

Welcome and Announcements
Prelude

Gathering as God's People

Call to Worship (From *Glory to God resource*, May 3, 2026)

One: God is our rock and refuge!

All: Nothing can shake me from God's steadfast love.

One: Our God is a fortress of justice!

All: No weapons of oppression can loosen a single brick!

One: Let us worship almighty God!

* Sharing of Christ's Peace

One: Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

All: We meet in Christ's name and share his peace.

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

* Opening Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

#1

* Opening Prayer for Homecoming

O God, it is always good for us to go home. We are grateful that our final home is in you, for that is where our hearts are. But in the meantime, on this Homecoming Sunday, it is good for us return to our earthly roots, to celebrate with a sense of joy and familiarity. We thank you for those who have called Providence Presbyterian Church home and for those who have come home to be a part of this family of faith. Help us to remember the old times, but also fill us with excitement and energy for the new thing that your Holy Spirit is doing in our midst. Help us to follow where you are leading us as a congregation and individually. May Christ's Spirit reign in our hearts as we gather to worship you today. Amen.

Act of Confession

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and eternal God, forgive us our indifference to the good news of your love. We close our eyes and do not see the hurts of the world when you call us to recognize your presence in the faces of our brothers and sisters who are hurting. You are standing right next to us, guiding us along, and yet, like the travelers on the road to Emmaus, we do not even notice you. We are too often preoccupied by our own concerns. We get side-tracked from doing your will by the distractions of our everyday world. Forgive us for our nearsightedness, our apathy, and our lack of courage to

do your will. Make us bold to be your Easter people, who proclaim your love to the world. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

* Gloria Now Thank We All Our God #643 (verses 1 and 3)

Hearing God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson: Luke 24:13-24

One: This is the Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God!**

Anthem

Time with Children: Bret Myers

Second Scripture Lesson: Luke 24:25-35

One: This is the Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon: "Opening Our Eyes and Hearts" Rev. Dr. Jody Moore

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

* Communion Hymn Feed Us, Lord #501

* Affirmation of Faith: (From *A Declaration of Faith*, Ch. 6.5)

We believe that at the Lord's Supper the community of believers is renewed by the memory of Christ's life and death, by his real presence in the power of the Holy Spirit, and by the promise of his coming again. Christ makes himself known in the breaking of bread. He offers us his broken body for our sake and his blood is shed for the forgiveness of our sins. We accept his promises and gifts and depend on his life to sustain ours. In turn we offer ourselves in thanksgiving to the risen Lord who has conquered death. So we celebrate his victory here and now and anticipate the joyous feast in his coming kingdom. Reunited around one loaf and cup, we receive strength and courage to continue our pilgrimage with God in the world. Amen.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

The Communion of the People

- As you pass the bread, you may say, "The bread of heaven."
- As you pass the cup, you may say, "The cup of salvation."

Prayer after Communion

Being Sent Out in God's Name

Invitation to Giving

* Doxology #606

* Prayer of Dedication (From *Feasting the Word, Year A, Vol 1*, p. 146)

Almighty God, by your grace, accept the fruit of our labors and the offering of our lives. Let us be a sacrifice of thanksgiving in union with our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you forever. Amen.

Commissioning of the New Stephen Ministers:

Mary Good, Deb Ridgeway, Ken Reilly, and Charlton Hunley

* Closing Hymn

"Open My Eyes That I May See"

#451

* Prayer for the Meal (In Unison)

Gracious God, you have fed us with your holy word as we have gathered for worship. Now, we ask for you to bless the food that we are about to eat as we gather in fellowship. Thank you for the many hands that prepared the food we will eat and we ask you to bless this food to the nourishment of our bodies. May the conversations we share bring us closer to our siblings in Christ. We also pray for those who do not have enough food on their tables and may our church's ministry provide comfort and relief to those who are hungry. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

* Charge and Blessing

Postlude

Announcement:

Welcome to Our New Members

On April 26th, PPC welcomed four new members: Ginger Craig, Tracey Tozier, and Kyle and Gina Nielsen. We also welcomed Kyle and Gina's children, Isabelle, Ryder, and Caroline with their parents. Please extend a warm welcome to PPC's newest members!

Providence in Prayer

Acute Concerns

Mace & Carolyn Perlman, Ron Corley, Laurie Porter, Tina, friend of Carleen Clewis, William Dixon, Bruce Robinson, Darwin Collins, Roger Nussman, Judith Arey, Barbara Conner, Julie Brock, Sharon Starks, Kathy Cathey, Bob and Yasmin Craig, Willie Rea, Betsy Peace, Jaiden Dean, Morgan Jeffares, Ava, a friend of Carleen Clewis, Charlie Starks, Everette, Richard Dickey, Jenny Gidaro, John Gidaro, Joyce Pate.

Chronic Concerns

Nell Kilpatrick's daughter, Isabel Kilpatrick, Bo Hardee, Kim Hintz's mother, Sandy, Zachary Coger, Yo Yee Chacko,

Grieving

Friends & family of Frank Archer on his passing on February 16, 2026 Friends and family of Joan Ritsema, Daisy Risser's mom, on her passing on March 22, 2026.

