

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA

Rev. Brian R. Louis, Pastor

CRE Monica J. Russell, Guest Preacher

Elder Judy Pike, Worship Leader

Janis Wheat, Director of Music

Debi Godwin, Choir Director

Jeff Durham, Video Tech



Order of Worship Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

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

CHIMES

GREETING

This is the day that the Lord has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

PRELUDE - “Praise God!” – Livingston, Jr., (Based on “Coronation” by Holden and “Hymn to Joy” by Beethoven)

INTROIT - “Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet” - Faith Choir

#458

* CALL TO WORSHIP – (responsively)

Easter people, Jesus chose you and calls you friend!

We abide in Christ because Christ abides in us.

Jesus made a home among us to show us how to love.

We abide in Love because Love abides in us.

Jesus invites us to know that joy that comes when we love one another the way God loves us.

We abide in Joy because Joy abides in us.

Easter people, Jesus welcomes you!

We come to make our home with God and one another, bound together by Love and enlivened by Joy. Amen.

* **OPENING HYMN** - “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

#761

* 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 up in our concerns. We have gone along with evil, with pride, quarrelling, and divisiveness. Holy God, help us to face up to ourselves, so that, as you move

toward us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

~ Let us take a few moments for silent reflection. ~

*** THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsively)**

The commandment that we have from Christ Jesus is that we love one another, treating each other as beloved brothers and sisters. Abide in God's eternal love. Let its power and joy penetrate your hearts and spirits, preparing you for new growth in the Spirit. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Hear then Christ's word of grace to us: Your sins 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)**

May mercy, peace, and love be yours in abundance. 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

SPECIAL MUSIC - "Tis the Church Triumphant Singing" – Pethel - Faith Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Calm us, O Lord, into a quietness that heals and listens. Open wounded hearts to the balm of your Word. Speak to us in clear tones so that our spirits might leap for joy and skip with hope as your resurrection witnesses. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE – Psalm 98

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word. ***Thanks be to God.***

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE - John 15:9-17

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word. *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON “Chosen” Commissioned Ruling Elder Monica J. Russell

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 – “*Sonatina Op. 36, No. 2, Allegro*” – Clementi

* DOXOLOGY – “*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!*

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF OUR OFFERINGS

* CLOSING HYMN - “*In the Bulb There Is a Flower*”

#250

* BENEDICTION

*** BENEDICTION RESPONSE - *You Shall Go Out with Joy***

*You shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace;
The mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
There'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap,
will clap their hands.*

*And all the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap);
The trees of the field will clap their hands (clap);
The trees of the field will clap their hands (clap) while you go
out with joy.*

*You shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace;
The mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
There'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap,
will clap their hands.*

POSTLUDE - "Gloria" – Mozart

