

ORDER OF WORSHIP SERVICE

PROVIDENCE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Bible House, Level 4, Seminar Room 1

Church Office & Library: 7 Armenian Street, Bible House, #03-03, S179932

Website: www.providencerpc.org

Email: providencecontacts@gmail.com



*A household for our triune God,
where each member shines forth His holy, life-giving presence.*

**THE LORD'S DAY OF FEBRUARY 25,
THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 2018
9.15 AM**

“But the LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.”
(Habakkuk 2:20)

WE PREPARE TO MEET WITH GOD

Welcome

Preparatory Devotional & Prayer

Asterisks (*) denote portions for congregation to stand.
Unless otherwise stated, all Scripture quotations are from the English Standard Version (ESV).
Congregational readings are in **bold**.

GOD SUMMONS US INTO HIS PRESENCE

The Greeting of God

The Call to Worship: *Psalm 148:1-2*

¹ Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!

² Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his hosts!

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S SUMMONS

*Hymn of Praise: *Trinity Hymnal 731, "Doxology"*

*Opening Prayer

*Hymn of Praise: *Trinity Hymnal 166, "Wondrous King, All Glorious"*

GOD DECLARES HIS LAW

Reading of the Law: *Leviticus 19:1, 2*

¹ And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them, You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LAW

Silent Prayer of Confession

Confession of Sin (Unison):

**Almighty God, our Father and King,
you alone are the Holy One.**

To you alone belongs all glory and worship.

**We confess that we are slow in obeying you,
that we do not cherish your Law as we ought.**

**We have preferred our desires over your will
and cherished our sins above your rule.**

Have mercy on us, Father, for offending you.

Cleanse our hearts by your Holy Spirit.
Cause us to love your commandments.
We turn from our sins
and return to you for eternal life.
Through Jesus our Lord,
who died for sinners (Rom 5:6)
and fulfilled all righteousness (Mt 3:15),
forgive our many sins.
Amen.

GOD DECLARES HIS GOSPEL

Reading of the Gospel: *Colossians 1:21-22*

²¹ And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him,

Confession of the Gospel (Unison): *Based on Calvin's Institutes II:XVI:19*

Almighty God,
we are greatly sinful and unable to save ourselves.
But we trust in the Savior you have graciously given—Jesus Christ our Lord.
We trust in Christ's obedience for our righteousness,
his death for our release from the Law's curse,
his resurrection for our immortality,
his ascension for our reconciliation with you,
his rule for our final victory and peace.
We trust in Christ alone for salvation. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: *1 Timothy 2:5-6*

⁵ For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

WE RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL

*Hymn of Thanksgiving: *Trinity Hymnal 508, "Jesus, Lover of My Soul"*

GOD TEACHES US HIS WORD

Reading of the Word of God: *2 Peter 2*

But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. ² And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed. ³ And in their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their condemnation

from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.

⁴For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment; ⁵if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; ⁶if by turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes he condemned them to extinction, making them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly;⁷ and if he rescued righteous Lot, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked ⁸(for as that righteous man lived among them day after day, he was tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds that he saw and heard); ⁹then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment, ¹⁰and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority.

Bold and wilful, they do not tremble as they blaspheme the glorious ones, ¹¹whereas angels, though greater in might and power, do not pronounce a blasphemous judgment against them before the Lord. ¹²But these, like irrational animals, creatures of instinct, born to be caught and destroyed, blaspheming about matters of which they are ignorant, will also be destroyed in their destruction, ¹³suffering wrong as the wage for their wrongdoing. They count it pleasure to revel in the daytime. They are blots and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions, while they feast with you. ¹⁴They have eyes full of adultery, insatiable for sin. They entice unsteady souls. They have hearts trained in greed. Accursed children! ¹⁵Forsaking the right way, they have gone astray. They have followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved gain from wrongdoing, ¹⁶but was rebuked for his own transgression; a speechless donkey spoke with human voice and restrained the prophet's madness.

