

March 18, 2018  
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 *Psalm 137* – George Dyson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

\*CALL TO WORSHIP – Mark Pendergrass

#### *The Greatest Thing*

The greatest thing in all my life is knowing You.  
The greatest thing in all my life is knowing You.  
I want to know You more. I want to know You more.  
The greatest thing in all my life is knowing You.

The greatest thing in all my life is serving You.  
The greatest thing in all my life is serving You.  
I want to serve You more. I want to serve You more.  
The greatest thing in all my life is serving You.

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\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

\*HYMN *In Christ Alone* – Keith Getty/Stuart Townend

In Christ alone my hope is found.  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,  
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.  
My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh,  
fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness  
scorned by the ones He came to save.

**Offertory Text:**

Come, teach us, spirit of our God,  
the language of your way,  
the lessons that we need to live,  
the faith for every day. Excite our  
minds to follow you, to trace new  
truths in store, new flight paths for  
our spirit space, new marvels  
to explore. Engage our wits  
to dance with you, to leap from  
logic's base, to capture insight on  
the wing, to sense your cosmic  
grace, to sense your cosmic grace.  
Inspire our spark to light from  
you. to catch creation's flair,  
new artistry to celebrate,  
new harmonies to dare.  
Delight our hearts to worship you,  
to learn compassion's code, to live  
in context of your love, great  
teacher who is God.

*Doxology*

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.

'Till on the cross as Jesus died the wrath of God was satisfied.  
For every sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay.  
Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day,  
up from the grave He rose again!

And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His, and He is mine,  
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.

No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home,  
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

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**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of mercy and compassion, we long to be your children and love as you love. You tenderly gather us as lambs, carrying us with your all-embracing love. Yet, like sheep, we wander from you: following our own voice, ignoring your ways, and distrusting your provisions. Forgive our stubborn rebellion, our hardened hearts, our lack of trust. Refresh us once again by your quiet waters of mercy, and restore our souls with your redeeming love. Guide our path that we might follow you more closely and walk in your way. Through Christ our Lord we pray; 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**

God of the Lenten journey, you walk with us as we walk with Christ to the cross. By your Spirit, open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts to receive your Word this morning. Let it be a light guiding us on our way as we seek to follow in the Way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE**

Psalm 51:1-12

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Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**MOMENT WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES**

ANTHEM *Via Dolorosa* – Billy Sprague, Niles Borop  
Jan Peterson, Soprano

SERMON Rev. Ann Conklin  
Psalm 51: A Purging for Lent

## RESPONDING

\*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION #347  
*Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*

\*CREED based on Philippians 2:4-8  
Let us do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility let us regard others as better than ourselves.  
Let each of us look not to our own interests, but to the interests of others.  
Let the same mind be in us that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.

For that we give you thanks, O God; Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING  
OFFERTORY *Come, Teach Us, Spirit of God* – Anna Laura Page  
Sanctuary Choir and Dei Gloriam Handbell Choir

\*DOXOLOGY #592  
PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## SENDING

\*HYMN *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* #280

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*RESPONSE *A Gaelic Blessing* – John Rutter  
Sanctuary Choir

POSTLUDE *Rigaudon* – André Campra

**Liturgist:** Nancy Tordai

**Greeter:** Marilyn Uithoven

**Ushers:** Thank you to Robert Harding's team. Next week: Dennis Sitzler's team.

**Special Music:** This week's special music is being offered by Soprano Jan Peterson and the Dei Gloriam Handbell Choir. Next Sunday's special music will include the Choristers. The complete Worship Schedule is available at [fpcmesa.org/worship-planning](http://fpcmesa.org/worship-planning).

**Praise Band:** Erin Skarphol, vocals; Karen Rudin, rhythm guitar/vocals; Mark Ramsey, piano/vocals; Paul Soderquist, drums

**Sound Booth:** Bob Schulz

**Nursery Workers:** Thank you to Janet & Sedona Verch.

**The Sanctuary Flowers** are given by the family of Joe Woods.

**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.

**Prayer Chain:** If you or a family member need special prayers, email [prayer@fpcmesa.org](mailto:prayer@fpcmesa.org) or call the church office. If the prayer request is for a friend, you must first have *permission from that friend* to make the request public on the Prayer Chain.

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.

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.

Coffee time will follow the service.  
The hosts today are  
Mark & Angelina Waters.

## Activities for the Week of March 18, 2018

<b>Today, 3/18</b>	9:00a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	10:15a.m.	Christian Education
	11:00a.m.	HolyGrounds CoffeeHouse Service, Fellowship Hall
	12:15p.m.	Commissions
	1:15p.m.	Session, Library
	3:00p.m.	Beauty & Beast Rehearsal, FH
<b>Tuesday, 3/20</b>	1:30p.m.	PW Sewing, Parlor
	6:00p.m.	Beauty & Beast Rehearsal, FH
	6:30p.m.	Befrienders, Parlor
	7:00p.m.	Scouts, Youth Room
<b>Wednesday, 3/21</b>	7:30a.m.	Men's Fellowship
	8:30a.m.	Dave's Crew
	10:00a.m.	Women's Bible Study, Parlor
	12:00p.m.	Study & Prayer Group, Parlor
	5:00p.m.	WRAP
	6:15p.m.	Adult Bible Study
	6:15p.m.	First Ringers, Bell Room
	6:30p.m.	Grief Share, Parlor
	7:00p.m.	Beauty & Beast Rehearsal, FH
<b>Thursday, 3/22</b>	6:30p.m.	Beauty & Beast Rehearsal, FH
<b>Friday, 3/23</b>	5:30p.m.	Dinner Theater, Fellowship Hall
<b>Saturday, 3/24</b>	5:30p.m.	Dinner Theater, Fellowship Hall

## Upcoming Events

<b>March 25</b>	Beauty & the Beast Matinée
<b>March 25</b>	Palm Sunday
<b>March 29</b>	Maundy Thursday
<b>March 30</b>	Good Friday — Office Closed
<b>April 1</b>	Easter Services: 6:00, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.
<b>April 5,6,7</b>	Lifetouch Pictures for Directory
<b>April 8</b>	Worship in the Park

### **First Presbyterian Church**

161 North Mesa Drive, Mesa, AZ 85201  
(480) 964-8606 [www.fpcmesa.org](http://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