

# First Presbyterian Church

## Order of Worship

December 7, 2025 — Advent II

Prelude I *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* — arr. Richard Syner

Prelude II — Lauren Daigle, Paul Duncan, Paul Mabury

*Light of the World*  
HolyGrounds Praise Band & Congregation

Welcome & Announcements Bridget Mitchell

## Video Meditation — Come and See Love

Advent Wreath Lighting Carol Anderson & Carolyn Barber

**Leader:** Lord Jesus, the distance between us is too great. We long to feel Your nearness, but our hearts are crowded with lesser loves. Make us ready. Do not pass us by.

**Reader:** “Prepare the way of the Lord; make His paths straight.”

**All:** Holy Jesus, clear the clutter from our souls. Break down every wall we have built, remove whatever keeps You standing at the door. We open every room to You. Come in. Come in today. We are laying our whole lives bare because we cannot live another day without You. Amen.

**Leader:** Two flames now burn — longing and surrender. Come, Lord Jesus, the way is opening!

*Opening Hymn	<i>Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness</i>	#291
---------------	-------------------------------------	------

Call to Confession Dan Reeves

## Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, You loved us at the cost of Your own Son, yet we have loved so little in return. We have crowded our hearts with lesser things, guarded ourselves with pride, and kept the door closed to the Love we say we want. Our repentance has borne little fruit; our worship has grown familiar, not fervent. Forgive us. Clear the stones. Straighten what is crooked within us.

We cannot live another day distant from You. Come, Lord Jesus—come in today.

## Silent Confession

## Assurance of Pardon

\*Doxology — Tomlin, Carson, Cash, Reeves, Redman

*Glory in the Highest*  
HolyGrounds Praise Band & Congregation

Prayer for Illumination Dan Reeves

Psalm Reading — Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 (First Nations Version)

Anthem — Gustav Hoist, arr. C. Harry Causey

*In The Bleak Midwinter*  
Sanctuary Choir

Old Testament Reading — Isaiah 11:1-10 (NIV) Dan Reeves

Time with Our Children Anita Ramsey

Sermon      Preparation: Clearing the Way      Rev. Christian Johnson

Scripture — Matthew 3:1-12 (ESV)

### \*Affirmation of Faith – The Nicene Creed

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

## Invitation to the Table

## Thanksgiving

## Words of Institution

## Communion of the People

Communion Music *I Surrender All* – arr. Jim Martinez

*I Surrender All*

– arr. Jim Martinez

Communion Prayer/Pastoral Prayer/The Lord's Prayer

Call to Offering

Dan Reeves

Offertory

*Come to Save Us* — Leslie Jordan, David Leonard  
HolyGrounds Praise Band

Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Christian Johnson

\*Closing Hymn

*It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* #123, Vss. 1, 3-5

\*Benediction

Rev. Christian Johnson

Postlude

*Toccata*

— Henri Mulet

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

To see more details on these announcements, check your Weekly Update.

To subscribe to the Weekly Update, contact the church office at

[pubs@fpcmesa.org](mailto:pubs@fpcmesa.org).

Prayer Requests must be sent to: [Prayer@fpcmesa.org](mailto:Prayer@fpcmesa.org) or call the church office.

See our complete Church Calendar at [fpcmesa.org/calendar](http://fpcmesa.org/calendar).

Our service is being livestreamed at <https://www.youtube.com/@fpcmesa7064/streams>.

Offerings can be made during worship, mailing to church office or using this QR code.



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

# Advent



First Presbyterian Church  
Mesa, Arizona