GILBERT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Glorify God Plant seeds of Faith Cultivate Disciples

ALL ARE WELCOME!



GILBERT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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APRIL 21, 2024 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

WELCOMING OF VISITORS AND LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

PRELUDE This Little Light of Mine Loes/Hayes

Susan Martinez

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist – Jim Moser

Leader: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

All: I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Leader: Jesus said: I am the good shepherd.

All: Christ lays down his life for the sheep.
Leader: The Lamb of God will be our shepherd.

All: He will guide us to the water of life.

*THE MORNING PRAYER Liturgist-Jim Moser

Almighty God,
you sent Jesus, our good shepherd,
to gather us together.
May we not wander from his flock,
but follow wherever he leads us,
listening for his voice and staying near him,
until we are safely in your fold,
to live with you forever;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN O God in Whom All Life Begins Hymn 308

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Although God has given the church the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ, we fall short of God's call to be salt of the earth and light of the world. Let us confess our sins before God.

People: Gracious and merciful God, we confess that time after time we have entered your presence with countless prayers, but with hearts closed to your grace. We have lifted our hands to you in praise, but our feet have still walked in the ways of selfishness and fear. We have rehearsed your commandments but have refused to see your face in the

needs of our neighbors. Heal our lack of faith and pardon our acts of injustice. Grant us the restoration that comes with your all-powerful Word.

Leader: Now in silence, let us continue our confession (Time of silent prayer) Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: This is our blessed assurance: that Christ died for our sins, and we have been raised to new life with him. Hear and believe the good news: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God.

*RESPONSE Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me
Hvmn 582

*SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

GOD'S WORD FOR OUR YOUNG DISCIPLES Pastor George Prohaska

All children are welcome in the front *Parents - livestream in progress (kids in front will be viewed online)*

SPECIAL MUSIC When the Saints Go Marching In

Jim Moser-Harmonica Solo Congregation-Chorus O when the saints go marching in O when the saints go marching in O Lord I want to be in that number When the saints go marching in.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION AND SCRIPTURE Liturgist – Jim Moser

Generous God, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may see the wonders of your Word; and give us grace that we may clearly understand and freely choose the way of your wisdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel Lesson: John 10:11-18

Epistle Lesson: I John 3:11-24

Pastor George Prohaska

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from A Brief Statement of Faith We trust in God,

whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,

we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth,

exploit neighbor and nature,

and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love,

the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.

Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.

Loving us still,

God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,

God is faithful still.

OFFERTORY Let All Things Now Living

arr. Krug

*DOXOLOGY

Hymn 606

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Holy God, we praise you... We praise you, Almighty Father, through Christ your Son, and in the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

HYMN What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine Hymn 837

*BENEDICTION Pastor George Prohaska

POSTLUDE He Lives! Sound Praises! Lani Smith Susan Martinez

*If you are able, please stand.



Thank you to our Worship and Tech Teams, Susan Martinez, Amy Johnston, Gaill Blackburn, David & Jennie Burel, Roy & Alex Martin.

Thank you to those Serving today:

Liturgist: Jim Moser

Hymn Leader/Choir Director: Amy Johnston

Ushers: Karen Gallagher, Sean Gallagher, Lyn Goodbar

Announcements

NEW MEMBER CLASS TODAY!

If you are looking for a new church home, Pastor George will lead a new members' class TODAY, after worship. All are welcome.

EVMC - PREPARING LUNCHES

We will be preparing sack lunches for (EVMC) today following our worship service in the Palmer Center. All are welcome to come and lend a hand! *Many hands, make light work!!!*

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Our Book Group meets tomorrow night (4-22) @ 7:00 pm via Zoom. We are discussing *Freeing Congregational Mission* A *Practical Vision for Companionship, Cultural Humility, and Co-Development* by B. Hunter Farrell. You may purchase this book on Amazon. All are welcome!

SPRING RECITAL - PIANO SUSAN

You are invited to attend two piano recitals with Susan Martinez and her students here in our sanctuary on Saturday, April 27 and Saturday, May 4 both at 4:00 pm. All are welcome!

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

You are invited to attend a service in recognition of the National Day of Prayer on **Thursday, May 2 at 7:00pm** at First Presbyterian Church of Mesa, 161 N. Mesa Drive. The evening will consist of prayers and brief comments will be shared by several faith and community leaders. Hosted by Mesa's Faith Leaders' Coalition & First Presbyterian Church of Mesa.

GPC General Information

FIRST TIME GUESTS - Welcome to our first-time visitors. A packet of information about our church is available in the entryway or from an usher. We're glad you're here!

OFFERINGS/DONATIONS – You may donate to Gilbert Presbyterian by going to https://www.azgpc.org/giving-options.html. Thank you for your support.

REMINDER – Please silence all phones/electronic devices. Thank you.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – **NOT THIS WEEK!** We meet in Room 7 at 11:00 am each Sunday. All are welcome!

