

ORDER OF WORSHIP SERVICE

PROVIDENCE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Bible House, Level 4, Seminar Rooms 1 & 2

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

**THE LORD'S DAY OF DECEMBER 22,
THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 2019**

“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

Prelude (Organ)

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 CALLS US INTO HIS PRESENCE

The Greeting of God

The Call to Worship: *Psalm 107:1-3*

- ¹Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!
²Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,
whom he has redeemed from trouble
³and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

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

*Opening Prayer

*Hymn of Praise: *Trinity Hymnal 194, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"*

GOD RENEWS US IN HIS SON

Call to Repentance: *Matthew 5:43-48*

⁴³“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷And if you greet only your brothers,^[a] what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect

Silent Prayer of Confession

Prayer for Forgiveness

Promise of Forgiveness and Assurance: *Romans 3:21-26*

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

*Hymn of Thanksgiving: *Trinity Hymnal 651, "He Lifted Me"*

GOD FEEDS US WITH HIS WORD

Reading of the Word of God: *Matthew 24:42-51*

⁴² Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

⁴⁵ "Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time? ⁴⁶ Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. ⁴⁷ Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions. ⁴⁸ But if that wicked servant says to himself, 'My master is delayed,' ⁴⁹ and begins to beat his fellow servants and eats and drinks with drunkards, ⁵⁰ the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know ⁵¹ and will cut him in pieces and put him with the hypocrites. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth

Prayer for Illumination

Preaching of the Word of God: *"The Last Christmas: Be Ready For Our Hope"*

Prayer for Thanksgiving

GOD RECEIVES US INTO HIS FAMILY

Hymn of Preparation: *Trinity Hymnal 590, "Jesus, Master, Whose I Am"*

Words of Preparation

Prayer of Preparation

Sacrament of Baptism and Receiving of Membership

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of Response: *Trinity Hymnal 533, "I Am Thine, O Lord, I Have Heard Thy Voice"*

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.

*Hymn of Consecration: *Trinity Hymnal 195, "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"*

GOD SENDS US OFF WITH HIS BLESSINGS

*Benediction

Postlude (Organ)

The Baptism

Baptism is a sign that points to and confirms the gracious saving promise of God to His people and its fulfillment in Jesus Christ. Thus, Christ commanded believers to be baptized. Moreover, Colossians 2:11-12 says that Christian baptism superseded the practice of circumcision in the Old Testament. The Bible relates baptism and circumcision as a continuous sign of God's ideal goodness for His people. It is to be administered to believers and their children, as can be seen from Genesis 17, Matthew 28, Colossians 2, 1 Corinthians 7, and Acts 16.

In Baptism, and especially in infant baptism, God's love is beautifully portrayed His initiative to first reach out to us, when we could not reach out to him. Therefore, this is a picture of God's sovereign and saving grace. God has sovereignly given the community of believers' responsibility to help one another to mature in faith. Thus, baptism and salvation of a believer have to exercise commitment to the church as in a larger family of brothers and sisters. The Questions and Answers of the vows taken are to bring clarity to that commitment.

The Profession of Faith

This is a joyous time when the covenant members of the church publicly profess their faith in Christ and their commitment to the church. The members were examined by the elders of the church for their credible confession of faith in Christ. The Questions and Answers of the vows taken are to testify their confession of faith and their commitment.

MEMBERSHIP VOWS

1. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy? If so, say, "I do."
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel? If so, say, "I do."
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ? If so, say, "I do."
4. Do you promise to support the church in its worship and work to the best of your ability? If so, say, "I do."
5. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the church, and promise to study its purity and peace? If so, say, "I do."

As used by the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

Question for the congregation:*

Do you, as members of Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church, receive our brothers Calvin Chirnside and Harold Lee into the membership of this Church, to fellowship with them, pray for and with them, admonish and encourage them, as they, together with you, seek the building up of the Church of God and strive for the advancement of the reign of our Lord Jesus Christ? If so, say "we do."