



FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA

Pastor Monica Russell
Elder Judy Pike, Worship Leader
Janis Wheat, Director of Music
Debi Godwin, Choir Director
Bethany Dunn Gulde, Video Tech



Order of Worship

COMMUNION

August 16, 2026

~ GATHERING AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ~

CHIMES

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT: ***“Come to the Table of Love”*** #507 (verse 3)

Come to the table of love. Come to the table of love.

This is God’s table; it’s not yours or mine. Come to the table of love.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE AND GREETING

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

PRELUDE: ***“O How He Loves You And Me”*** - Kaiser, arr. Bock

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.

* **CALL TO WORSHIP** (based on Psalm 67)

*May God be gracious to us and bless us, and make his face shine upon us,
So that your ways may be known on earth, and your salvation among all nations.*

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon the earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

God will bless us, and all the ends of the earth shall fear him!

Let us worship God!

* **OPENING HYMN: “Help Us Accept Each Other” - #754**

* **CALL TO CONFESSION**

* **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of all people, we come before you this day deeply aware of the ways we fall short of your vision for us and for our life together. You tell us how good and pleasant it is when we dwell together in unity, and yet we create division and cultivate disdain. You command us to care for each other, but we send away those crying out for help. You call us and put us together in community, but we want to pick and choose those with whom we associate. Forgive us for thinking we are self-sufficient and independent, rather than utterly dependent upon you and in need of each other. Help us to see ourselves and others as the beloved reflections of the divine we are and give us the grace to treat each other as such. Amen.

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

* **THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. The proof of God’s amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God in confidence. Friends believe the good news and be at peace. Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven! ***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.***

* **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** ~

. **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE:** Richard Carter

*Following the children’s message, children are invited to go to the classrooms
for supervised Children’s Time.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, the noise all around us is loud and frightening, and we find ourselves anxious and distracted. We long to hear you tell us not to be afraid. We ask for the gift of your peace that passes understanding. As the Word is read and proclaimed, send your Holy Spirit to help us hear and respond. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

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

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Matthew 15:21-28

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

SERMON: “Teachable Moment for Whom?”

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD: The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

~ CONGREGATIONAL LIFE ~

MINUTE FOR MISSION - George Wheat

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OUR PRAYERS OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

(Please remember that our service is live streamed)

PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY: *“Communion With God”* - Southbridge

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**

*** COMMUNION HYMN:** *“Let Us Break Bread Together”* - #525

~ SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER ~

~ TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD ~

*** CLOSING HYMN:** *“There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit”* - #408

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*** BENEDICTION RESPONSE:** *“May the God of Hope Go with Us”* - #765

*May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.*

*May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.*

*Praying, let us work for peace, singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that’s new, faithful when we hear Christ’s call.*

*** POSTLUDE:** *“Bring Them In”* - Ogden, arr. Kaiser