

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA

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



Order of Worship

5th Sunday of Lent

April 6, 2025

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

CHIMES

PRELUDE - "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone" - Wells

GREETING

This is the day that the Lord has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

* CALL TO WORSHIP – (responsively)

Jesus said: I am the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in Christ will never die.

The Lord makes a new covenant with us.

We are God's people; the Lord is our God.

Keep pressing on toward the goal:

the heavenly call of God in Jesus Christ!

* OPENING HYMN - "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" #212

* THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

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

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

Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. God is doing a new thing; now it springs forth! By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! ***Thanks be to God.***

*** 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 - *“Longing for Light. We Wait in Darkness”* - Farrell

Heather Carter, Soloist; Richard Carter, Guitar; Jeff Durham, Bass Guitar

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Merciful God, your word is our way of truth and life. Create in us hearts that are clean and put your Holy Spirit within us, so that we may receive your grace and declare your praise forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE – Isaiah 43:16-21

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

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE – John 12:1-8

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

HYMN - “What Wondrous Love Is This” - #215 (verses 1 & 2)

SERMON - “Stealing From God”

HYMN - “What Wondrous Love Is This” - #215 (verses 3 & 4)

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD - adaptation of “A Brief Statement of Faith”

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image to live as one community. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. 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, for ever. Amen.

RECEPTION OF OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

OFFERTORY - “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” - arr. Broughton

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 OFFERINGS**

***CLOSING HYMN - *“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”* - #213**

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE - *“Go In Peace”* (sing twice)**

***Go in Peace, go in kindness, go in love, go in faith.
Leave the world, the world behind us, God is love, go in grace.***

***POSTLUDE - *“Seek Ye The Lord”* - Smith**