

First Presbyterian Church

Order of Worship

March 8, 2026

Prelude *Shepherd, Show Me How to Go* – Alice Jordan
Alice Edwards, Organist

Welcome, Announcements & Dedication Carol Anderson
Pass the Peace

*Responsive Call to Worship Susan Durand

One: We gather today, aware of our weariness. We are wanderers and seekers, longing for a place where we are home.

All: We gather, moved by the series of Ruth and Naomi and finding our own stories in their journey of loss, diaspora and redemption.

One: We gather before the God of creation, whose love defies all human borders, limitations and biases.

All: We gather to worship in the promise of that redemption.

One: Let us lift our voices to the one who lifts us from the margins, emboldening us to be ambassadors of hope in the world, to the one who prepares a home and place for us at the table.

Opening Prayer Susan Durand

*Opening Hymn *For Everyone Born* #769

Unison Prayer of Confession Susan Durand

Lord, notwithstanding the presence of hope inner lives, we acknowledge that we often ignore the cries of voices around us. We close our hearts and eyes to the pain of others. We feel exhausted and we disregard those who don't feel welcomed in our midst. Forgive us. Help us to be like Ruth, open our bonds beyond blood; to be like Naomi, determined and wise; to be like Boaz, compassionate and just. May we lean into our call to embrace the most vulnerable among us. We pray this in the name of the one whose life embodied this commitment, Jesus of Nazareth, Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

One: Friends, God journeys with us in the wanderings and wonderings of diaspora. God breaks down walls that separate us from one another. Our God meets us where we are and invites us into the story of salvation. Believe the good news, in Jesus Christ we are a forgiven people. Amen.

All: Thanks be to God.

*Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* #606

Time with our Children Anita Ramsey

Prayer for Illumination

Susan Durand

Scripture — Ruth 1:1-19 (NIV)

Anthem

– Fanny Crosby, arr. Dick Bolks/SSA arr. Tom Fettke
Near the Cross
Women's Choir

Sermon

Take Me Home The Reverend Judith Wellington

Hymn of Affirmation

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

#649

Invitation to Offering of Our Treasures and Ourselves

Susan Durand

Offertory

Here I Am, Lord
Barbara Walker and Bea Towe, Piano Duet

– arr. John Carter

Prayer of Dedication/Pastoral Prayer
The Lord's Prayer

The Reverend Judith Wellington

*Closing Hymn

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

#306

Presentation of Honorary Life Recipient

Sara McWhorter

*Blessing and Benediction

The Reverend Judith Wellington

Postlude

March in F

– Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel

***Please rise in body or spirit.**

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

To subscribe to the **Weekly Update**, contact the church office at pubs@fpcmesa.org.

Prayer Requests must be sent to: Prayer@fpcmesa.org or call the church office.

See our complete Church Calendar at 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