

NEUTRAL PULPIT SUNDAY, APRIL 19TH

On this day, we have the honor of hosting an important gathering for two congregations in the Grand Canyon Presbytery as they consider a candidate to serve as a called minister. For the sake of confidentiality, this person's name will not be published/broadcast. Please plan to offer your supportive presence and prayers on that day! Pastor Ann will also be offering worship leadership that morning.

CREATION SUNDAY AND CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

With Earth Day happening this month, we will be welcoming Rev. Dr. Terry Olthoff to the pulpit as he offers the sermon to reflect on the theme of God's Creation. After worship, please remain in the pews as we hold a congregational meeting to confirm our appointments to the church's Nominating Committee. Thank you for your participation in the life of First Presbyterian Church.

Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Ann Utke	revannarizona@gmail.com Cell Phone (414) 708-7899 (Fridays Emergency only)
Office Manager	Laura Teadt	laurat@firstpressuncity.org
Finance Admin.	Sue Diaz	sued@firstpressuncity.org
Choir Director	Dr. William Gleason	drgasu@aol.com
Pianist	Mary Jo Meyer	Bjsshop@ncn.net
Custodian	Lyle Tollefson	(623) 734-4925



WELCOME TO WORSHIP!
Sunday, April 5, 2026 at 9:30am
Easter Sunday



Hearing Assistance is available! Please ask a sound technician.
Orange Visitor Cards are available in the pew racks — drop in the offering plate or give to the Pastor.

12225 N. 103rd Ave., Sun City, AZ 85351-3501
Office Phone: (623) 974-3605
<http://firstpressuncity.org>

Follow us on:



MUSIC FOR GATHERING

Mary Jo Meyer, Piano

WELCOME AND CHURCH NOTICES

Stewart Porter

PRELUDE

UNISON responses are in **CAPITAL BOLD** text

*indicates to please stand, in body or in spirit

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Liturgist

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

PEOPLE: CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!

Leader: This is the day when tears are wiped away, the stone is rolled back, and the garden is filled with holy joy.

PEOPLE: THIS IS THE MORNING WHEN WE PROCLAIM THAT OUR SAVIOR LIVES, AND EVERYTHING IS MADE NEW, INCLUDING US.

Leader: We are people of resurrection, stepping into a dawn filled with fresh hope:

PEOPLE: WITH HEARTS AND MINDS AND VOICES, OUR SPIRITS SING OF GOD’S VICTORY!

This Week’s Schedule

**Sunday,
April 5th**

EASTER SUNDAY

9:30am Worship in Sanctuary

10:30am Fellowship & Birthdays in Swain Hall

**Monday,
April 6th**

Office Closed All Day

9:00am SilverSneakers Classic in Swain Hall

9:30am Prayer Shawls in Annex 2

**Tuesday,
April 7th**

Office Open from 8:30am to 3:00pm

3:00pm Bell Choir in the Sanctuary

**Wednesday,
April 8th**

Office Open from 8:30am to Noon

9:00am SilverSneakers Classic in Swain Hall

9:00am AA Serenity Meeting in Annex 1

10:00am Bible Study in Office Conference Room

4:00pm Choir Rehearsal in Westminster Room

**Thursday,
April 9th**

Office Open from 8:30am to 3:00pm

**Friday,
April 10th**

Office Closed All Day

9:00am SilverSneakers Classic in Swain Hall

9:30am Joy of Learning in Fireside Room

**Sunday,
April 12th**

9:30am Worship/Communion in Sanctuary

10:45am Deacons meet in Fireside Room



YOUTH GROUP OUTING UPDATE

Unfortunately, tickets for Tenderly (the Rosemary Clooney story) are sold out. The group is pivoting to a tour of the 1891 ranch house at Historic Sahuaro Ranch in Glendale on April 18. Meet at the church at 9:30am to caravan to the park. Suggestions for lunch afterwards are most welcome. For more information, contact Christina Huvelle at : chuelle@aol.com.

HART Pantry will have their last Applebee's Pancake Breakfast for this school year at 8001 W. Bell Rd, Peoria, 85382, (623)-878-1410. Tickets cost \$10.00 and can be purchased from Board Members or at this Applebee's on Saturday, April 11th from 8:00am to 9:30am. Questions? Contact Mickey Foster, Fundraising/Board Member (623)-521-9668 or mickeyfayefoster@yahoo.com

HART FOOD PANTRY UPDATE: GOOD NEWS!

The Pantry is pretty well stocked, and since we only have April and May before schools are out for the summer, our wish list is as follows: Jif-to-go (please no jars of peanut butter), Protein bars (3 grams or more protein), Breakfast bars, Ramen type noodle packs.



