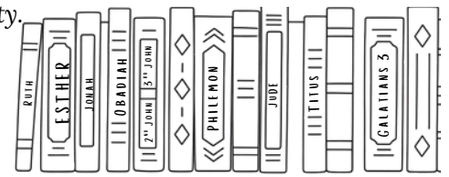
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and
the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

✠ **Hymn of Sending** #368 Peace Like A River

verse 1 Peace
verse 2 Love
verse 3 Joy
I've got _____ like a river,
I've got _____ like a river.
I've got _____ like a river in my soul.
I've got _____ like a river,
I've got _____ like a river.
I've got _____ like a river in my soul.

Departing to Serve

Our worship does not end with the postlude, but continues as we go into the world,. We are sent to love and care for God's creation and people.

Charge and Benediction Rev. Crystal Varner Parker

As we depart, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God
Tithes and offerings may be placed in the basket or given electronically.
(To give electronically scan the QR code to the left or go to link: https://bit.ly/PFPCGIVING)
If you have considered joining PFPC or getting involved in a ministry of the church, connect with Pastor Crystal or one of the elders on duty.