

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 MARCH 10,
THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 2019
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 136:1-2*

¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

² Give thanks to the God of gods,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S SUMMONS

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

*Opening Prayer

*Hymn of Praise: *Trinity Hymnal 3, "Give to our God Immortal Praise"*

GOD DECLARES HIS LAW

Reading of the Law: *Leviticus 19:3*

³ Every one of you shall revere his mother and his father, and you shall keep my Sabbaths: I am the LORD your God.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LAW

Silent Prayer of Confession

Confession of Sin (Unison):

Heavenly Father,

we have not honored our parents

nor cherished your Sabbaths as you have instructed.

We have been too proud to revere our parents.

We have been too greedy or too fearful to cherish your day of rest.

Have mercy on us, Father,

for our sins, doubts, and fears are many.

We turn from our sins and fears

and return to you.

Grant us new hearts that revere our parents,

honor your Sabbath,
and cherish your commandments.
Rule in our hearts by your Holy Spirit.
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 2:13-15*

¹³ And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Confession of the Gospel (Unison): *Adapted from 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: *Hebrews 2:14-15*

¹⁴ Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

WE RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL

*Hymn of Thanksgiving: *Trinity Hymnal 178, "There is No Name So Sweet on Earth"*

GOD TEACHES US HIS WORD

Reading of the Word of God: *Esther 2*

¹ After these things, when the anger of King Ahasuerus had abated, he remembered Vashti and what she had done and what had been decreed against her.
² Then the king's young men who attended him said, "Let beautiful young virgins be

sought out for the king. ³ And let the king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom to gather all the beautiful young virgins to the harem in Susa the capital, under custody of Hegai, the king's eunuch, who is in charge of the women. Let their cosmetics be given them. ⁴ And let the young woman who pleases the king be queen instead of Vashti." This pleased the king, and he did so. ⁵ Now there was a Jew in Susa the citadel whose name was Mordecai, the son of Jair, son of Shimei, son of Kish, a Benjaminite, ⁶ who had been carried away from Jerusalem among the captives carried away with Jeconiah king of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had carried away. ⁷ He was bringing up Hadassah, that is Esther, the daughter of his uncle, for she had neither father nor mother. The young woman had a beautiful figure and was lovely to look at, and when her father and her mother died, Mordecai took her as his own daughter. ⁸ So when the king's order and his edict were proclaimed, and when many young women were gathered in Susa the citadel in custody of Hegai, Esther also was taken into the king's palace and put in custody of Hegai, who had charge of the women. ⁹ And the young woman pleased him and won his favor. And he quickly provided her with her cosmetics and her portion of food, and with seven chosen young women from the king's palace, and advanced her and her young women to the best place in the harem. ¹⁰ Esther had not made known her people or kindred, for Mordecai had commanded her not to make it known. ¹¹ And every day Mordecai walked in front of the court of the harem to learn how Esther was and what was happening to her. ¹² Now when the turn came for each young woman to go in to King Ahasuerus, after being twelve months under the regulations for the women, since this was the regular period of their beautifying, six months with oil of myrrh and six months with spices and ointments for women-- ¹³ when the young woman went in to the king in this way, she was given whatever she desired to take with her from the harem to the king's palace. ¹⁴ In the evening she would go in, and in the morning she would return to the second harem in custody of Shaashgaz, the king's eunuch, who was in charge of the concubines. She would not go in to the king again, unless the king delighted in her and she was summoned by name. ¹⁵ When the turn came for Esther the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her as his own daughter, to go in to the king, she asked for nothing except what Hegai the king's eunuch, who had charge of the women, advised. Now Esther was winning favor in the eyes of all who saw her. ¹⁶ And when Esther was taken to King Ahasuerus, into his royal palace, in the tenth month, which is the month of Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign, ¹⁷ the king loved Esther more than all the women, and she won grace and favor in his sight more than all the virgins, so that he set the royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti. ¹⁸ Then the king gave a great feast for all his officials and servants; it was Esther's feast. He also granted a remission of taxes to the provinces and gave gifts with royal generosity. ¹⁹ Now when the virgins were gathered together the second time, Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate. ²⁰ Esther had not made known her kindred or her people, as Mordecai had commanded her, for Esther obeyed Mordecai just as when she was brought up by

him. ²¹In those days, as Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate, Bigthan and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs, who guarded the threshold, became angry and sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus. ²²And this came to the knowledge of Mordecai, and he told it to Queen Esther, and Esther told the king in the name of Mordecai. ²³When the affair was investigated and found to be so, the men were both hanged on the gallows. And it was recorded in the book of the chronicles in the presence of the king.

Prayer for Understanding

Preaching of the Word of God:

“A Jewish Girl Becomes A Persian Queen”—Pastor Linus Chua

Hymn of Preparation: *Trinity Hymnal* 424, “*Shepherd of Souls, Refresh and Bless*”

Words of Preparation

Prayer of Preparation

Partaking of the Lord’s Table

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of Response: *Trinity Hymnal* 128, “*God Moves in a Mysterious Way*”

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;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

+universal

*Hymn of Consecration: *Trinity Hymnal* 727, "Lead Me, Lord, Lead Me in thy Righteousness"

GOD DISMISSES US WITH HIS BLESSINGS

*Benediction