* BENEDICTION

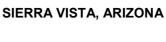
* BENEDICTION RESPONSE - "Our God is an Awesome God" - #616 (sing twice)

Our God is an awesome God
Who reigns from heaven above
With wisdom, power, and love,
Our God is an awesome God!

POSTLUDE "All Praise to God in Heaven On High" - Broughton

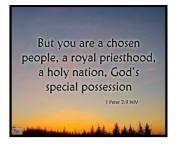


FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH





Rev. Brian R. Louis, Pastor Elder Judy Pike, Worship Leader Janis Wheat, Director of Music Debi Godwin, Choir Director



Order of Worship

5th Sunday of Easter

May 7, 2023

At the sound of the chimes, please use this time to silently prepare for worship.

CHIMES

PRELUDE "My Heart Rejoices" - Paxton

GREETING This is the day that the Lord has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

INTROIT "Great is the Lord" - (Faith Choir)

*CALL TO WORSHIP - (responsively)

How can we know the way of God?

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.

Beloved, let us love one another.

We love because God first loved us.

This is our new commandment in Christ:

As Jesus loves us, let us love one another.

Let us praise the Lord our God!

Let us sing praise and thanksgiving to the glory of God!

* OPENING HYMN - "Holy God, We Praise Your Name" - #4

* THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our redeemer.

Let us take a few minutes for silent reflection.

* THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsively)

Even though we turn away from God in sin, God is always there to forgive us. **Praise be to the Lord who is always there with the gift of mercy!**God loves us all, even when we sin against God and neighbor. **Praise be to the Lord who is always there with the gift of mercy!**I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

* GLORIA PATRI "Glory be to the Father"

Glory be to the Father; and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE (responsively)

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us share signs of reconciliation and peace. The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you.

(You are invited to offer your neighbor a brief sign of peace.)

THE WELCOMING OF GUESTS

We invite our guests to use the nametags in the attendance pads to identify themselves so that we may get to know each other.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDRENS TIME - Elder Richard Carter

ANTHEM - "Is He Worthy?" - arr. Sorenson (Faith Choir)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

God our helper, by your Holy Spirit, open our minds, that as the scriptures are read and your word is proclaimed, we may be led into your truth and taught your will, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE - Proverbs 4:10-18

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word. Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE - 1 Peter 2:2-10

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word. Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Never is Heard a Discouraging Word"

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD "The Apostles Creed"

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SHARING OUR PRAYERS OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

RECEPTION OF OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

OFFERTORY "Thy Word" - Smith & Grant

* DOXOLOGY - "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" - #609

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known; Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF OUR OFFERINGS AND OURSELVES

* CLOSING HYMN - "Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining" - #192