Please don't forget to mention the availability of Stephen Ministers to those who are hurting. To request a Stephen Minister, contact E. Lynn

Finlon, elynnfinlon@gmail.com or Lal Rodalawal@ppc1767.org

Homecoming Sunday Celebration

Today is Homecoming Sunday at Providence Presbyterian Church. Join us as we celebrate this special day of reconnecting, welcoming, and giving thanks for the community that has shaped us. Following worship, the celebration continues with a picnic fellowship meal. All are welcome—come hungry, come joyful, and come ready to make memories.

Sunday, May 17, CLC, 4:00

Charlotte Singers Present

Music composed by all American songwriters to celebrate the 250th USA birthday-
Leonard Bernstein, Rodgers and Hammerstein, George Gershwin,
plus a set of spirituals.

Men of Providence

Please consider joining with other men from PPC for a morning of fellowship and food. Mark your calendar to reserve Saturday, May 9th at 9:00 am and meet with us in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a special program followed by lunch. Afterwards, those wishing to can join in one of several opportunities to serve on or off the church campus. This will be a great time to have fellowship with other men of the church. More information will be coming in future weeks but for now reserve the date on your calendar. Please contact David Llewellyn if you're interested in helping, plan and coordinate this event.

Extra! Extra! Read all about it!

Currently, the Literary Group is reading "Scoop" by the English author Evelyn Waugh. It is a 1938 comic novel, a satire of sensationalist journalism and foreign correspondents. Waugh's experiences as a 1935 war correspondent led to a humorous and exaggerated novel that playfully yet sharply criticizes the newspaper industry and the journalism profession.

Join us, on zoom, on

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. for a lively discussion of the novel.

Contact Adele Daniels for details

(adanielscs@gmail.com).

Chimbote Peru Post Mission Trip Update 2026

4/29/2026

The PPC 2026 Chimbote, Peru mission team has returned safely from twelve days and close to 9000 miles of travel from their home cities to a departure city, to Lima, and then to Chimbote; and in the opposite order to return home. Each member self-supported their travel expenses and trip donation amount to Friends of Chimbote to cover most of the project expenses, including one home build, plus room and board at our host parish, La Senora de Perpetua Socorro. Expenses of staying a few days in Lima were additional.

Thanks to donations from friends of trip members, we were able to fund and build a home for a second family, fund and provide a fishes, loaves (anti-anemia bread), and safe drinking water distribution, plus another safe water and bread distribution. Donations from our congregation and other friends allowed us to support our work with the hospital for the poor, La Caleta, and also leave funds with our host NGO, ACAF, for future medical use. Additional donations to this mission are being held in an account at church to support upcoming projects benefitting the greatest number of the poorest of the poor of the areas in which we serve.

Our team of fourteen worked to their greatest ability in conjunction with the 110 staff members of ACAF during this intense and joyous week. We learned how much impact we could have on the community, and how hard we could be pushed in six full work days. The work we do each year is tremendously beneficial on small and large scales. Of greater import, though, is the relationships we have formed and continue to strengthen in the Chimbote community and among our own group members, past, present, and future.

I anticipate the 2027 PPC team size growing. If you are interested in learning more or joining our next mission trip, please talk to any one of the past or present short-term Chimbote missionaries, or contact me by email, text or phone call. Keep in mind, if you cannot join physically, and wish to be a part, your monetary support, through the church, is vital to helping us maximize our group impact and reach every year. On behalf of our members, I want to thank everyone for their prayers and support as we went about our mission week, and as we prepare for future visits to Chimbote.

Dan Kunkleman dankunkleman@msn.com 704-617-0857

Stephen Ministers Commissioning

This morning, PPC commissions four new Stephen Ministers, Mary Good, Deb Ridgeway, Ken Reilly, and Charlton Hunley, who have completed extensive training to provide Christ centered, confidential care. We give thanks for their willingness to serve and for all who have been part of this ministry. As a congregation, we are invited to support them with our prayers and to receive their care when needed.

Blessing of the Animals

You are warmly invited to our Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, May 17 at 2:30 p.m., hosted by our Children's Ministry. Bring your pets for a brief blessing, a photo, and a treat as we celebrate God's love for all creation. All are welcome, whether you have a pet to bring or simply wish to join in the joy of the day.

PPC Critical Response and Safety Training

Wednesday, May 20, 2026 | 1:00–3:00 p.m.

This two-hour training, led by the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department, will equip participants with practical skills to respond to a violent incident until law enforcement arrives. Topics include lessons from prior events, human response to stress, active threat response, basic first aid, and what to do when law enforcement arrives. Elders, Deacons, staff, committee chairs, community group leaders, and all members are encouraged to attend. Registration links are available in the e-blast. For questions or to request the link, please contact Dave Ott.

New Officers Elected:

At the congregational meeting on April 26th, the following individuals were elected as elders and deacons in the class of 2029.

Elder: Janice Rea, Kathy Roberts, Brenda Rorie, and George Wightman

Deacon: Martha Gilbert, Laura Randolph, Mike Seaman, and Mike Smith

Congratulations to these newly elected church officers. Please be in prayer for them as they complete an officer training class and begin their service.

