



# PROVIDENCE Baptist Church

May 17, 2026

Pride is a vice, which cleaves so fast unto the hearts of men, that if we were to strip ourselves of all faults, one by one, we should undoubtedly find it the very last and hardest to put off.

Thomas Hooker

## **Announcements and Call to Worship**

**Prelude for Worship .....It is Well with My Soul (407)**

**Call to Worship Hymn ..... We Come, O Christ, to You (111)**

We come, O Christ, to You, True Son of God and man,  
By Whom all things consist, In Whom all life began:  
In You alone we live and move, And have our being in Your love.

You are the Way to God, Your blood our ransom paid;  
In You we face our Judge, And Maker unafraid.  
Before the throne absolved we stand, Your love has met Your law's demand.

You are the living Truth! All wisdom dwells in You,  
The Source of ev'ry skill, The One Eternal True!  
O great I AM! In You we rest, Sure answer to our ev'ry quest.

You only are true Life, To know You is to live  
The more abundant life, That earth can never give:  
O Risen Lord! We live in You, In us each day Your life renew!

We worship You, Lord Christ, Our Savior and our King,  
To You our youth and strength, Adoringly we bring:  
So fill our hearts, that all may view, Your life in us, and turn to You!

**Scripture Reading ..... 2 Kings 17:24-41**

<sup>24</sup>And the king of Assyria brought people from Babylon, Cuthah, Avva, Hamath, and Sepharvaim, and placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the people of Israel. And they took possession of Samaria and lived in its cities. <sup>25</sup>And at the beginning of their dwelling there, they did not fear the LORD. Therefore the LORD sent lions among them, which killed some of them. <sup>26</sup>So the king of Assyria was

told, “The nations that you have carried away and placed in the cities of Samaria do not know the law of the god of the land. Therefore he has sent lions among them, and behold, they are killing them, because they do not know the law of the god of the land.” <sup>27</sup>Then the king of Assyria commanded, “Send there one of the priests whom you carried away from there, and let him go and dwell there and teach them the law of the god of the land.” <sup>28</sup>So one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came and lived in Bethel and taught them how they should fear the LORD. <sup>29</sup>But every nation still made gods of its own and put them in the shrines of the high places that the Samaritans had made, every nation in the cities in which they lived. <sup>30</sup>The men of Babylon made Succoth-benoth, the men of Cuth made Nergal, the men of Hamath made Ashima, <sup>31</sup>and the Avvites made Nibhaz and Tartak; and the Sepharvites burned their children in the fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim. <sup>32</sup>They also feared the LORD and appointed from among themselves all sorts of people as priests of the high places, who sacrificed for them in the shrines of the high places. <sup>33</sup>So they feared the LORD but also served their own gods, after the manner of the nations from among whom they had been carried away. <sup>34</sup>To this day they do according to the former manner. They do not fear the LORD, and they do not follow the statutes or the rules or the law or the commandment that the LORD commanded the children of Jacob, whom he named Israel. <sup>35</sup>The LORD made a covenant with them and commanded them, “You shall not fear other gods or bow yourselves to them or serve them or sacrifice to them, <sup>36</sup>but you shall fear the LORD, who brought you out of the land of Egypt with great power and with an outstretched arm. You shall bow yourselves to him, and to him you shall sacrifice. <sup>37</sup>And the statutes and the rules and the law and the commandment that he wrote for you, you shall always be careful to do. You shall not fear other gods, <sup>38</sup>and you shall not forget the covenant that I have made with you. You shall not fear other gods, <sup>39</sup>but you shall fear the LORD your God, and he will deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies.” <sup>40</sup>However, they would not listen, but they did according to their former manner. <sup>41</sup>So these nations feared the LORD and also served their carved images. Their children did likewise, and their children's children—as their fathers did, so they do to this day.

### **Pastoral Prayer**

#### **Hymn ..... God, Be Merciful to Me (390)**

God, be merciful to me, on Thy grace I rest my plea;  
Plenteous in compassion Thou, blot out my transgressions now;  
Wash me, make me pure within, cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

My transgressions I confess, grief and guilt my soul oppress;  
I have sinned against Thy grace and provoked Thee to Thy face;  
I confess Thy judgement just, speechless, I Thy mercy trust.

I am evil, born in sin; Thou desirest truth within,  
Thou alone my Savior art, teach Thy wisdom to my heart;

Make me pure, Thy grace bestow, wash me whiter than the snow.

Broken, humbled to the dust by Thy wrath and judgment just,  
Let my contrite heart rejoice and in gladness hear Thy voice;  
From my sins O hide Thy face, blot them out in boundless grace.

Gracious God, my heart renew, make my spirit right and true;  
Cast me not away from Thee, let Thy Spirit dwell in me;  
Thy salvation's joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.

Sinners then shall learn from me and return, O God, to Thee;  
Savior, all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing Thy love;  
Touch my silent lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.

**Hymn ..... O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing (136)**

O for a thousand tongues to sing My great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King, The triumphs of His grace!

Jesus! the name that charms our fears, That bids our sorrows cease;  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the pow'r of canceled sin, He sets the prisoner free;  
His blood can make the foulest clean, His blood availed for me.

