



# **PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH**

**Hendersonville, North Carolina**  
**Sunday    October 18, 2009    10:30 a.m.**

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**Celebration of Pastoral Installation  
For Julie Merritt Lee**

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

## Celebration of Pastoral Installation

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Gathering for Worship and Celebration

Jerry Smith

The Prelude

HYFRYDOL

*The candle is lit as a symbol of God's presence.*

Silent Reflection

All Christians are considered to have a call to what is commonly termed 'the priesthood of all believers'; all are expected to use their lives so as to reveal the grace of the Holy Spirit working through them. It's a tall order, to literally be a sacrament, and it helps to remember Jesus' statement in the fifteenth chapter of John's Gospel: "You did not choose me; I chose you."  
-Kathleen Norris, *Amazing Grace*

Call to Worship

Frank Geer

*Leader:* Come all who have gathered,  
**Congregation:** **To taste and see that God is good,**  
*Leader:* To trust and hope in the Holy One;  
**Congregation:** **The Holy Creator,**  
*Leader:* The Holy Redeemer,  
**Congregation:** **The Holy Midwife in our midst –**  
*Leader:* Because of Your great love we are not consumed,  
**Congregation:** **Your compassions never fail.**  
*Leader:* They are new every morning:  
**Congregation:** **Great is thy faithfulness.**

\*Hymn of Gathering

"The Sacred Now"

HYFRYDOL

We begin this day in stillness, We are here, and it is now.  
Sacred time we all have gathered, Casting cares, we bend and bow.  
God of wisdom, God of nurture, Hem us in before, behind.  
Hollow out the space inside us, Fill us with pure love divine.

Shapeless void to form and beauty, In your image, we are made.  
Breathing, living, moving, striving, Light of lights, our hearts invade.  
For we lay our fears before you, Love whose power can set us free.  
Birth in us the gift of presence; Birth in us eternity.

In this sacred space together, We are bound and yet we're free.  
Free to dream and free to cherish, Love that's borne of Trinity.  
Bring to us your consolation; Mercies new this day begin.  
We remember you have found us. On this day, we're born again.

Psalms Reading

Randy Wright

Psalm 46

Invocation Gail Coulter

Greetings

From North Carolina Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Jack Causey  
From National Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Clarissa Strickland

\*Hymn of Dedication “God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian” ODE TO JOY

God the Spirit, guide and guardian, wind-spiced flame and hovering dove,  
Breath of life and voice of prophets, sign of blessing, power of love,  
Give to those who lead your people, fresh anointing of your grace.  
Send them forth as bold apostles to your church in every place.

Christ our Savior, sovereign, Shepherd, word made flesh, love crucified,  
Teacher, healer, suffering servant, friend of sinners, foe of pride,  
In your tending may all pastors learn and live a shepherd's care;  
Grant them courage and compassion shown through word and deed and prayer.

Great Creator, life bestower, truth beyond all thoughts recall,  
Fount of wisdom, womb of mercy, giving and forgiving all,  
As you know our strength and weakness, so may those the church exalts  
Oversee its life steadfastly yet not overlook its faults.

Triune God mysterious being, undivided and diverse,  
Deeper than our minds can fathom, greater than our creeds rehearse,  
Help us in our varied callings your full image to proclaim,  
That our ministries uniting may give glory to your name.

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Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer Julie Merritt Lee

***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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.***

Musical Meditation “If With All Your Heart” Todd Geer  
from *Elijah* by Mendelssohn

Epistle Reading Michael Lee  
2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:5

Sermon “It's Good To Be Pastor” George Mason

## The Pastor and Church in Covenant

Phillip Allen                      Having been led by the Holy Spirit to call Julie Merritt Lee as our pastor, we join hearts and hands to fulfill our mission:

**Congregation:**                **We respond to God's redemptive love in Jesus Christ, the faith community known as Providence Baptist Church: Growing a worshiping, inquiring community of faith and ministry**

Gail Coulter:                      Why are we here today?