VIDEO SUNDAY SCHOOL- NOT THIS WEEK! The Video Sunday School Class meets in the Chapel in the Palmer Center at 11:00 am each Sunday. Join us for great discussions and fellowship following a video lesson.

MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY

Join us each Thursday for our Mid-week Bible Study. We are studying the book, *Revelation* by NT Wright. This book can be purchased on **Amazon.** We meet in Room 7 in the Palmer Center at 4:00pm. Everyone is welcome!

LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME? - If you're thinking about joining Gilbert Presbyterian Church, PC(USA), or would like a refresher course on what being a Presbyterian Christian means, please call the church office at 480-892-6753 to let us know of your interest.

NURSERY CARE - Nursery care is available in the Palmer Center for Nursery/Toddler care thru 5 years old with our Nursery Attendant Britney Blackburn.

FELLOWSHIP TIME - We invite everyone to join us following our worship service this morning for a time of refreshments and fellowship in the Palmer Center.



THIS WEEK AT GPC

Sunday, April 21, 2024 9:30 am – Online & In Person Worship Service 10:30 am – EVMC Lunch Prep 10:30 am – New Member Class

10:30 am – Coffee Time in the Palmer Center
11:00 am – Revival Presbyterian Church Bible Study
1:00 pm – Revival Presbyterian Church Service

Monday, April 22

7:00 pm – Book Discussion Group Tuesday, April 23

8:00 am - Men's Breakfast Wednesday, April 24

6:00 pm - Mission Cmt. Meeting

Thursday, April 25

4:00 pm - Mid Week Bible Study

7:30 pm – Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, April 27

4:00 pm - Susan Martinez Spring Piano Concert

Sunday, April 28

9:30 am - Online & In Person Worship Service

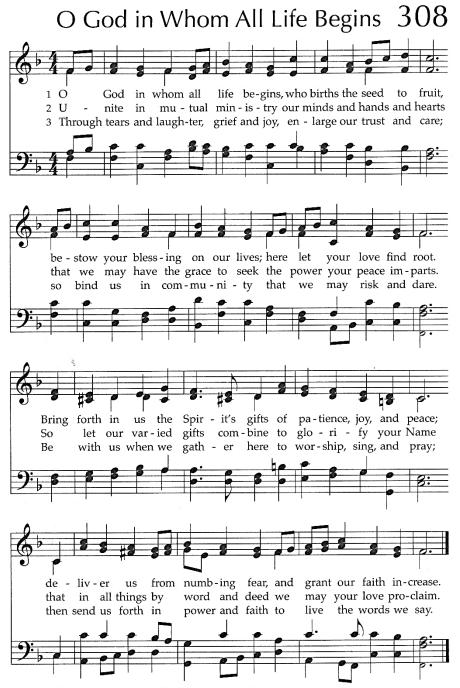
10:30 am - Coffee Time in the Palmer Center

11:00 am - Video Sunday School

11:00 am - Adult Sunday School meets in person and via Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/4808926753?pwd=K3J3bk9CNDFsdll2ZCtuOGx CL2FzZz09

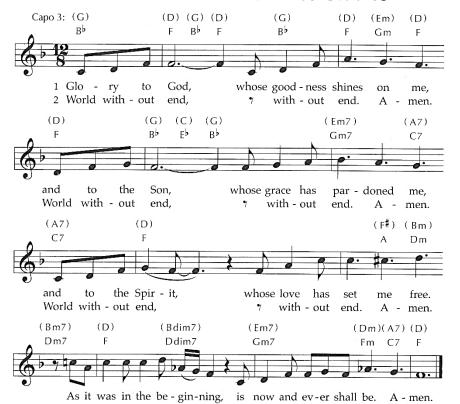
11:00 am – Revival Presbyterian Church Bible Study1:00 pm – Revival Presbyterian Church Service

HYMN INSERTS



Although it was written for the installation of a pastor, this text is really about the mutual ministry shared by all members of a worshiping community, both when they are gathered and when they go forth into the world. The tune used here may have Christmas associations for some.

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me



606

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow





TEXT: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709 MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551 OLD HUNDREDTH

LIVI

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine 837 Leaning on the Everlasting Arms



The composer of the tune (and creator of the refrain) asked the author of the stanzas to write a hymn based on the latter part of Deuteronomy 33:27 (as worded in the King James Version): "Underneath are the everlasting arms." Their joint effort has proved very popular.

Scripture Readings - April 21, 2024

GOSPEL LESSON

Jim Moser

John 10:11-18

11' I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. 13 The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. 17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

EPISTLE LESSON

Pastor George Prohaska

I John 3:11-24

¹¹ For this is the message you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. ¹² We must not be like Cain who was from the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. ¹³ Do not be astonished, brothers and sisters, that the world hates you. ¹⁴ We know that we have passed from death to life because we love one another. Whoever does not love abides in death. ¹⁵ All who hate a brother or sister are murderers, and you know that murderers do not have eternal life abiding in them. ¹⁶ We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷ How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸ Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹ And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰ whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹ Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²² and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³ And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.