

# Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church

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Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

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## FHPC VISION & MISSION STATEMENTS

*Our Vision:* To be missionaries bearing the Gospel into the world  
*calls us to . . .*

*Our Mission :* Growing as devoted followers of Jesus Christ by  
making disciples for our Lord and Savior.

*Rev. August 2020*



**September 12, 2021**  
**9:00 AM**

## PRE-PRELUDE

### PRELUDE

“Jesus Shall Reign”

*arr. Anna Laura Page*  
*Dorothy Parris, Piano*

### SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

*William Bright, 1824-1901*

O Lord, grant all who contend for the faith, never to injure it by clamour  
and impatience; but, speaking thy precious truth in love, so to present  
it that it may be loved, and that men may see in it thy goodness and beauty.

## WORDS OF WELCOME

### OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Lord, we do not pray for easy lives,  
we pray to be stronger people.

We do not pray for tasks equal to our powers,  
but for powers equal to our tasks.

People: **We stand together for life—**

**Even in the midst of death.**

*Adapted from Kathy Galloway*

### FIRST REFLECTION

Bill Good

### PREPARING OUR HEARTS

“Hole in the World”

*Don Henley, Glenn Fry*  
*Celebration Singers*

## CONTINUING IN PRAYER:

Leader: Lord, we do not pray for easy lives,  
we pray to be stronger people.  
We do not pray for tasks equal to our powers,  
but for powers equal to our tasks.

People: **We stand together for life—**

**Even in the midst of death.**      Adapted from Kathy Galloway

## SECOND REFLECTION

Bill Good

## SPECIAL MUSIC

“The Long and Winding Road”      by Lennon & McCartney

## CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

*Bonnie Hollabaugh, Liturgist*

(Adapted from Mark Hayes)

Leader: Spirit is calling, calling us all together.

People: **We want this world to be a place of harmony,  
Where love abounds, and hope is found,  
And music rings the whole world round.  
What a wonder this one world could be.**

Leader: Spirit is calling, calling us all together.

People: **I wonder if I can make a difference?  
Can one voice really make a change?  
Can one flame pierce the darkness and light the way?**

Leader: Spirit is calling, calling us all together.

People: **One world, that is what we dream of,  
One world, where everything is light.  
One world, we can live in, where all is right.  
One people, standing by each other,  
United, they will become strong,  
Blending all their voices in one song at one time  
For one world, for one world!**

Leader: Spirit is calling, calling us all together. Amen!

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

# 151

1. A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;  
Our helper He amid the flood, of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe, doth seek to work us woe

His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,  
On earth is not his equal.

2. Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing.  
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.

Dost ask who that may be?

Christ Jesus, it is he—Lord Saboath His name,  
From age to age the same, and He must win the battle.

And tho' this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph thro' us.

The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him

His rage we can endure, for Lo, his doom is sure:

One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth;

The Spirit and the gifts are ours thro' Him who with us sideth.

Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also

The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still:

His kingdom is forever.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

God of light, in Your brightness, we see our failings. We have not followed in the bright ways of Jesus. We have too often followed our own dark desires rather than Your will. O God, we are aware of the state of the world and our part in it. We watch the news with little surprise at the violence and destruction that arises every day. We confess that if we are not part of the solution, we are part of the problem. Grant us the will to make a difference in our corners of the world, so that we might be ambassadors of Christ and light in the darkness. Amen.

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: God, who is light, shines the light of mercy on all who sincerely confess. The Spirit of God comes with power for us to live anew and walk in the ways of Jesus Christ. Peace and pardon are ours!

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING** Isaiah 2:2-5

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

## RESPONDING IN COMMITMENT

### OFFERTORY

“Sunset Soliloquy”

*Dennis Alexander*

### NEW TESTAMENT READING Revelation 5:6-10, 7:9-17

Leader: The word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God.

### SERMON

“Dancing in the Dark”

*Bill Good*

### MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

### THE LORD’S PRAYER

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.

### OUR SHARED LIFE

### ANTHEM

“How Can I Keep from Singing”

*Adapted by Robert Lowery*

*Anonymous*

*Celebration Singers*

### \*BENEDICTION

May the love of God bring you meaning and purpose.

May the grace of Jesus Christ bring you peace.

May the strength of the Holy Spirit guide you into the world as light for all people! Amen.

### \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

He’s got the whole world in His hands,

He’s got the whole world in His hands,

He’s got the whole world in His hands,

He’s got the whole world in His hands.

He’s got you and me brother in His hands,

He’s got you and me sister in His hands,

He's got you and me brother in His hands,  
He's got the whole world in His hands.

INSTRUMENTAL RESPONSE

Taps

\*POSTLUDE

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*Chancel Flowers Given To the Glory of God  
In Honor of Mike's Mother's Birthday*

*By Mike & MaryAnn O'Connor*

**Listen for the Word of God as we read from Isaiah,  
Chapter 2, vs. 2-5**

In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,  
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

**L:** This is the word of the Lord

**P:** Thanks be to God.

**Listen for the Word of God as we read from the Revelation,  
Chapter 5:6-10 and Chapter 7:9-17**

Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. They sing a new song:

“You are worthy to take the scroll  
and to open its seals,  
for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for  
God  
saints from every tribe and language and people and nation;  
you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our  
God,  
and they will reign on earth.”

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honor

and power and might

be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them,

nor any scorching heat;

for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,

and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

L: The word of God for the people of God

**P: Thanks be to God.**