

# FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA

Monica Russell, Interim Pastor  
Elder Judy Pike, Guest Speaker  
Deacon Heather Mayhew, Worship Leader  
Janis Wheat, Director of Music  
Bethany Dunn Gulde, Video Tech



\* 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 OFFERING

\* CLOSING HYMN: *“Rejoice, the Lord Is King!”* - #363

\* BENEDICTION

~ TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD ~

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE: *“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!”* (#804 (verse 5))

*Then on, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!  
Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!*

\* POSTLUDE: *“A Joyous Acclamation”* Smith

---

---

Order of Worship

1st Sunday of Christmas

December 28, 2025

---

---

~ GATHERING AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ~

CHIMES

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE AND GREETING

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

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT - *“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!”* #804 (verse 1)

*Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!*

*Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!*

PRELUDE: *“Once Again My Heart Rejoices”* arr. Cherwein

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Rejoice in the Lord always!

***We rejoice in the Lord.***

I will say it again, Rejoice!

***We will always rejoice in the Lord!***

Let us worship our Lord.

\* OPENING HYMN: *“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”* #132

\* CALL TO CONFESSION

We know that we have not lived as God hopes. But however fragmented we become, God longs to hold us together in grace and peace. Let us come with our prayers of confession and need to the One who prepares the way for our words.

**\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Lord God, you have offered us fruits of new life. Forgive us when we have found it difficult to be compassionate. Forgive us when we have been less than peaceful, kind, and gentle. Remind us that, in Christ, you have called us to be makers of peace. Reach deep down inside us and transform us into new persons, living totally in and for Jesus Christ. Amen.*

~ Let us take a moment for silent reflection. ~

**\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Beloved, hear these words from the gospel of John: "To all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God. ... And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth."  
*In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.*

**\* GLORIA PATRI: "Glory to God"**

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

**\* THE WELCOMING OF GUESTS**

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

**\* PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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.)

~ HEARING THE WORD OF THE LORD ~

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** "Ring The Bells" Bollback - Lisa Tuttle, soloist

**CHILDRENS TIME:** Richard Carter

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

*Gracious God, thank you for sending your Holy Scripture to us this morning. Let it be like a song in our hearts, a song that sticks with us, a song that we find ourselves humming long after we have left here. Let it be a song that changes us and makes us yearn for the fulfillment of your will among all peoples. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** 1 Chronicles 16:8-10

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

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:** Philippians 4:4-8

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

**SERMON:** "Rejoice!"

**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 again 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.*

~ CONGREGATIONAL LIFE ~

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SHARING OUR PRAYERS OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY:** "Bells Are Ringing" arr. Sallee