

# Creation Care Sunday



**Providence**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
"Where Life and Faith Connect"

Sunday, April 27, 2025

WELCOME!

*Please silence your phone before worship.*

## WORSHIP AT PROVIDENCE\*

### **10:00 am: Traditional Worship with Choir, Sanctuary**

A fully staffed nursery for infants and toddlers up to 4 years old is available in Room 200.

The Wiggle Room is located just outside the Sanctuary if you would like a more private space for you and your child. You can view a live stream of the service from the Wiggle Room.

### **Breakfast & Bible Study, Youth Lounge Café**

For youth in 7th grade and above

### **Grades 4-6 Sunday School, Room 205**

For children in grades 4th-6th

### **10:15 am: Godly Play, Room 202**

Children up to 3rd grade begin in worship with their families. After the anthem, children 4 years old to 3rd grade are invited to Godly Play.

### **11:00 am: Children's Choir, Room 202**

For children up to 6th grade (every Sunday)

### **11:15 am: Contemporary Worship with Praise Band, Taylor Hall**

A Playground is available at the back of Taylor Hall for young families.

**\*On the first Sunday of each month there is no Christian Education so that families can worship together.**

Worship is live streamed and recorded for future viewing. See the "Watch" page at [providencechurch.org](http://providencechurch.org).

The Sanctuary is equipped with Assistive Hearing Technology.



April 27, 2025

Second Sunday of Easter

## Gathering

### PRELUDE

Ye Sons and Daughters  
Jane Kaye, organ

—arr. Healey Willan

### CHIMES

### WELCOME

Rev. Matt Baker

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Jane Prosperi

One: In the beginning, the world was created with soil to till.

**All: We gather as stewards of your good creation, O Lord.**

One: Farmers and fishers, vineyards and forests, seas and mountains—all proclaim God's handiwork.

**All: We gather in gratitude for your many gifts, O Lord.**

One: The day will come when all is made right and new.

**All: We gather to praise you, O Lord, and we sing your praises today and always.**

### \*HYMN #15 (Purple)

All Creatures  
of Our God and King  
(Verses 1-4. See page 6.)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

### CALL TO CONFESSION

Jane Prosperi

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

***The throes of death and decay and Good Friday pain linger, despite the Easter proclamation. Too often we see the wound and not the healing. Too often we see the tomb and not the garden. Forgive our focus on the negative and give us eyes to see the possibility. The darkness might be a womb of new life. The decay might be regeneration. The sorrow might be a holy cleansing. Give us forgiven eyes to see Easter hope all around us.***

(Time for silent and personal confession.)

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.**

**\*RESPONSE** (Purple #240)

ALLELUIA NO. 1

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His name.**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

### Word

#### FIRST READING

Genesis 2:4-15

Jane Prosperi

(See page 8.)

#### ANTHEM

How Lovely

—arr. Diana Stoneberg

Is Thy Dwelling

An adaptation of Piano Concerto No. 2, Mvt. 2

By Sergei Rachmaninoff

Paul Hildreth, tenor

Kate Zander, mezzo-soprano

Jane Kaye, piano

(Lyrics: See page 15.)

*(Children are invited to Godly Play.)*

#### SECOND READING

Luke 13:1-9

Rev. Matt Baker

(See page 9.)

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON

"eSCATology"

Rev. Matt Baker

#### \*HYMN #370 (Purple)

This Is My Father's World

TERRA BEATA

(See page 6.)

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

Jane Prosperi

(from A Brief Statement of Faith)

***We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's***

*commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Baker

The Lord's Prayer (debts)

## TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Rev. Baker

*(Please place your tithes & offerings in the basket at the rear of the Sanctuary.)*

## \*DOXOLOGY (Purple #608)

PRAISE GOD

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore.**

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Baker

## Sending

## \*HYMN #14 (Purple)

For the Beauty of the Earth  
(See page 7.)

