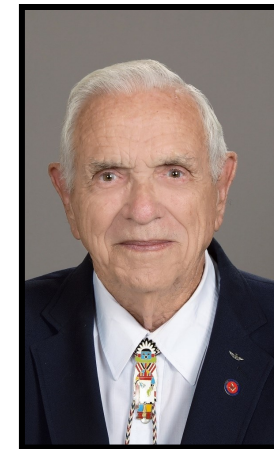


FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sierra Vista, Arizona

Charles Haven Fortner

October 12, 1932 - March 31, 2025



A Service of the Witness to the Resurrection

*"If we live, we live unto the Lord: and if we die, we die unto the Lord.
Whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's."*

Romans 14:7-8

Rev. Brian R. Louis, Pastor

Elder Sonny Coble, Worship Leader

Janis Wheat, Director of Music

Debi Godwin, Choir Director



FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sierra Vista, AZ

April 9, 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

*At the sign of the * asterisk, all who are able please stand.*

PRELUDE “Over the Rainbow” arr. Cordova

GREETING - Rev. Brian R. Louis

OPENING PRAYER - (unison)

God our comforter, you are a refuge and strength for us, a helper close at hand in times of distress. Help us to hear the words of our faith that our fear is dispelled, our loneliness eased, and our hope reawakened. May your Holy Spirit lift us above our natural sorrow, to the peace and light of your constant love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM (responsively)

For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. In his baptism Charles was clothed with Christ; in the day of Christ's coming, he shall be clothed with glory. The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

O God, who gave us birth, you are ever more ready to hear than we are to pray. You know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking. Show us now your grace, that as we face the mystery of death we may see the light of eternity. Speak to us once more your solemn message of life and of death. Help us to live as those who are prepared to die. And when our days here are ended, enable us to die as those who go forth to live, so that living or dying, our life may be in Jesus Christ our risen Lord. **Amen.**

*** HYMN** - “Nearer My God to Thee” - (see insert)

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

God of mercy, whose loving-kindness endures forever: we confess that often we have failed to receive and give love; to care for others as we care for ourselves; to forgive and accept forgiveness. We remember good intentions that were not put into actions; harsh words that were hurtful; selfish purposes that caused pain; persistent pride that would not yield. We acknowledge our fear in the face of death and our failure to accept the

*** SENDING**

Holy God, by your creative power you gave us life, and in your redeeming love you have given us new life in Christ. We commend Charles to your merciful care in the faith of Christ our Lord who died and rose again to save us, and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

*** BLESSING**

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of God's Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, remain with you always. **Amen.**

MASONIC RITUAL

*** POSTLUDE** “The Army Song” - Gruber

A luncheon will be served at 1 pm at the Masonic Lodge at 219 S. Garden Ave., Sierra Vista.

EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE FOR THE LIFE OF CHUCK FORTNER

SPECIAL MUSIC— *“Precious Memories”* - Wright.

George Van Otten, soloist.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION, AND SUPPLICATION

Almighty God, in Jesus Christ you promised many rooms within your house. Give us faith to see, beyond touch and sight, some sure sign of your kingdom, and, where vision fails, to trust your love which never fails. Lift heavy sorrow and give us good hope in Jesus, so we may bravely walk our earthly way, and look forward to glad reunion in the life to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And now, with the confidence of the children of God, let us pray:

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.

* HYMN - *“Let There be Peace on Earth”*

***Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth,
The peace that was meant to be.***

***With God as our Father,
Brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my brother,
In perfect harmony.***

***Let peace begin with me,
Let this be the moment now.***

***With every step I take,
Let this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment
And live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me.***

hope you offer us in Christ. Hear us, O Lord, as in this silence, we make our confession to you.

(Please take a moment for silent confession.)

* **ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsively)**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. ***Thanks be to God.***

May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Source of all true wisdom, calm the troubled waters of our hearts, and still all other voices but your own, that we may hear and obey what you tell us in your word, through the power of your Spirit. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE – Ecclesiastes 12:1-7 (King James Version)

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

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE - John 13:34-35

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

SERMON - Rev. Brian R. Louis

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.

ANTHEM - *“I Thank My God for You”* - words and music, Joseph Martin — Faith Choir