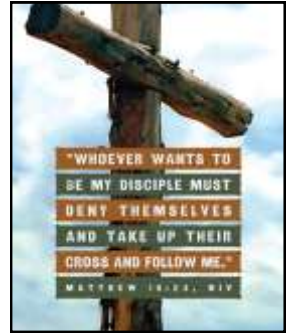




FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA

Pastor Monica Russell
Elder Judy Pike, Worship Leader
Janis Wheat, Director of Music
Debi Godwin, Choir Director
Jeff Durham, Video Tech



Order of Worship

14th Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2026

~ GATHERING AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ~

CHIMES

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT: *"We Are Standing on Holy Ground"* #406

*We are standing on Holy Ground,
and I know that there are angels all around;
let us praise Jesus now;
we are standing in his presence on holy ground.*

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE AND GREETING

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

PRELUDE: *"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"* - Goss, arr. Smith

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

Seek the Lord! Seek God in the wilderness.

Seek God in the sanctuary.

Seek God in the burning bush.

Seek God in the burning heart.

The Lord is here! This place is holy!

We are standing on holy ground.

* **OPENING HYMN: “Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said” - #718**

* **CALL TO CONFESSION**

* **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of wonders, we confess that we do not understand why you call us when we are scared, clumsy, busy or flawed. We confess that we think we know better than you do who is qualified to do your work. Forgive our fears and excuses and self-doubts. Lend us your fire and your strength, as we go about the work of serving our neighbors, building up your church, loving your children, and tending to the scorched places of our world. Help us to burn for you, without burning up or burning out. Give us a purpose and the courage to pursue it. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

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

* **THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Hear the good news! New life rises from the ashes. In Christ, your sins are dead and you are alive to all that is good.

In Christ, we are made whole; in Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Thanks be to God! Amen

* **GLORIA PATRI: “Glory Be to the Father”**

*Glory be to the Father; and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.*

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
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 ~

* **SPECIAL MUSIC: “A Simple Song” - Schwartz and Bernstein**

Heather Carter, solo/ Lilly Walton, flute

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

God, you call out to us by name, wanting to speak to us, to instruct and send us. Help us to notice your near presence, so that we will listen for your voice. In your goodness, grant us yet again a holy encounter that transforms us and, in turn, relieves the suffering of your people. Amen

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 15:15-21

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

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Matthew 16:21-28

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

SERMON: “From This Time On...”

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD: (adapted from the Confession of 1967)

God’s sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of our minds. We believe that God has created the world of space and time to be the sphere of God’s dealings with humankind. In its beauty and vastness, transcendence and awefulness, order and disorder, the world reflects to the eye of faith the majesty and mystery of its Creator.

We believe that God has created us for a personal relationship in which we may respond to the love of the Creator. Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage

~ 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: *“Here I Am, Lord”* - Schutte, arr. Carter

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:** *“A Mighty Fortress”* - #275

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*** BENEDICTION RESPONSE:** *“We’ve Come This Far by Faith”* - #656

*We’ve come this far by faith, leaning on the Lord,
Trusting in the holy word; God’s never failed us yet.
O, can’t turn around, we’ve come this far by faith.
We’ve come this far by faith.*

*** POSTLUDE:** *“Tell All the World About Love”* - Harris & Harris, arr. Bock