



FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA

Rev. Brian R. Louis, Pastor
Elder Bill Brouwer, Worship Leader
Janis Wheat, Director of Music
Debi Godwin, Choir Director
Jeff Durham, Video Tech
Bethany Dunn, Video Tech



Order of Worship 2nd Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2024

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

CHIMES

PRELUDE *“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”* arr. Livingston

GREETING This is the day that the Lord has made!
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE - **“PEACE”** - The Williams Family

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT *“Advent Song”* - Walker (Congregation sings)
*Light the Advent candle, two: think of humble shepherds, who
filled with wonder at the sight of the child of Christmas night.
Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night.
Candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.*

* CALL TO WORSHIP – (responsively)

A voice cries out in the wilderness:

Prepare the way of the Lord!

God has promised us a new creation

where righteousness will be at home

Blessed is the Holy One our God,

who has sent a mighty Savior to redeem us!

* OPENING HYMN - *“Wild and Lone the Prophet’s Voice”* - #163

* THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Gracious and ever-loving God, on this Sunday of Advent where we speak of peace, let us be mindful of the times where we have not been peacemakers. We ask forgiveness from you dear God for the times where we cause strife with our actions and words. We ask for forgiveness for all our sins against you, your children, and creation. In your loving mercy, forgive our sins and bring us closer to obeying you and your will, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

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

* THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsively)

Those who love me, I will deliver, says the Lord;

I will protect those who know my name.

When they call to me, I will answer them;

I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and show them my salvation.

Receive the Good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

* GLORIA PATRI - Traditional

Glory be to the Father; and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. 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 - *"In the Bleak Midwinter"* - Rossetti, Holst, arr. Durham
Jeff Durham, soloist

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Gracious God, guide us as we read the word today. Open our hearts, ears, and minds to what you have to say in scripture, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE – Malachi 3:1-4

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

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE – Luke 3:1-6

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

SERMON - “Context Matters”

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 - “Walk Worthy” arr. Martin

* **DOXOLOGY** - Traditional

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF OUR OFFERING**

* **CLOSING HYMN** - *“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”* - #82

* **BENEDICTION**

* **BENEDICTION RESPONSE** - *“While We are Waiting, Come”* - #92

*While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.*

* **POSTLUDE** - *“Love Lifted Me”* arr. Schram