¹⁷These are waterless springs and mists driven by a storm. For them the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved. ¹⁸For, speaking loud boasts of folly, they entice by sensual passions of the flesh those who are barely escaping from those who live in error. ¹⁹They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved. ²⁰For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. ²¹For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them. ²²What the true proverb says has happened to them: "The dog returns to its own vomit, and the sow, after washing herself, returns to wallow in the mire."

Prayer for Understanding

Preaching of the Word of God:

“Fortifying Against Trying Times (3): Know Your Enemies – The False Teachers”
— Deacon Moses

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of Response: *Trinity Hymnal 568: "In the Hour of Trial"*

A Prayer of Response

Thanksgiving

Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church

The Republic of Singapore

The Holy Church of Jesus Christ

The Lord's Prayer (Unison): *Matthew 6:9-13*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

The Offering

*The Confession of Faith (Unison): *The Apostles' Creed*

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 Spirit,

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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit;

the holy catholic⁺ Church;

+universal

the communion of saints;

the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body;

and the life everlasting.

Amen.

*Hymn of Consecration: *Trinity Hymnal 654, "O Jesus, I Have Promised"*

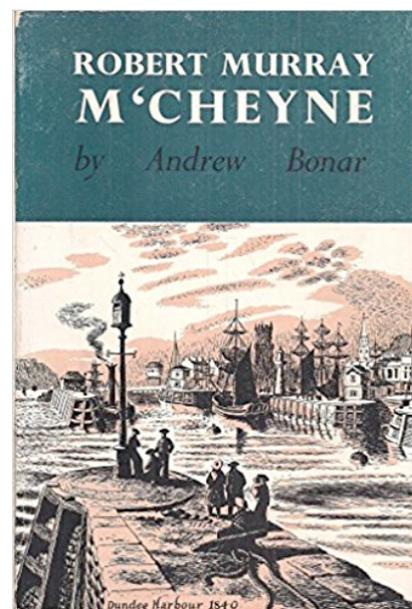
GOD DISMISSES US WITH HIS BLESSINGS

*Benediction

Book Title: The Life of Robert Murray M'Cheyne

Author: Andrew A. Bonar

Length/Year Published: 192 pages/1960 (Originally published 1844)



As the title suggests, this book is about the life of the eminent minister in the Church of Scotland, Reverend M'Cheyne (1813–1843), written by his close friend and co-labourer in the Lord, Reverend Bonar.

More than just a biography, Bonar's *Life of M'Cheyne* captures the brief 29 years of M'Cheyne's life, from his youth and preparation for the ministry, to his conversion, then to the days of revival and his death, mostly relying on M'Cheyne's own diary entries and letters. Although M'Cheyne lived at a time so unlike ours, his saintliness and single-hearted devotion to Christ is still ever relevant in every age, and continues to serve as an encouragement and model particularly to ministers today. Indeed, Bonar said of M'Cheyne, 'But there has been one among us (referring to M'Cheyne) who, ere he had reached the age at which a priest in Israel would have been entering on his course, dwelt at the Mercy-seat as if it were his home—preached the certainties of eternal life with an undoubting mind—and spent his nights and days in ceaseless breathings after holiness, and the salvation of sinners.' (p. 192)

I believe that anybody who wishes to find motivation and inspiration for living the Christian life—loving God with all the heart, soul, mind and strength, and loving one's neighbour as much as one loves oneself—will find it in M'Cheyne and in this book. It portrays one so absorbed in the love of his Redeemer that the authority of his preaching and the beauty of his life were but a reflection of Him Who spoke as no man ever spoke and lived as no man ever lived.

Personally, the portion of the book that was most rewarding for me was the last chapter on *Personal Reformation*—where he examines himself and where his godliness appears most manifestly.

With so much to offer, *The Life of M'Cheyne* is a book that I highly recommend to all.

Reviewed by Jia Jun