DIX

## \*BENEDICTION

Rev. Baker

*(Please remain standing unless otherwise directed.)*

## \*RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You and Keep You  
The Sanctuary Choir

—Peter Lutkin

## POSTLUDE

Jesus Christ is Risen Today  
Jane Kaye, organ

—arr. Jacob Weber

*\*Please stand.*

## #15 All Creatures of Our God and King

1 All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice and with us sing,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother sun with golden beam,  
O sister moon with silver gleam,  
sing praises! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2 O brother wind with clouds and rain,  
you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sister water, flowing clear,  
make music for your Lord to hear.  
Sing praises! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3 O brother fire, so warm and bright,  
chase off the shadows of the night.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, who day by day  
unfolds such blessings on our way,  
sing praises! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

4 All who for love of God forgive,  
all who in pain or sorrow grieve,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;  
so, even in the midst of tears,  
sing praises! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## #370 This Is My Father's World

1 This is my Father's world,  
and to my listening ears  
all nature sings, and round me rings  
the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world;  
I rest me in the thought

of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,  
his hand the wonders wrought.

2 This is my Father's world.  
O, let me ne'er forget  
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,  
God is the ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world.  
The battle is not done:  
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,  
and earth and heaven be one.

## # 14 For the Beauty of the Earth

1 For the beauty of the earth,  
for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies:

Refrain:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.

2 For the wonder of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
sun and moon, and stars of light: (Refrain)

3 For the joy of ear and eye,  
for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony  
linking sense to sound and sight: (Refrain)

4 For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth, and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild: (Refrain)

5 For thyself, best gift divine  
to the world so freely given;  
for that great, great love of thine,  
peace on earth and joy in heaven: (Refrain)

**Genesis 2:4-15**

<sup>4</sup>These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

**Another Account of the Creation**

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, <sup>5</sup>when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no vegetation of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground, <sup>6</sup>but a stream would rise from the earth and water the whole face of the ground— <sup>7</sup>then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. <sup>8</sup>And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. <sup>9</sup>Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

<sup>10</sup>A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches. <sup>11</sup>The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold, <sup>12</sup>and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. <sup>13</sup>The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Cush. <sup>14</sup>The name of the third river is Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

<sup>15</sup>The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

**Luke 13:1-9****Repent or Perish**

**13** At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. **2** He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? **3** No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. **4** Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the other people living in Jerusalem? **5** No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish just as they did."

**The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree**

**6** Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. **7** So he said to the man working the vineyard, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' **8** He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. **9** If it bears fruit next year, well and good, but if not, you can cut it down.' "

**April 27, 2025**

## **GATHERING**

\*Hallelujah! We Shall Rise

–J. E. Thomas

## **WELCOME**

Announcements

Rev. Matt Baker

\*I'm Standing on the Solid Rock

–Harold Lane

\*This Train Is Bound for Glory

–Traditional, American Gospel

## **GRACE**

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Mary Rodgers

Assurance of Pardon

Symbol of Peace

## **THE WORD**

Scripture

Genesis 2:4-15

Rev. Rodgers

Luke 13:1-9

Rev. Baker

Message

"eSCATology"

Rev. Matt Baker

\*In the Sweet By and By

–Bennett & Webster

\*Will the Circle Be Unbroken

–Habershon & Gabriel

## **PRAYER**

Prayers

Rev. Rodgers

Offering/Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Rodgers

*(Please place your tithes & offerings in the basket at the rear of Taylor Hall.)*

\*When the Roll Is Called up Yonder

–James M. Black

## **SENDING**

\*Benediction

Rev. Rodgers

*\*Please stand.*

# Announcements

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**LAY READER:** Jane Prosperi

**WELCOMING DEACONS:** 10–Britt Rosenberry; 11:15 Carmen Santiago

**AV OPERATOR:** Charlie Brewer

**THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL are given by:**

Brian Singleton in memory of Benny, Rhoda, & Clay Singleton and Harry, Betty, & Timmy Donaldson.

