



FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA

Pastor Monica Russell
Elder Gene Raymond, Worship Leader
Janis Wheat, Director of Music
Deb Koltveit, Guest Pianist
Debi Godwin, Choir Director
Bethany Dunn Gulde, Video Tech



Order of Worship

7th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 12, 2026

~ GATHERING AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ~

CHIMES

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT: *“O Christ, Surround Me”* - #543 (verse 1)

*God, be the love to search and keep me;
God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE AND GREETING

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

PRELUDE: *“Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”* - Eithum

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

I hold fast to you though the world around me tosses and tumbles.

I hold fast to you though I have doubts and worries.

Though my heart hurts, my spirit aches, and I lose my way, I hold fast to you.

I hold fast to you though I encounter wickedness and hate often.

Your stories and your songs, O Lord, comfort me.

Your will and your way, O Lord, nudge me along.

Your presence and your promise, O Lord give me hope.

I will turn toward you forever.

I will sing praises to your name! Let us worship God.

* OPENING HYMN: *“Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers”* - #407

* CALL TO CONFESSION

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy Spirit, we confess that we have been caught up in the movements of this world, that cause us to seek our own gain and worldly success above the needs of others. We confess that we often judge others by our own lives. Forgive us for our short-sightedness, and our selfish smugness that asserts we are right and others are wrong. Forgive us for not living as if we are last of all and servant of all, as Christ has taught us. Lead us into the way of life, to seek the well-being of others, lifting up those who are in need, and loving our neighbors as ourselves. In the name of Christ, our Teacher, our Redeemer and Friend, we pray. Amen.

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

* THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God sets our feet on right paths. Every time we step away, we are given the opportunity to step back. Even when we stray further away, grace is available. God does not leave us. Know that God is with you and will guide you home when you seek Christ. You are beloved by God, and God will not abandon you.
Thanks be to God! Amen

* 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.***

* 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.)

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

May 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 ~

* HYMN: *“On Eagle’s Wings”* - #43

CHILDRENS TIME: Richard Carter

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Spirit of Life, guide us to live as You taught us to serve and love one another and to help prepare for the reign of God on earth as it is in heaven. May we learn from the ancient words of Scripture, and may we follow Your words in our heart. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 55:10-13

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

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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

SERMON: “It’s Planting Season”

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD: from the Barmen Declaration

The Christian Church is the congregation of the brethren in which Jesus Christ acts presently as the Lord in Word and Sacrament through the Holy Spirit. As the Church of pardoned sinners, it has to testify in the midst of a sinful world.

So we reject the false doctrine, as though the church in human arrogance could place the Word and work of the Lord in the service of any arbitrarily chosen desires, purposes, and plans. Amen.

~ CONGREGATIONAL LIFE ~

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OUR PRAYERS OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

(Please remember that our service is live streamed)

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.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY: *“Love Lifted Me”* - Park

* **DOXOLOGY:** *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”* - #609

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF OUR OFFERINGS**

~ TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD ~

* **CLOSING HYMN:** *“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”* - #367

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **BENEDICTION RESPONSE:** *“The Trees of the Field”* - #80

*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;
the trees of the field will clap their hands;
the trees of the field will clap their hands
while you go out with joy.*

* **POSTLUDE:** *“Triumphal March”* - Thurmond