

# JEHOVAH-JIREH\*

*“The LORD [Provider]” is He who meets particular needs and puts forward the needed sacrifice.*

SCRIPTURE†	MUSIC‡
<b>Genesis 22:1-19</b> <b>Psalm 46</b> <b>Psalm 103</b> <b>Psalm 121</b> <b>Matthew 6:25-34; Romans 4:1-8</b> Romans 8:31-32 <b>Ephesians 2:1-18</b> Philippians 4:19-20 <b>Hebrews 4:12-16</b>	Come, Ye Thankful People For the Beauty of the Earth God Is So Good Great Is Thy Faithfulness My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness O God Beyond All Praising <b>O God Beyond All Praising (Forrest) SATB</b> O God, Our Help in Ages Past (Psalm 90) <b>Praise Him! (Courtney) SATB</b> Praise to the Lord, the Almighty <b>Sometimes a Light Surprises (Courtney) SATB</b> There Is a Redeemer We Gather Together You Are Always Good



**NORTHWEST VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

nwvbc.org | 623-581-3115 | 4030 W Yorkshire Drive, Glendale, AZ 85308

\* Theme corresponds to NWVBC's **Harvest Sunday**, the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

† Daily preparatory readings shown in **bold**.

‡ Published choral and vocal music shown in **bold**.

# PRESENTING & PROMOTING THIS THEME

## PLYMOUTH PLANTATION<sup>§</sup>

*As we look back over the year, we rehearse God's provision for our needs, and we thank Him for it. The Pilgrims did this very thing at a time when they desperately needed rain. They held a special prayer meeting to ask God to send rain, and when He did, the answer to their prayers was a powerful testimony to the Indians who were watching them. William will read a selection from *The Light and the Glory* that tells this story.*

In the late summer of 1623, the settlers of the Plymouth Plantation faced a severe drought that threatened to destroy their crops and leave them without the food they would need for the long winter months ahead. The leaders decided to set aside all other work and hold a day of prayer and fasting to petition God for the rain they desperately needed. Edward Winslow described the results of the prayer meeting as follows:

But, O the mercy of our God, who was as ready to hear, as we were to ask! For though in the morning, when we assembled together, the heavens were as clear and the drought as like to continue as ever it was, yet (our exercise continuing some eight or nine hours) before our departure, the weather was overcast, the clouds gathered on all sides. On the next morning distilled such soft, sweet and moderate showers of rain, continuing some fourteen days and mixed with such seasonable weather, as it was hard to say whether our withered corn or drooping affections were most quickened or revived, such was the bounty and goodness of our God!

William Bradford further testified that the rains revived the damaged corn and served as a powerful testimony to the Native Americans who witnessed the incident.

In this past year, as we have prayed for His provision, God has wonderfully blessed with funds for our church congregation to begin building our new auditorium. [Here William can insert a couple of specific examples of answered prayer and God's provision for the building. Reference the record missions giving in addition to the building fund, though the building fund is the focus.]

Just as the Pilgrims' restored crops were a testimony to the Indians who were watching, we pray that our new church building will be a testimony of God's goodness to the construction workers and others who are witnessing its progress. Today we thank Jehovah Jireh for His gracious, abundant provision. (Amy Tilson)

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<sup>§</sup> *The Light and the Glory* by Peter Marshall and David Manuel, pp. 142-143

## SPECIFIC PROVISION STORIES

*When Abraham needed a ram for a sacrifice, God provided for the exact need. He didn't send a whole herd of sheep, He provided one ram, right when and where Abraham needed it. The exact need was met perfectly, with precision. When God meets our needs, He often doesn't provide over abundantly. "Enough is as good as a feast." God gives us the grace that we need enough for the moment we need it, and not extra for later. Many of us have personal stories of how God provided to meet an exact need this year. (Collect short stories ahead of time of God's specific provision. Share synopses of these provision stories to complete the sentence, "The LORD provides...")*

**Email Message:** Dear Church Family,

As we enter November, some have asked, "Are we still doing our annual Harvest Sunday?" The simple answer is, "Yes!" The theme of our worship service will be thanks to God for His provision, and we plan to observe the Lord's Table in gratitude for the "unspeakable gift" of His Son. (We're still working through what the food part of that church tradition will look like this year.)

