

December 3, 2017

9:00 a.m.

Order of Service

GATHERING

As followers of Jesus
we will love the Lord our God
with all our hearts,
with all our souls
and with all our minds.
And we will love our neighbors
as ourselves and serve them
in the name of Christ.
Matthew 22:37, 39

*Love God
Follow Jesus
Serve in Spirit*

*Please sign the Friendship Register
found at the end of the pew and
pass it on as you prepare for
worship. Visitors are urged to leave
their address, to receive a letter of
welcome from the pastor and be
placed on the newsletter email list.*

*Please stand at the asterisks.

PRELUDE *Pastorale* – Keith Chapman

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT LIGHTING Jack & Yvonne Oliver

*PRAYER OF ADORATION
When God Is A Child, Vs. 1 Insert

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Now is the time to wake from sleep.

People: **The night is far gone; the day is near.**

Leader: Keep awake; be ready. Christ is coming!

People: **Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

All: **God of glory, we know that you are coming at an unexpected hour. Come to us now, in Spirit and Truth. Take us up into your presence and help us to put our hope in you. We pray this through Christ our Savior; Amen.**

*HYMN *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?* #11

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, who loved us enough to come dwell among us, we confess our willingness to accept love but also our reluctance to give love. We confess our readiness to receive your forgiveness, yet our difficulty in offering forgiveness to others. Even as we lit the candle of hope this morning, we confess our reluctance to truly embrace the hope you offer. In this season of

Offertory Text:

"Come," they told me, "
Our new-born King to see!
Our finest gifts we bring, to lay
before the King, so to honor Him,
when we come." "Baby Jesu,
I am a poor boy, too. I have no
gift to bring, that's fit to give our
King. Shall I play for you,
on my drum?" Mary nodded,
the ox and lamb kept time, I
played my drum for Him,
I played my best for Him,
then He smiled at me,
me and my drum!

Becoming a Member. People may become active members in one of three ways:

- ◆ Profession of Faith – those who have not been baptized and/or who have never been active members of a Christian church.
- ◆ Reaffirmation of Faith – those who have at one time been members of a Christian church and are currently inactive.
- ◆ Letter of Transfer – those who are currently active members of another Christian church.

Contact our pastor, Rev. Ann Conklin, at pastor@fpcmesa.org if you are interested in participating in our next New Members Orientation class.

Advent, forgive our failure to respond in faith. Come to us anew, and by your grace, help us to receive you with joy as the shepherds; with gratitude as the Magi; with obedience as Mary; and with love as you have loved us. Come, Lord Jesus; Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***GLORIA PATRI**

#579

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.

PROCLAMATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, your vision of peace and wholeness comes to us in sweeping revelations and in tiny signs of hope. Kindle our hearts, that we might be a hopeful people. Open our ears that we might hear your Word for us this day. Through Christ we pray, Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Mark 13:24-27, 32-37

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Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

ANTHEM

Breath of Heaven
Jan Peterson, Soprano

– Amy Grant

SERMON

Rev. Ann Conklin
Hope: Awake to Advent

RESPONDING

***HYMN OF AFFIRMATION**

#2

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

***CREED**

We believe in the incarnation of Jesus Christ.

We believe that when the fullness of time came, God sent his Son, his eternal wisdom, the substance of his own glory, into this world, who took the nature of humanity from the substance of a woman by means of the Holy Spirit. And so was born the very Messiah promised, whom we confess and acknowledge to be Emmanuel, true God and true man, two perfect natures united and joined in one person.

Thanks be to God for this holy, miraculous birth and unending gift of love. Amen.

~ adapted from the Scots Confession

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS

Constitutional Questions of Deacons Elect
Questions to the Congregation

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: God of grace, who called us to a common ministry as ambassadors of Christ, trusting us with the message of reconciliation: give us courage and discipline to follow where your servants rightly lead us; that together we may declare your wonderful deeds and show your love to the world; through Jesus Christ the Lord of all.

Laying on of Hands and Prayer—All Ordained Elders and Deacons, may come forward for the Laying on of Hands.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *The Little Drummer Boy* — arr. Katherine Davis
 Sanctuary Choir

*DOXOLOGY (Tune: Marion)

Praise God Who reigns on high, The Lord Whom we adore,
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, One God forevermore!
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

*HYMN *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* #8

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE #25, Vs. 3

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray;
bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

POSTLUDE *Savior of the Nations, Come* — Paul Manz

Coffee time will follow the service.