Hear Him, ye deaf; His praise, ye dumb, Your loosened tongues employ;  
Ye blind, behold your Savior come, And leap, ye lame, for joy.

My gracious Master and my God, Assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad, the honors of Thy name.

**Scripture Reading ..... Acts 8:1-25**

And Saul approved of his execution. And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. 2 Devout men buried Stephen and made great lamentation over him. 3 But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison. 4 Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word. 5 Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. 6 And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. 7 For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. 8 So there was much joy in that city. 9 But there was a man named Simon, who had previously practiced magic in the city and amazed the people of Samaria, saying that he himself was somebody great. 10 They all paid attention to him, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the power of God that is called Great." 11 And they paid attention to him because for

a long time he had amazed them with his magic. 12 But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. 13 Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip. And seeing signs and great miracles performed, he was amazed. 14 Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, 15 who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, 16 for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. 18 Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, 19 saying, "Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." 20 But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! 21 You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. 22 Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. 23 For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity." 24 And Simon answered, "Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may come upon me." 25 Now when they had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans.

### **Worship in Tithes and Offerings**

**Sermon ..... Joel Blevins**  
**"Scattered Proclamation of the Risen Lord" – Acts 8:4-25**

**Hymn of Commitment ..... I'd Rather Have Jesus (379)**

I'd rather have Jesus than silver or gold;  
I'd rather be His than have riches untold;  
I'd rather have Jesus than houses or lands.  
I'd rather be led by His nail-pierced hand  
Than to be the king of a vast domain  
Or be held in sin's dread sway.  
I'd rather have Jesus than anything  
This world affords today.

I'd rather have Jesus than men's applause;  
I'd rather be faithful to His dear cause;  
I'd rather have Jesus than worldwide fame.  
I'd rather be true to His holy name  
Than to be the king of a vast domain  
Or be held in sin's dread sway.  
I'd rather have Jesus than anything  
This world affords today.

He's fairer than lilies of rarest bloom;

He's sweeter than honey from out the comb;  
He's all that my hungering spirit needs.  
I'd rather have Jesus and let Him lead  
Than to be the king of a vast domain  
Or be held in sin's dread sway.  
I'd rather have Jesus than anything  
This world affords today.

### **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**

#### **"Scattered Proclamation of the Risen Lord" – Acts 8:4-25**

- I. Scattered Proclamation (v. 4-8)
- II. Lost Sheet of Samaria Gathered (v. 9-13)
- III. Apostolic Affirmation (v. 14-17, 25)
- IV. The Heart of the Matter (v. 18-24)

### **Application:**

- Leadership must be tested.
- Where do your priorities lie?
- We must share the gospel with confidence to all.

### **Announcements**

#### **Worship Care -- Summer Volunteer Sign-up and Call for New Volunteers**

The Worship Care volunteer schedule is being created for June – August. If you are currently a volunteer, please share your availability. If you would like to become a new volunteer, fill out the Google form via the QR Code and/or contact Susanna Farmer (615-202-4659) or Brooke Craig (214-471-4141).

#### **VBS – June 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

We are excited about our theme this year "The Upside-Down Kingdom – Living the Beatitudes Everyday"! VBS Registration is Open! Please use the QR code to register.

#### **Men's Conference: June 26-27 – Friday 6:30 pm to Saturday 8:00 am**

Our theme this year will be Living as Witnesses in the World. To go along with our study of Acts, we will look at how the Bible calls men to live as witnesses of the Lord Jesus in the home, workplace, and beyond. Make plans to attend and invite your friends for a time of Bible teaching and fellowship. *Registration is coming soon!*

### **Children's Sunday School**

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered so far to help in Sunday School next year! Several positions have been filled, but we are still looking for a helper for one-year-olds, three-year-olds, four-year-olds, 2nd and 3rd graders, and 5th and 6th graders. If you would like to volunteer for one of these positions, please contact Kimberly Cox at (256) 468-5502 or Susan Herder at (256) 270-6156.

### **For Your Calendar**

May 19	Elders Meeting @ 6:30 pm
May 25	Memorial Day – Office Closed
May 26	Deacons Meeting @ 6:30 pm
May 27	Summer Prayer Meetings Begin
May 29	Games at Valley View @ 2:30 pm
May 30-June 3	Student Summer Camp 2026
June 3	Quarterly Update
June 8-12	VBS
June 9	Missions Meeting
June 21	Father's Day
June 21	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Sunday School Ends
June 23	Teaching Ministry Team Meeting
June 26	Games at Valley View @ 2:30 pm
June 28	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Sunday School Begins
June 28	Hymn Sing @ 6:00 pm

**Congratulations to the Class of 2026! PBC commends these student's dedication and hard work as they reach this significant milestone. We are proud to honor the following individuals on their graduation:**

#### **Will Cox**

University of Alabama in Huntsville  
Electrical Engineering

#### **Grace Anne Ingram**

Jacksonville State  
Education

#### **Olivia Waddell**

University of Alabama  
Environmental Engineering

#### **Jorryn Zelek**

University of Alabama in Huntsville  
Chemical Engineering

#### **Sarah Wallin**

Homeschooled  
will attend Calhoun for Nursing