



PROVIDENCE Baptist Church

September 13, 2026

We enjoy a high priest who still works in the heavens. His vocation is not finished, but it is based on his accomplished sacrifice. He serves in the heavenly sanctuary as the Levites served on the earth.

Patric Schriener, *The Ascension of Christ*

Announcements and Call to Worship

Prelude for Worship

Call to Worship Hymn O Great God (35)

O great God of highest heav'n, occupy my lowly heart.
Own it all and reign supreme, conquer ev'ry rebel pow'r.
Let no vice or sin remain that resists Your holy war.
You have loved and purchased me, make me Yours forevermore.

I was blinded by my sin, had no ears to hear Your voice,
Did not know Your love within, had no taste for heaven's joys.
Then Your Spirit gave me life, opened up Your Word to me,
Through the gospel of Your Son, gave me endless hope and peace.

Help me now to live a life that's dependent on Your grace.
Keep my heart and guard my soul from the evils that I face.
You are worthy to be praised with my ev'ry thought and deed.
O great God of highest heav'n, glorify Your Name through me.

Scripture Reading Amos 9:11-15

¹¹ "In that day I will raise up
the booth of David that is fallen
and repair its breaches,
and raise up its ruins
and rebuild it as in the days of old,
¹² that they may possess the remnant of Edom
and all the nations who are called by my name,"
declares the LORD who does this.
¹³ "Behold, the days are coming," declares the LORD,
"when the plowman shall overtake the reaper
and the treader of grapes him who sows the seed;
the mountains shall drip sweet wine,
and all the hills shall flow with it.
¹⁴ I will restore the fortunes of my people Israel,
and they shall rebuild the ruined cities and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and drink their wine,
and they shall make gardens and eat their fruit.

¹⁵ I will plant them on their land,
and they shall never again be uprooted
out of the land that I have given them,"
says the LORD your God.

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn Oh, How Good It Is (332)

Oh, how good it is when the fam'ly of God
dwells together in spirit, in faith and unity.
Where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love
are the fruits of His presence here among us.

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord;
and with one heart we'll live out His Word.
Till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come,
for He dwells in the presence of His people.

Oh, how good it is on this journey we share,
to rejoice with the happy and weep with those who mourn.
For the weak find strength, the afflicted find grace
when we offer the blessing of belonging.

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord;
and with one heart we'll live out His Word.
Till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come,
for He dwells in the presence of His people.

Oh, how good it is to embrace His command
to prefer one another, forgive as He forgives.
When we live as one, we all share in the love
of the Son with the Father and the Spirit.

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord;
and with one heart we'll live out His Word.
Till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come,
for He dwells in the presence of His people.

Hymn Not in Me (405)

No list of sins I have not done,
no list of virtues I pursue,
No list of those I am not like
can earn myself a place with You.
O God! Be merciful to me;
I am a sinner through and through.
My only hope of righteousness
is not in me, but only You.

No humble dress, no fervent prayer,
no lifted hands, no tearful song,
No recitation of the truth,
can justify a single wrong.
My righteousness is Jesus' life;
my debt was paid by Jesus' death.
My weary load was borne by Him
and He alone can give me rest.

No separation from the world,
no work I do, no gift I give

Can cleanse my conscience, cleanse my hands;
I cannot cause my soul to live.
But Jesus died and rose again;
the pow'r of death is overthrown!
My God is merciful to me
and merciful in Christ alone.

Scripture Reading Acts 14:27-15:35

²⁷ And when they arrived and gathered the church together, they declared all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles. ²⁸ And they remained no little time with the disciples.

¹⁵ But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." ² And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and the elders about this question. ³ So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, describing in detail the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the brothers. ⁴ When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they declared all that God had done with them. ⁵ But some believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees rose up and said, "It is necessary to circumcise them and to order them to keep the law of Moses."

⁶ The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider this matter. ⁷ And after there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "Brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. ⁸ And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, ⁹ and he made no distinction between us and them, having cleansed their hearts by faith. ¹⁰ Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? ¹¹ But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will."