Lynn Hill in celebration of John Hill's retirement.

## TODAY!

**A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HAS BEEN CALLED.....**

**.....for April 27, 2025, at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary for the purpose of electing Ruling Elders, Deacons and members of the Nominating Committee.**

The Providence Nominating Committee presents the following slate of candidates.

**Slated for Ruling Elders:**

Scott Breece, John Hill, Amanda Ranowsky, Tina Thronson

**Slated for Deacons:**

Ed Burke, Leigh Burke, Ralph Morton, David Nebhut

**Slated for the Nominating Committee:**

Abby Gwaltney, Allison Hagner, Kathy Hermann, Mark Miller

### **SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS DUE ON MONDAYS:**

All announcements submitted to the office **by 9:00 am on Monday** will appear in Providence communications for the Sunday immediately following (unless different timing is requested). Items received after that deadline will run on the Sunday of the following week. Prayer requests will be listed in the bulletin as soon as possible.



**Food Truck Hangout:** Next Gen hosts a different food truck the first Monday of each month. Come as you are—with a friend, with your family or just bring yourself. Next up is the Roaming Coyote!

**May 5, 5:00-7:00 pm / Rain or Shine! / FREE drinks and cookies**

## Communion Care Sunday is May 4

Thank you for your donation of:

- Black beans / Pinto beans (cans)
- Tomatoes (cans)
- Chicken breast / Tuna (cans)



## Sharing Books at Providence

**There are now two ways to share books at Providence!**

- Do you have a book that you love and you want your church friends to read? Add it to the **Take A Book, Leave A Book** shelves located inside the rear entrance for others to enjoy.
- Do you have books at home collecting dust? Books in good, readable condition can be placed in the new green book bin located in the rear parking lot. Books **must** have an ISBN barcode label on the cover (see image below). Hardcover, paperback and even textbooks are all welcome! The following are **not** accepted: encyclopedias, magazines, or water damaged books.



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Register Here



# CONNECT LIFE *and Faith* ON THE WEBSTER SPRINGS MISSION TRIP

REGISTER BY MAY 4



Saturday, June 21 to Saturday, June 28, 2025



Register on Realm: <https://shorturl.at/65wwwc>



Kate Zander



703-887-8103

Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.  
~ Matthew 25:40

## PROVIDENCE READERS

Providence Readers meets **today** from 3:00 to 4:30 pm in the Parlor to discuss *Mostly What God Does* by Savannah Guthrie. All are welcome, so please come join us for a lively book discussion.

For more information, contact Paula Rogers at 703-495-9144 or [par9144@msn.com](mailto:par9144@msn.com).

### MOSTLY WHAT GOD DOES

*Reflections on Seeking and Finding  
His Love Everywhere*

#1 New York Times Bestseller

SAVANNAH  
GUTHRIE



## **Anthem**

## **How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling**

**–arr. Diana Stoneberg**

### **Psalm 84:1-3, 10**

<sup>1</sup>How lovely is Your tabernacle,  
O Lord of hosts!

<sup>2</sup>My soul longs, yes, even faints  
For the courts of the Lord;  
My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

<sup>3</sup>Even the sparrow has found a home,  
And the swallow a nest for herself,  
Where she may lay her young—  
Even Your altars, O Lord of hosts,  
My King and my God.

<sup>10</sup>For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand.  
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God  
Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

### **Psalm 17:15**

<sup>15</sup>As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness;  
I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness.

## **Building Blocks Hygiene Kits**

Spring is here! It is time to collect hygiene kit items for at-risk students at Annandale High School as part of our partnership with Fairfax County Public Schools. Kits will be delivered in time for the students to have them over summer vacation.

**Please donate medium-sized items of any brand between April 20 and May 11: body wash, shampoo, conditioner, disposable razors, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and body lotion.** Thank you!

There will be a container in the Narthex for donations.