*Julie Merritt Lee:*                *I come to this hour in response to God's redemptive love and call upon my life. I commit myself anew to the vocation of pastoral ministry, to be lived in this place with this community of faith known as Providence Baptist Church!*

**Congregation:**                **We welcome you as our pastor and co-laborer with God. We reaffirm our commitment to be responsive to God's redemptive love.**

Randy Wright:                      Will you depend on God and be led by the Holy Spirit?

*Julie Merritt Lee:*                *I pledge to let the grace of Jesus Christ be the source from which my labors begin and toward which all my efforts shall strive, and to seek in all my ministry among you the empowering leadership of the Holy Spirit.*

**Congregation:**                **We recognize our dependence on the grace of God, which brings us together as church, ready to be open to the leadership of the Holy Spirit.**

Phillip Allen:                      Do you recognize that the priority of the church is worshipping God?

*Julie Merritt Lee:*                *I will celebrate and take seriously worshipping God with you in thanksgiving and hope, for God is our Lord and our well-being depends upon God. I believe worship is fundamental for God's people; our chief purpose is to glorify God.*

**Congregation:**                **It is in worship of the living God that we communicate with the Almighty and express our identity as a people who live in thanksgiving and hope.**

Gail Coulter:                      Will you care for each other in community?

*Julie Merritt Lee:*                *I commit to join you in caring for others in Jesus' name. I promise to give my best in pastoral care to all who are in need, seeking greater health and wholeness in Christ for those within and beyond our congregation.*

**Congregation:**                **We welcome the ministry of pastoral care; we will be open to receive and to offer comfort, assurance, guidance, and acceptance as we can.**

Randy Wright: Will you follow God's word?

*Julie Merritt Lee: I covenant with you to base my lifestyle and belief on the study of God's word. I believe God's word will bring light for our journey, for God has not given us a spirit of fear or timidity, but a spirit of power and love and self-control.*

**Congregation: We need the nourishment of God's word as our pastor teaches and preaches. We will honor the time our pastor spends in her ongoing preparation for the ministry of God's word. We will seek to heed and act upon the message of Truth which she presents.**

Phillip Allen: How will you share the Good News with others?

*Julie Merritt Lee: I pledge to give priority to the clear proclamation of the Good News. I will seek to incarnate a heartfelt evangelism, striving with honesty and integrity to lead persons to faith in God through Jesus Christ. I will discipline myself to spend sufficient time in Bible study and prayer as is essential for the preaching of the Gospel.*

**Congregation: We will share in this ministry of evangelism by giving witness to our faith as salt and light to people around us. We will make intercessory prayer a priority as the church continues to expand its outreach efforts, beginning in Hendersonville.**

Gail Coulter: How will you relate as pastor and congregation?

*Julie Merritt Lee: I pledge to invest energy and insight faithfully and responsibly in all facets of our being and doing church. As a good steward of pastoral administration, I will endeavor to combine the good of efficient leadership with that of compassionate servanthood.*

**Congregation: We will look to you for leadership of our church, and the church organization as it functions in ministry. We pledge to you our energies in sharing church responsibility as an expression of our belief in the priesthood of all believers.**

Randy Wright: How will you use your spiritual gifts?

*Julie Merritt Lee: I will seek to exercise my spiritual gifts in nurturing and engaging the laity in ministry for our Lord.*

**Congregation: We will seek to respond as God enables us to discover and use our gifts for the work of ministry in building up the body of Christ.**

Phillip Allen: How will you respect and protect your family?

*Julie Merritt Lee: I will love and enjoy my family. My husband Michael is a remarkable companion on the journey. We commit to love and serve each other out of our love for Christ.*

**Congregation: We respect your family and expect you to put your family first in human relationships. We have no greater expectations for your family experiences than we have for ours: that we may love one another and serve our Lord through our family life.**

Gail Coulter: How will you stay healthy?