*OPENING HYMN

No. 123 (vs. 1, 2, 4)

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as God's love; Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!



PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Rev. Ann Utke

O LORD, WE KNOW HOW EASILY WE BECOME LOST IN OUR DOUBTS AND FEARS. LIKE THE FIRST DISCIPLES, WE HAVE HIDDEN BEHIND LOCKED DOORS, SILENCED OUR WITNESS TO YOUR GREAT LOVE, HELD BACK FROM GIVING OF OURSELVES FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR KINGDOM. FORGIVE US, AND FREE US, WE PRAY(SILENT PRAYER)

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ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Rev. Ann Utke

Beloved of God, just as the stone was rolled away from the tomb, so God brings us forth from the shadows of sin and death. In Jesus Christ, we are redeemed and restored by grace. Alleluia!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist

Living God, we turn to You on this blessed morning. Speak to us of Your eternal truths, as we welcome Your presence in this sacred Word. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 10:34-43 p. 157

Liturgist: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

CHOIR ANTHEM

This Joyful Eastertide

arr. Robert Shaw and Alice Parker



SCRIPTURE READING

John 20:1-18 p. 140

SERMON



BELL CHOIR ANTHEM

The Day of Resurrection

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

As you leave, please dispose of your used communion cup in the wastebasket. Thank you!

Come and enjoy birthday cake in Swain Hall following worship. As we celebrate birthdays this morning, we invite you to sing:

Happy Birthday to you, Happy Birthday to you!

***May the Lord bless and keep you,
the whole year through!***



Mosaic of Jesus meeting Mary at the Tomb
Resurrection Chapel

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (UNISON)**

**HOLY AND RISEN ONE,
WE THANK YOU FOR THESE SIGNS OF GRACE: BREAD THAT
STRENGTHENS US,
A SHARED CUP THAT RENEWS US, AND A SPIRIT OF LOVE THAT
BINDS US TO YOU AND TO ONE ANOTHER. GRANT US THE PEACE
WHICH SUSTAINS US IN THE LIVING OF OUR DAYS, WE
PRAY. AMEN.**

***CLOSING HYMN**

Thine Is the Glory

No. 122 (VS. 1 & 2)

V.1 Thine is the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment
Rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave clothes
Where Thy body lay. **[Refrain]**

Refrain:

**Thine is the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won**

V.2 Lo! Jesus meets us,
Risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us,
Scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness
Hymns of triumph sing,
For the Lord now liveth;
Death hath lost its sting. **[Refrain]**



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

*Remember in your prayers the congregation of
Betania, Phoenix (PCUSA); Valley View Food Bank;
and Sun City Christian Church.*



**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.**

*Have a prayer request? Fill out the green pew card
and place in the offering plate or share with the Pastor.*

OFFERING

*To donate via mobile device, text FPCSunCity
to 73256. You may text STOP to cancel or
HELP for assistance.*



***DOXOLOGY**

No. 592

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.



***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)**

LORD OF LIFE, TAKE THESE GIFTS: OUR RESOURCES, OUR TIME, OUR COMPASSION, AND USE THEM TO BRING YOUR RISEN LIFE IN PLACES SHADOWED BY FEAR OR WANT. BLESS WHAT WE OFFER SO THAT NEIGHBORS MAY BE CARED FOR, CREATION TENDED, AND HOPE BE MADE VISIBLE, WE PRAY. AMEN.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (UNISON)

The Apostles Creed

I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH, AND IN JESUS CHRIST HIS ONLY SON, OUR LORD; WHO WAS CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY GHOST, BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY, SUFFERED UNDER PONTIUS PILATE, WAS CRUCIFIED, DEAD, AND BURIED; HE DESCENDED INTO HELL; THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN FROM THE DEAD; HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN, AND SITTETH ON THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY; FROM THENCE HE SHALL COME TO JUDGE THE QUICK AND THE DEAD.

I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY GHOST, THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH, THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS, THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS, THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY, AND THE LIFE EVERLASTING. AMEN.

HYMN

In the Garden

I come to the garden alone,
While the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,
The Son of God discloses.

Refrain:

**And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.**

He speaks, and the sound of His voice
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing;
And the melody that He gave to me
Within my heart is ringing. ***(Refrain)***

BLESSING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*Please hold the bread as it is served to you by your neighbor,
so that we may all partake in unison together.*

*You may partake of the cup as it is passed to you,
as a sign of your personal relationship with Christ.*