¹² And all the assembly fell silent, and they listened to Barnabas and Paul as they related what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles. ¹³ After they finished speaking, James replied, "Brothers, listen to me. ¹⁴ Simeon has related how God first visited the Gentiles, to take from them a people for his name. ¹⁵ And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written,

¹⁶ "'After this I will return, and I will rebuild the tent of David that has fallen;
I will rebuild its ruins, and I will restore it, ¹⁷ that the remnant of mankind may seek the Lord, and all the Gentiles who are called by my name, says the Lord, who makes these things ¹⁸ known from of old.'

¹⁹ Therefore my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God, ²⁰ but should write to them to abstain from the things polluted by idols, and from sexual immorality, and from what has been strangled, and from blood. ²¹ For from ancient generations Moses has had in every city those who proclaim him, for he is read every Sabbath in the synagogues."

²² Then it seemed good to the apostles and the elders, with the whole church, to choose men from among them and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They sent Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leading men among the brothers, ²³ with the following letter: "The brothers, both the apostles and the elders, to the brothers who are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, greetings. ²⁴ Since we have heard that some persons have gone out from us and troubled you with words, unsettling your minds, although we gave them no instructions, ²⁵ it has seemed good to us, having come to one accord, to choose men and send them to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, ²⁶ men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁷ We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will tell you the same things by word of mouth. ²⁸ For it has seemed good to the

Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements: ²⁹ that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell."

³⁰ So when they were sent off, they went down to Antioch, and having gathered the congregation together, they delivered the letter. ³¹ And when they had read it, they rejoiced because of its encouragement. ³² And Judas and Silas, who were themselves prophets, encouraged and strengthened the brothers with many words. ³³ And after they had spent some time, they were sent off in peace by the brothers to those who had sent them. ³⁵ But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.

Worship in Tithes and Offerings

Sermon Dr. Blair Waddell

"The Gospel of Christ Above All" Acts 15:1-21

Hymn of Commitment Before the Throne of God Above (187)

Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong and perfect plea:
A great High Priest whose name is Love,
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands.
My name is written on His heart.
I know that while in heav'n He stands,
No tongue can bid me thence depart;
no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there,
Who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free.
For God, the Just, is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me;
to look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there, the risen Lamb!
My perfect spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of Glory and of Grace.
One with Himself, I cannot die;
My soul is purchased by His blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God;
with Christ, my Savior and my God!

Benediction

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Sermon Outline

“The Gospel of Christ Above All” Acts 15:1-21

- I. A Crisis in Antioch (Acts 15:1)
- II. A Consultation with Jerusalem (Acts 15:2-5)
- III. A Council Among Like-Minded Churches (Acts 15:6-21)
 - a. The Testimony of Peter (Acts 15:7-11, see chapters 10-11)
 - b. The Testimony of Paul & Barnabas (Acts 15:12)
 - c. The Testimony of James (Acts 15:13-21, 28-29; Psalm 67; Isaiah 2:2, 43:7-9; Jeremiah 14:9; Amos 9:11-12; Deuteronomy 14:2; Zechariah 2:11)
- IV. Consider the Implications of the Decision
 - a. Revelation and Results were important in the final decision.
 - b. What they did not include?
 - c. What they did include and why? (1 Thessalonians 1:9, 1 Corinthians 10:14).
- V. Applying the Gospel Above All in the 21st Century.

K Group Questions

1. What was the danger of requiring circumcision for salvation? Was this a minor issue? Why or why not?
2. In what ways did the council of Jerusalem use revelation and results to make their decision?
3. What are stumbling blocks to the gospel in the contemporary church?
4. Why is asking someone to live by a set of rules instead of by faith alone in Christ dangerous?
5. As a church body, what practices can we put in place to ensure that Jesus and his gospel is elevated above all other things in our congregation?

WEEKLY HAPPENINGS:

Monday – Saturday

Men's Small Group Bible Study – Contact Scott Dolloff
scott.dolloff2009@gmail.com

Wednesday

K Groups @ 6pm – Host Homes / Youth at PBC
Adult Choir Rehearsal Immediately Following K Group

Thursday

Ladies Bible Study, 9:30am-11:00am, Youth Room

Saturday

Ric Crooks' Small Group Bible Study, 6:15am, Youth Room

ANNOUNCEMENTS

❖ New Announcement

Worship care volunteers needed for fall quarter.

