



WELCOME TO WORSHIP!
Sunday, April 19, 2026 at 9:30am
The Season of Easter



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.

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Follow us on:
 

<i>Church Staff</i>		
Pastor	Rev. Ann Utke	revannarizona@gmail.com Cell Phone (414) 708-7899 (Fridays Emergency only)
Office Manager	Laura Teadt	laurat@firstpressuncity.org
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Custodian	Lyle Tollefson	(623) 734-4925

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

Mary Jo Meyer, Piano

WELCOME AND CHURCH NOTICES

Ann Utke, Host Minister

PRELUDE

UNISON responses are in **CAPITAL BOLD** text
*indicates to please stand, in body or in spirit

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Stewart Porter, Liturgist

Leader: The Lord God keeps us, saves us,
And protects us in times of trouble.

**PEOPLE: OUR HELP COMES FROM THE LORD,
WHO MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH.**

Leader: Even when fear strikes us,
We know that we are safe,
For we belong to God.

**PEOPLE: WE SHALL NEVER BE
SHAKEN OR MOVED,
FOR WE ARE SHADOWED
BY GOD’S ALMIGHTY HAND.
WE LIFT OUR VOICES TOGETHER
IN THANKS AND PRAISE.**



This Week's Schedule

**Sunday,
April 19th**

9:30am Worship in the Sanctuary
10:30am Fellowship in Swain Hall

**Monday,
April 20th**

Office Closed All Day — SPIRE DEADLINE
9:00am SilverSneakers Classic in Swain Hall
9:30am Prayer Shawls in Annex 2

**Tuesday,
April 21st**

Office Open from 8:30am to 3:00pm
1:00pm Foundation Meeting in Office Conf. Rm.
3:00pm Bell Choir in the Sanctuary
4:30pm Session Meeting in Office Conf. Room

**Wednesday,
April 22nd**

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 23rd**

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

**Friday,
April 24th**

Office Closed All Day
9:00am SilverSneakers Classic in Swain Hall
3:00pm Joy of Learning in the Fireside Room

**Saturday,
April 25th**

9:00am-2:00pm Sun City Posse Drug Take-Back
9:00am-Noon Sun City Posse Shred-a-Thon

**Sunday,
April 26th**

9:30am Worship in the Sanctuary
10:30am Congregational Meeting in Sanctuary
10:30am Fellowship in Swain Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEUTRAL PULPIT SUNDAY TODAY

We are pleased to host today's guest minister for a Neutral Pulpit opportunity in the Presbytery of Grand Canyon. To honor best practices, the names of participants are confidentially kept. Please offer your supportive prayers during this important time for all involved.

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 on April 26th to reflect on the theme of God's Creation.

After worship, please remain in the pews as we will 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.

THE JOY OF LEARNING CLASS

The Joy of Learning class will meet this coming Friday, April 24th, at 9:30am in the Fireside Room. This will be our final class until next September. We look forward to seeing you on the 24th, pray that you have a great summer, and we hope to see all of you when we gather again in September. I will have an exact September start date out to everyone in August. Thank you for your support of these classes. Respectfully, Terry K. Olthoff

*OPENING HYMN

No. 341 (vs. 1-3)

Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.



Refrain:

**This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.**



Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. **[Refrain]**

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.
[Refrain]



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PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Guest Minister

**TEACHER,
YOU CALL US TO GO,
FOLLOWING THE PLAN THAT YOU HAVE SET OUT FOR US.
YOU PROMISE US BLESSINGS AND PURPOSE,
BUT WE DO NOT TRUST YOUR WORDS.
WE CLING TO WHAT WE ALREADY KNOW,
WE TRUST IN WHAT WE CAN SEE AND TOUCH,
WE MAKE EXCUSES FOR OUR FAILURE TO TRUST IN YOU.
CALL TO US AGAIN,
THAT WE MAY BE BORN AGAIN THROUGH YOUR SPIRIT.
HELP US TO BELIEVE
AND GIVE US THE ABUNDANT LIFE
THAT COMES FROM FOLLOWING YOUR WILL . . .
(SILENT PRAYER)**



ASSURANCE OF GRACE (Responsive)

Pastor: God did not send the Son into the world
to condemn the world,
but in order that the world
might be saved through him.



**PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD.
WE WILL BEAR WITNESS TO GOD'S SAVING GRACE
WITH OUR LIVES.**

O Lord, my God! when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain:

**Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!**



When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; **[Refrain]**

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin; **[Refrain]**



When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration and there proclaim:
"My God, how great thou art!" **[Refrain]**

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

OFFERING



Ann Utke, Host Pastor

*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)**

Guest Minister

**GOD OF GRACE,
YOU HAVE GIFTED US WITH LIFE IN CHRIST.
TODAY WE BRING THE GIFTS OF OUR WORK
AND THE GIFTS OF OUR HEARTS.
MAY ALL THAT WE BRING AND ALL THAT WE ARE
BE YOUR MEANS OF GRACE IN THE WORLD,
THAT ALL PEOPLE MAY ENCOUNTER YOUR GOOD NEWS.
AMEN.**



***CLOSING HYMN**

No. 467 (vs. 1-4)

How Great Thou Art
(Next Page)



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Stewart Porter, Liturgist

*God of signs and wonders,
we come to your word again and again,
seeking understanding
and the new life it offers.
By the power of your holy spirit,
illumine our hearts and minds
so that we may believe this testimony
and have eternal life.
In the name of Jesus Christ,
our teacher and savior, we pray. Amen.*



SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 121 p. 702

Liturgist: This is the Word of the Lord.
PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD.



CHORAL ANTHEM

We Give Our Thanks
David N. Johnson



SCRIPTURE READING

John 3:1-17 p. 114

Guest Minister



SERMON

HYMN

No. 306 (vs. 1-3)

Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God to earth come down,
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.



Fair are the meadows, Fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.



Fair is the sunshine, Fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer,
Than all the angels heaven can boast.



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

*Remember in your prayers the congregation of
Central (Inter-Tribal), Phoenix (PCUSA); HART Pantry;
and All Saints of the Desert Episcopal 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.**



AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (UNISON)

(from the Book of Common Worship)

**JESUS CHRIST IS THE IMAGE OF THE INVISIBLE GOD, THE
FIRSTBORN OF ALL CREATION; IN HIM ALL THINGS IN HEAVEN
AND ON EARTH WERE CREATED, THINGS VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE.
ALL THINGS HAVE BEEN CREATED THROUGH HIM AND FOR HIM.
HE HIMSELF IS BEFORE ALL THINGS, AND IN HIM ALL THINGS
HOLD TOGETHER. HE IS HEAD OF THE BODY, THE CHURCH; HE IS
THE BEGINNING, THE FIRSTBORN OF THE DEAD, SO THAT HE
MIGHT COME TO HAVE FIRST PLACE IN EVERYTHING.
FOR IN HIM ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD WAS PLEASED TO DWELL,
AND THROUGH HIM GOD WAS PLEASED TO RECONCILE ALL
THINGS, WHETHER ON EARTH OR IN HEAVEN, BY MAKING PEACE
THROUGH THE BLOOD OF HIS CROSS. BY HIS RESURRECTION HE
HAS OVERCOME DEATH, AND BY HIS POWER, WE TOO ARE
ALREADY RAISED TO A NEW LIFE. PRAISE BE TO GOD, NOW AND
FOREVERMORE! AMEN.**