



FOUNTAIN HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

13001 Fountain Hills Blvd | Fountain Hills, AZ 85268
www.fhpresbyterian.info | 480-837-1763



*Our Vision: Growing in love for God and others we make disciples for Jesus.
Our Mission: Love God – Love People – Make Disciples.*

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT **December 1, 2024 – 9:00 AM**

PRELUDE Prepare the Way, O Zion

SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Come, Lord Jesus. We are expecting you to be here. Even so, surprise us. Move among us through your Holy Spirit today in such a way that makes it clear you are near.

WORDS OF WELCOME Pastor Bob

PREPARING OUR HEARTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Brendan Wagner

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: As we enter this season of Advent, may the love of God the Father, and the grace of Jesus the Son, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be and abide with us all.

People: Amen! Let us worship God.

OPENING PRAYER Brendan Wagner

God of Israel, with expectant hearts we your people await Christ's coming. He came in humility, so now may he come in glory, that he may make all things perfect in your everlasting kingdom. For he is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

***HYMN OF ADVENT** "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" #245

CALL TO CONFESSION Brendan Wagner

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS & RENEWAL Brendan Wagner

While we ask, Lord, for the most meaningful Advent season ever, we sadly confess having done so little with so much. Forgive us, Lord, for not praying, for not reading your Word, for not searching our hearts, for not facing our sins. Forgive us according to your tender mercies, O God! Grant that when Christmas morning breaks for us this year, we may have a fresh sense of your presence and a renewed resolve to live to the praise of Christ's glory. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Brendan Wagner

(Please take a moment for personal confession)

Leader: Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Our sins are pardoned. The penalty is paid. We are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

John and Janet Scaggs

***HYMN OF ADVENT** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" #244

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Bob

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Pastor Bob

ANTHEM

"Hymn of Advent"

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Brendan Wagner

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

SCRIPTURE READING John 1:1-14 (NIV)

Brendan Wagner

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON "Where Was Jesus Before Christmas?" Pastor Bob
(Series: "Meet Jesus: The Greatest Life Ever Lived")

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

***AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH**

Pastor Bob

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 Spirit, 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 sits on the right hand of God the Father almighty; From there he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Leader: Here is the table of the Lord, we are gathered to celebrate his supper, a foretaste of things eternal. Come, when you are fearful, to be made new in love. Come, when you are doubtful, to be made strong in faith. Come, when you are regretful, and be made whole. Come, old and young, there is room for all.

People: **Just as I am without one plea but that Thy blood was shed for me, and that Thou bids me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor Bob

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

***SONG OF CELEBRATION** "Alleluia" #189

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Bob

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church Foundation

"An Investment Today for the Life of Our Church Tomorrow"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **REMINDER: AFTER WORSHIP BIBLE CLASS...**There is still room for you to join us after worship each Sunday for an informative and inspiring presentation by R. C. Sproul. The topic is "From Dust to Glory" and is a survey and summary of each of the books of the Bible from our creation to when we get to heaven. We are presently just beginning the New Testament and you don't have to have heard the previous lectures in order to know what is going on. Immediately after worship go to the Fellowship Center, grab a cup of coffee and some goodies, and come to the Fireside Room. We listen to two presentations each week that amounts to 45 minutes. *Come join us!*



STROLL IN THE GLOW

Saturday, December 7, 5pm - 8pm

Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church will participate in the Dec. 7th Stroll in the Glow. A manger scene (thanks to the help of Building and Grounds and Kristi Robinson and children), Christmas music by members of the Celebration Singers (led by music director Debbie Fisher), and live animals from Carter's Farm Mobile Petting Zoo will be featured at the church's spot on the Avenue of the Fountains.

Stroll in the Glow is sponsored by the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce, and features the annual lighting of the holiday decorations on the Avenue. Time of the Saturday event is 5-8 p.m.



Chancel Flowers Given to the Glory of God...

We are deeply grateful for our church family and Pastor Bob and Jeanette for their kindness during Tony's surgeries and recovery. Your cards, texts, calls, visits, and prayers have been a great blessing. Tony is healing and staying cautious.

Blessings to all, Tony and Connie Harris.