### **Questions? Contact:**

Kathy Hermann (kathy.hermann@verizon.net)  
Beverly Harris (bev Harris280@hotmail.com).



## Care for Creation with Compost!

In honor of Creation Care Sunday, the Earth Care Committee has installed a compost bin outside the kitchen door near the trash bins. Bring your table scraps to church anytime and deposit them in the marked bin.

### **Wait, what is composting?**

Composting is the process of recycling organic matter, such as food scraps, into fertilizer to enrich the soil.

### **Why should I bother with this?**

- ⇒ Composting reduces waste. Many items that would usually be thrown away can be composted instead.
- ⇒ Compost can be added to gardens to enrich the soil. This reduces the need for synthetic fertilizers.
- ⇒ Plants grown in compost-rich soil tend to be more resistant to diseases and pests, reducing the need for pesticides.
- ⇒ Adding compost to gardens helps improve the soil. This adds more nutrients to crops, resulting in healthier food.
- ⇒ Composting helps conserve water. Adding organic matter to soil increases its water-retaining abilities, reducing the need for watering.

**See the bulletin insert for acceptable items—post it on your fridge for easy reference!**

### **Creation Celebration Art Gallery**

Artists include Harvey Doerksen, David Kepley, Fred Krebs, and Kate Zander. See the display in the lobby and scan the QR Code to enjoy online images of the natural world.

<https://www.providencechurch.org/earth-care-congregation/>



# This Week at Providence

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## **Sunday, April 27**

- Creation Care / Gospel Music Sunday
- Congregational Meeting immediately following 10 am worship
- Confirmation Class—10:00 am, Room 207
- Providence Readers—3:00 pm, Parlor
- 456ers—3:30-5:00 pm, Bowl America Fairfax
- Providence Youth Fellowship (PYF)—5:30 pm, Youth Lounge

## **Monday, April 28**

- Short Stories by Jesus—7:30 pm, Parlor (Join anytime!)

## **Tuesday, April 29**

- Yoga—10:30 am & 3:30 pm, Mission Hall
- Property Committee Meeting—7:30 pm, Parlor

## **Wednesday, April 30**

- Food Pantry is open—12:00-2:00 pm
- Open Youth Lounge—3:00-6:00 pm, Youth Lounge
- Yoga—4:30 pm, Mission Hall

## **Thursday, May 1**

- Providence Singers—6:45 pm, Parlor
- Worship Band—7:00 pm, Taylor Hall
- Sanctuary Choir—7:45 pm, Sanctuary

## **Sunday, May 4**

- Confirmation Sunday
- Providence Youth Fellowship (PYF)—5:30 pm, Youth Lounge

*Events are subject to change. For the latest go to  
<https://www.providencechurch.org/events/calander/>*



# *Providence Prayer Ministries*

Many of us have experienced the power of prayer. In times of crisis, change, loss, fear — and joy — it is encouraging to have the prayerful support and gratitude of a body of friends and believers. Here are two ways to offer prayers for friends and loved ones:

**Bulletin Prayer List:** Each week we print the names of those requested by loved ones to be included on our Prayer List (see back inside cover). Please contact the church office with your prayer request. Requests for prayer will be listed in the bulletin for up to three weeks. If you wish to continue prayers, simply notify us. Those on the deployed list remain until they return from their duties.

**Prayer Blossom:** For the times when you need the prayers of others, let the Providence “Prayer Blossom” take care of you. When you fill out a Prayer Request card or send an email request to the church office, a member of the Pastoral Care Committee will write a prayer specifically for you; that prayer will be sent through our Prayer Blossom email chain to the committee along with a few other members of our congregation. Prayer Request cards can be found in the pew racks in the Sanctuary and at the back of the Taylor Hall worship space. Our Prayer Blossom email chain is open to all members of our congregation; please notify the church office if you would like to be added to the list.

