

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 14, 2025

3rd Sunday of Advent

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"* Brass Quartet Tucker

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES Readers are from the Youth Group

Reader 1: Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together; they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses arms.

Reader 2: Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you; the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

Reader 1: A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Reader 2: Today we light the candle of joy. We celebrate in big ways and small ways as we wait for Jesus, the Light of the World, to come to us. The greatest joy is being with the people we love and being grateful for all that we have, right this minute. Let us pray:

All: God, we sometimes have a hard time looking ahead. We worry about what we have forgotten, or what we have done wrong, or what we have not done at all. Help us to let go of the past and look forward, trusting in the new things you are doing all the time. We give you thanks for the joy of this season and for all the ways we can bring joy to others while we wait. Amen.

*OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN *"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"* # 93

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God, we praise you for sending light into this world. We confess that we live as though the light had never defeated darkness. We confess that we ignore the Savior you sent to be among us and to live in us. We've kept the birth of your Son confined to the Christmas season and do not yearn for his coming each moment in our waiting hearts. Forgive us for not opening our eyes to Jesus. Prepare us for His return. Help us rejoice in the light so that your grace can illuminate the darkened places of our hearts. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI

583

CHILDREN'S CHAT

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING I Samuel 2: 1-5

SECOND READING Luke 1: 26-56

SERMON "Call & Response"

SERIES "Calling All Angels"

*HYMN *"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"* # 123

*APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe 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, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again 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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *"Lo, How a Rose Is Growing"* Brass Quartet stg. Wolff

*DOXOLOGY *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* # 608

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

*HYMN *"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"* # 136

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*POSTLUDE *"Noel, Noel, Noel"* Brass Quartet arr. Hamlin, Nichols

* Please stand if you are able.

The flowers are given in loving memory of
Frederick D. Albright
by Louise Albright and Carol McCracken

Prayer: Karen Brown, Lloyd Prutsman, Pastor Dennis, Kathy Rutter
Liturgist: Sue Payne

TODAY	10:15 AM	Worship
MONDAY	6:30 PM	Session
WEDNESDAY	5:00 PM	Bell choir
	6:00 PM	Choir
THURSDAY	11:30 AM	Bible study
SATURDAY	11:30 AM	Soup on Saturday
SUNDAY	9:00 AM	Sunday School
	10:15 AM	Worship
	2:00 PM	Blue Christmas/Longest Night Service

Blue Christmas/Longest Night Service – Sunday, December 21 at 2 p.m.
To feel “blue” means to feel sad, downcast, or melancholy. If the holiday season is not “the most wonderful time of the year” for you, join us for this time of music, meditation, and finding hope in hard times. All are invited. Blue Christmas “To Go” kits are available outside the pastor’s office for those who can’t attend in person.

The Christmas Eve service will begin with a musical prelude at 6 p.m. and continue with the candlelight service at 6:30 p.m.

The reports from each ministry team need to be submitted by January 15, 2026. These reports will be included in the annual report which is distributed at the Annual Congregational Meeting in February 2026.

We are in need of volunteers to “Open & Lock-Up” the church each month next year. There is a sign-up sheet in fellowship hall if you are able to help out one month in 2026!

If you would like to remember a loved one, please sign up on the 2026 flower calendar. The cost for 2 vases is \$50.