*Julie Merritt Lee: I will exercise the necessary discipline to stay mentally, spiritually, emotionally and physically healthy.*

**Congregation: We remember that our Lord took his disciples aside from work to rest a while and that he withdrew from the crowds to pray. We encourage you to get adequate rest, to utilize opportunities for vacation and leisure, and to experience lifelong learning and spiritual renewal through retreats, continuing education, and sabbaticals.**

Randy Wright: As congregation and pastor, will you pray for one another?

*Julie Merritt Lee: I will pray for you and hold you in my heart as my brothers and sisters in Christ.*

**Congregation: We will uphold you and your family continually in our prayers.**

***Julie Merritt Lee and Congregation:***

***So now we, pastor and people, do covenant together from this day forward to seek first the Kingdom of God and the righteousness of God. Together we will explore the love God has given us, that we should even be called children of God.***

***Speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into the One who is the Head, that is, Christ, until we reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.***

Prayer of Installation

Phillip Allen

\*Hymn of Response

“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

BEECHER

Called as partners in Christ’s service, called to ministries of grace,  
We respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,  
Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God’s chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
Let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.  
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,  
Blending human skills together, gracious gifts from God untold.

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,  
Help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.  
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,  
Bring new pow'r and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life  
That surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.  
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,  
Messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

Words © Jane Parker Huber (Admin. Westminster John Knox Press) UBP

\*The Response in Giving Ourselves and Our Offerings

\*The Prayer of Dedication

Lisa Obermiller

\*The Hymn of Dedication,

EDELWEISS

“May the Lord Mighty Lord”

May the Lord, mighty Lord, bless and keep you forever.  
Grant you peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor.  
Lift your eyes to see His face, know His grace forever.  
May the Lord, mighty Lord, bless and keep you forever.

The Benediction

Julie Merritt Lee

The Postlude

BEECHER

*\*Those who are able, please stand.*

### **OUR MINISTRY TEAM**

Pastor: Rev. Julie Merritt Lee

Director of Church Music: Robert Hudson

Accompanist: Annette Hudson



*The flowers in worship are given by Wilshire Baptist Church in honor of Julie Merritt Lee in celebration of her new ministry at Providence Baptist Church.*



*Please join us for a reception in the Fellowship Hall downstairs immediately following the service.*

**PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**Growing a worshipping, inquiring community of faith and ministry**



Julie Merritt Lee

*Pastor, Providence Baptist Church*

Julie comes to Providence from Wilshire Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas where she served as a Pastoral Resident. Julie is a native of southeast Texas, and is married to Michael Lee (Julie began her Providence Baptist Church pastorate on their first wedding anniversary).

Julie graduated Magna Cum Laude at William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. She has a Master of Divinity degree from George W. Truett Theological Seminary in Waco, Texas, where she received an Outstanding Preacher Award.

**Guests, Family and Friends participating in Worship today**

George Mason

*Senior Pastor, Wilshire Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas*

George Mason has been senior pastor at Wilshire since August 1989. He is a nationally recognized leader among Baptists. At Wilshire, he has birthed and directs the unique pastoral residency program that currently enjoys funding from the Lilly Endowment. One of his passions is encouraging those whom God has called into vocational ministry. A native of New York City, George has been married to his wife, Kim, since 1979. They have three children.

Michael Lee

Michael and Julie met in San Antonio, Texas in September 2006 during their Clinical Pastoral Education residency. They were married July 26, 2008 in Waco, Texas. Michael holds a Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York City and a Bachelor of Science degree in finance from Binghamton University.

Gail Coulter

Gail was the founding pastor of Providence in 2000, she retired in 2008. Prior to Providence she was associate pastor to older adults at FBC Asheville. She is a graduate of Chandler Theological Seminary at Emory University.

Randy Wright

Following Gail Coulter's retirement Randy was the interim pastor of Providence Baptist Church. Randy was the longtime pastor of Fernwood Baptist Church in Spartanburg, SC and served as the Executive Director of The Snail's Pace in Saluda, North Carolina.

Phillip Allen

Chair, Pastor Search Committee

Frank Geer

Chair, Personnel Committee

Jerry Smith

Member of Pastor Search Committee

Lisa Obermiller

Member of Personnel Committee