We need six additional worship care volunteers to serve during the months of September, October, and November. Each volunteer serves twice per quarter. If you are able to serve or have any questions, please contact Susanna Farmer (615) 202-4659.

❖ **September 13 – Quarterly Member Update Meeting, 4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall**

We encourage you to meet the following prospective members: Tyler Ebner, Justin Effendi, Hunter and Kelly Holler, Tiffany Rozell, James Smith, and Terri, Sarah, and David Wallin. The elders have met with them, listened to their testimonies, and will be bringing them forward for affirmation at the Quarterly Member Meeting **Today** at 4:00pm. Please contact an Elder if you have any questions: elders@providencebaptist.us. All PBC members are encouraged to attend this meeting. Childcare will be available for ages 5 and under. Fellowship and refreshments after the meeting.

September 19 – Heritage Hands Ladies Fellowship

Women and school age girls are invited to connect and share the skills, hobbies, and wisdom God has given us. We will meet Saturday, September 19 at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. ****You don't have to be crafty to participate!**** Please sign up in the foyer. For more information, contact Allison Hellmann, Jessica Kirkland, Lu Hastings, or Nicole Hale.

September 24 - Men's Quarterly Fellowship

Men of Providence, come join us for some BBQ and fellowship on Thursday evening, September 24th at 6:00PM at the Greenbrier Restaurant, 27028 Old Hwy 20, Madison, AL 35756. Sign up in the foyer. Please contact Scott Dolloff, scott.dolloff2009@gmail.com with any questions.

The Prospective Members' class starts September 27.

This is a 6-week course during the Sunday School hour that goes over the biblical view of church membership, introduces the beliefs and vision of PBC, how the church operates, and ways to serve within the body. This class is required for membership. A 6-week Gospel Primer course immediately follows. Sign-up sheet is in the foyer. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Daniel at daniel.weaver@providencebaptist.us.

❖ **4th Qtr. Sunday School Registration Has Begun - Signup in the Foyer**

The 4th Quarter Sunday School will begin September 27, 2026.

Please make sure to turn in your Sunday School Evaluation of the 3rd quarter courses.

❖ **Singing at the park**

Join us at Creekwood Park on Sunday, October 11th as we read through Philippians and sing hymns! Come as early as 4:30 pm to fellowship, and BYO picnic. Singing will start around 6:00 pm. The church fellowship hall is backup for inclement weather. Let the Wolfes know if you can come: 256-808-0503.

❖ **Church-Centered Missions for the Glory of God - Theology Conference - November 7th - 8th, FH**

Save the date for this year's Theology Conference with Aaron Menikoff. Aaron serves as the Senior Pastor of Mount Vernon Baptist Church in Georgia. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Association of Churches for Missions and Evangelism (ACME). Make plans to join us Saturday, November 7 for sessions beginning at 9:00 AM and Sunday, November 8 at 10:15 AM for our regular worship service.

For Your Calendar

September 13	Quarterly Member Update Meeting, 4:00 PM, FH
September 15	Elder's Meeting, 6:30 PM
September 22	Teaching Ministry Team Meeting
September 22	Deacon's Meeting, 6:30 PM
September 24	Men's Quarterly Fellowship, Greenbrier Restaurant, 6:00 PM

September 27	4 th Quarter Sunday School Begins
October 5-9	Fall Break (no K Groups)
October 6	Elder's Meeting, 6:30 PM
October 10	2 nd Saturday Ladies Book Discussion, 9:15 – 11:00 AM, FH
October 11	Creekwood Park Singing, 4:30 PM (fellowship), 6:00 PM (singing)
October 14	Missions Team Meeting
October 18	Chili Cookoff
October 20	Elder's Meeting, 6:30 PM
October 27	Deacon's Meeting, 6:30 PM

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Sunday School: 9:00 am
Worship Service: 10:15 am