# Prayer List ~ April 27, 2025

## **Bereavement**

**\*Cecelia Porter**, on the death of her friend, Joel Krosnick

## **Undergoing Treatment**

**\*Caroline Wheatley**, young friend of Rhoda Waters

**\*Julie W.**, friend of Elly Brtva

**\*Adam DeBacker**, young friend of Susanne Fitch

**Terrie McClure**, sister of Maribeth Luftglass

**Mary Wire**, sister of Jennifer Lewis-Cooper's sister-in-law

**Chuck Rivenbark**, friend of Kate Zander

**Gerry Connolly**, friend of many Providence members

**Linda L.**, friend of Susan McCannell

**Pam B.**, friend of Susan McCannell

**Richard Mudd**

**Faith Perkins**, friend of Kate Zander

**Kara Owen**, family friend of Rhoda Waters

**Virginia Holian**, friend of David & Brenda Kepley

**Mary C. Davis Bishop**, daughter of Martha Lamb

## **Continuing Care**

Leslie's **daughter**, young friend of Kathy Dutke

**Nicholas**, nephew of Jim Durbin

**Pete**, friend of Jim Durbin

**Nancy Jones**

**Carol Linscott**, friend of the Ranowskys

**Bill & Elsie Hamilton**, father & mother of Chloe Hamilton

**Martyn Cusworth**, brother-in-law of Lesley McKeever

**Zachary Hasley**, friend of Toni Medwedeff

**Lucille Daly**, cousin of Paul Krumhaus

**Rick Hofscher**, nephew of David & Kathi Ranowsky

**Jim Saros**, brother of Niki Gamble

**Karen Renner**, sister of Doris Gearing

**Nancy Evans**, sister of Sara Bennett

## **Ongoing Concern**

**Karen Culpeper**, friend of David & Kathi Ranowsky

**Janine Katonah**, friend of Rietta Klair, awaiting appointment with a brain specialist

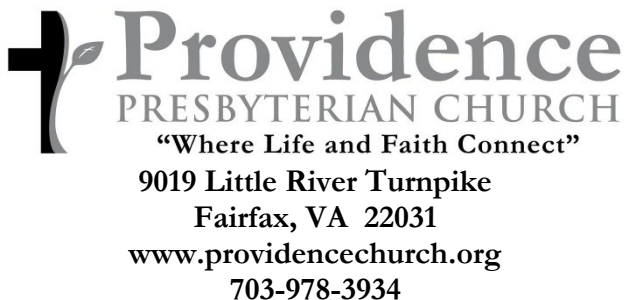
## **Recovering from Surgery**

**Lesley McKeever**

## **\*New to Prayer List / Change in listing**

Contact [office@providencechurch.org](mailto:office@providencechurch.org):

- ◇ if someone's status has changed
- ◇ to add a loved one to the prayer list



## PROGRAM STAFF

Rev. Matt Baker, Pastor / Head of Staff x1003, RevMatt@providencechurch.org  
Rev. Mary Rodgers, Associate Pastor x1004, RevMary@providencechurch.org  
Paige Bach, Director of Next Generation Ministry x1005, Paige@providencechurch.org

## MUSIC STAFF

Gene Kaye, Director of Traditional Music Ministry / DirMus@providencechurch.org  
Director of Providence Singers  
Jane Kaye, Organist / Pianist Organist@providencechurch.org  
Geoff Pemble, Worship Band Leader  
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## ADMIN STAFF

Kyle Durbin, Financial Manager x1007, BusMgr@providencechurch.org  
Susanne Fitch, Office Manager x1001, Office@providencechurch.org  
Ray Cantwell, Facilities Manager x1006, Facilities@providencechurch.org  
Camden Breece, Facilities Assistant

**To inquire about renting our facilities, contact rentals@providencechurch.org.**

### CHURCH HOURS

**Sunday: 9:30 am to 12:30 pm**  
**Monday - Friday: 10:00 am to 2:00 pm**

**Please ring the doorbell for assistance.**



**TO GIVE:**  
**Scan above or**  
**text Giveppc to 73256**