The hosts today are Martha Bienert & John John Schlak.

Baked goods are provided by Alice Schlak & Mildred Kimbrough.

Liturgist: Dan Davenport

Greeters: Carol Anderson, Zoe Garlin

Ushers: Thank you to Dennis Sitzler's team. Next week: Don Wilson's team.

Special Music: This week's special music is being offered by Soprano Jan Peterson. Next Sunday's special music will include the Sanctuary Choir. The complete Worship Schedule is available at fpcmesa.org/worship-planning.

Sound Booth: Bob Schulz

Nursery Workers: Thank you to Janet & Sedona Verch.

Activity bags for children are available at the back of the sanctuary. These are for use during worship.

Visitors are encouraged to visit the Information Kiosk by the main doors of the sanctuary to learn more about the church's programs.

Audio assistance is available for those who may be unable to adequately hear the service. Please see an usher for assistance.

Check the bulletin boards in the church office for information regarding events or opportunities in the life of the church and the community.

Bulletin Recycling. If you do not want to take your bulletin home, please take it to the recycling basket at the back of the sanctuary.

Prayer Chain: If you or a loved one are in need of special prayers, e-mail: **Joy Schulz at ozinaz1@cox.net**, the church office at pubs@fpcmesa.org or call 480-964-8606, to request prayers by the prayer chain.

If you are hospitalized or confined at home due to illness, call the church office at 480-964-8606 to let us know. Please note: If you are in the hospital, let us know what your room number is. In order to comply with new stricter government regulations to protect patients' privacy, hospitals refuse to provide any information, including room numbers.

Sanctuary Flowers are a way for you to recall a special person or event in your life. Flowers are available at a cost of \$50 or you may notify the church office of your desire to furnish your own flowers. You may take the flowers that Sunday or leave them for the Deacons to deliver. If you are interested in providing flowers, fill out the form found at the Kiosk or in the office. After completion, please return it to the office, along with a check and instructions.

Activities for the Week of December 3, 2017

Today, 12/3	9:00a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	10:15a.m.	Christian Education
	11:00a.m.	HolyGrounds CoffeeHouse Service, Fellowship Hall
Monday, 12/4	7:00p.m.	Deacons, Library
Tuesday, 12/5	1:00p.m.	PW Coordinating Team, Library
	7:00p.m.	Scouts, Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, 12/6	7:30a.m.	Men's Fellowship
	8:30a.m.	Dave's Crew
	10:00a.m.	Women's Bible Study, Parlor
	5:00p.m.	WRAP
	6:15p.m.	First Ringers, Bell Room
	6:15p.m. 7:15p.m.	Adult Bible Study Choir, Choir Room
Thursday, 12/7	6:30p.m.	Dei Gloriam, Bell Room
Saturday, 12/9	11:30a.m.	PW Holiday Luncheon, Fellowship Hall

Upcoming Events

December 11&12	Circles meet
December 14	Preschool Christmas Program
December 17	Commissions & Session meet
December 24	Music Sunday — One service at 10:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m. Family Service 8:30 p.m. Traditional Service
December 31	One Service — 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall Monthly Food Drive

First Presbyterian Church	
161 North Mesa Drive, Mesa, AZ 85201	
(480) 964-8606 www.fpcmesa.org	
E-mail: ***@fpcmesa.org	
Pastor (ext 102).....	Ann Conklin
Director of Music Ministries (ext 103).....	Mark Ramsey
Christian Education Director	Jasmine Couillard
Office Manager/Publications (ext 101).....	Linda Reeves
Buildings Manager (ext 104).....	Don Krill
Bookkeeper (Business@fpcmesa.org).....	Rob Kjar
Preschool Director (480-835-7877).....	Shiloh Murillo
Youth Director (480-924-0489).....	Anita Ramsey
Pastor Emeritus.....	James R. Bruening
Pastor Emeritus.....	Robert Martz
***must designate: Pastor, Music, Education, Pubs, Business, Buildings or Preschool	