Our specific worship theme is Jehovah-Jireh, "the LORD Provides." The name comes from God's provision of the sacrificial ram for Abraham in place of his son Isaac (Genesis 22). While we often use the term Jehovah-Jireh for the *abundance* of God's provision (which is true), the original story features God's *specific* provision: He gives exactly the thing we need, at the exact moment we need it.

To help us worship Jehovah-Jireh on Harvest Sunday, we'd like to hear from you! Can you **share with us in a few sentences** a time when you needed something very specific, and God provided what you needed at just the right time, in just the right way? Email your responses to Susie French at [sfrench@nwvbc.org](mailto:sfrench@nwvbc.org). To those who respond, we will follow up with more information on how we plan to use these miniature testimonies in our worship service.

Thank you, church family, for contributing to our worship. We look forward to praising Jehovah-Jireh together on November 22!

“[Though I used to not sing in worship, God brought us to this church, whose worship services encouraged me to focus on the Lord, quiet my mind, and *sing*. Now I sing in my everyday life, and it is so comforting. God gave me music and worship to help me in my life.]” (Paula Thomasson)

“Any music talent [God gave to anyone in] my family ... has always been developed with the intention of being used ... in the ... church. It seems that God has always given our family musical instruments, music teachers, and opportunities to glorify Him through music. [Over the years, as we have prayed for the instruments we needed, He has provided a piano, a French horn, a trumpet, another piano, and more.]” (Rosemary Schaal)

“I needed another \$1,600 to help with [one of Susie’s] cancer treatment bills not covered by insurance. I prayed for God to provide but told no one of the need except Susie. Within five days, I received three [separate] cash gifts totaling \$1,650—that left an extra \$50 in the checkbook.” (Pastor French)

“I was working part-time and realized I [needed] a better-paying job with more hours. I went to the LORD right then [in prayer] and [started] thinking about what to try first. While I was [still] sitting there, my cell phone rang. It was a recruiter telling me that she had gotten me an interview. But it had to be that day; the company had already picked someone else but was willing to give me a chance. I went to the interview, and they hired me on the spot! I started the next day, a Thursday. The following Monday, I called the recruiter’s office to tell her ‘thank you’ for getting me the job. When I asked for her, they said, ‘She no longer works here.’ [I found out] she had been determined to get me a job before she moved back to Canada. I had no idea that she was working on my behalf. But God used her to come through in the exact moment when I needed that job.” (Teresa Raby)

“My husband went home to be with the Lord in April of this year. Being alone now and needing something to do to fill that emptiness, God provided what I needed [at just] the right time. He opened the door for me to teach one class at ACA: the 7th, 8th, and 9th grade girls’ Bible class, which I love.” (Louise Metzger)

“Seven years ago [I had to attend] my mom’s funeral [without my husband Jason.] ... Just before the service started, in walked a friend of mine who drove [several] hours just to sit with me for the service and graveside. ... I did not know I “needed” a friend at the time, since I was enjoying being with my sisters and dad. But when she showed up, it was God [giving me] someone [to have] by my side as I grieved and rejoiced in my mom’s home-going.” (Tami Wermager)

“The day that [my daughter] Asia came to know Jesus and the day she publicly was baptized and spoke of her belief and salvation—those were just what I needed. I felt like ... I [had done]

something right, to show Asia that Jesus is the only way. [God used her salvation to encourage me.]” (Teresa Griffin)

“The LORD has provided [us] two lonely people with *each other*, a wonderful house to live in, and a beautiful dog that has filled a void in our hearts.” (Gio Samoya)

“We had an old Chevrolet with many miles on it, so [we visited a recommended Christian car salesman in Lincoln]. He had a nice low-mileage vehicle [for sale with] payments we could afford. The car had just been traded in and had not yet been cleaned and serviced. But [the salesman said] we could [drive it away right] then and come back in a few days for the maintenance. When Ivan [returned to the lot] in a couple of days, our prior vehicle was still sitting where we had parked it. The salesman said the transmission had failed [right after we left]; they could not even back it out of the parking space! The LORD knew we could not afford a new transmission, nor could we be without a vehicle for even a short time.” ([Ivan &] Barbara Schaal)

“When Cory was a baby, we ran out of formula and baby food several days before our next paycheck. We had no idea how we were going to feed him. We prayed, and two hours later there was a knock on the door. [When we opened it,] no one was there. But there was a month’s supply of the formula we used and all his favorite foods. The giver remains anonymous to this day.” (Denise Owens)