GILBERT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Glorify God
Plant seeds of Faith
Cultivate Disciples

ALL ARE WELCOME!

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Find us on the web at: www.azgpc.org

Pastor Christian Johnson
pastor@azgpc.org

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

November 1, 2026
Reformation Day/Communion Sunday

PRELUDE

WELCOMING OF VISITORS AND LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE **Damian Martin**

WHAT IS REFORMATION DAY **John Stover**

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP** **John Stover**

One: Come, people of God, and draw near to the One who has called you by name.

Many: We come longing to encounter Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

One: Come, weary and hopeful, burdened and free, for the good news of God's grace still rings true.

Many: We come to hear the Word that gives life, and to worship the God who sets us free.

One: Come, saints of every generation, living and departed, united in the love of Christ.

Many: We come to give glory to God alone, and to rejoice in the gospel that is for us and for the world.

One: Let us worship the living God.

All: Amen.

THE MORNING PRAYER

Gracious God,
we gather this morning with hearts that long to meet Jesus. Open our ears to your living Word, open our eyes to the beauty of your grace, and open our lives to the freedom you give in Christ. As we remember the reformers who called the Church back to the gospel, renew that same gospel in us today. Speak to us through Scripture, strengthen us by your Spirit, and draw us closer to Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

HYMN ***Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*** Hymn 649

PRAYER OF CONFESSION **Pastor Christian Johnson**

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION **Pastor Christian Johnson**

Merciful God,
we confess that we have tried to justify ourselves. We have trusted in our own goodness, our religious activity, and our careful living, rather than resting in the finished work of Christ. We have neglected your Word, lived as if grace were cheap, and failed to give you the glory that belongs to you alone. Forgive us, we pray. Set us free from the burden of self-reliance, and teach us again to cling to Jesus alone. In his name we pray. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION **Pastor Christian Johnson**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS **Pastor Christian Johnson**

People: Thanks be to God.

***RESPONSE** Hymn 582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST **Pastor Christian Johnson**

People: And also with you.

VIDEO ***The Elephant in The Room***

GOD'S WORD FOR OUR YOUNG DISCIPLES **Pastor Christian**

All children are welcome in the front

Parents - livestream in progress (kids in front will be viewed online)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION AND SCRIPTURE **John Stover**

Gospel Reading: **John 8:31-36 NRSVUE**

This is the Word of God!

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM ***This Is My Story*** Jack Schrader

SERMON **Romans 1:16-17 NRSVUE**

The Scandal of Grace

Pastor Christian Johnson

This is the Word God! **Thanks be to God!**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** from the Scots Confession (1560), Chapter 1 Book of Confessions, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

One: We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we must put our trust.

Many: Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible; one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

One: By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, to have been created, to be retained in their being, and to be ruled and guided by his inscrutable providence

Many: for such end as his eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed, and to the manifestation of his own glory.

All: Amen.

NECROLOGY REPORT **Pastor Chrisitan Johnson**

Mary Lou Taylor ***Rocky Mackey***

Robin White ***Ellen Roberts***

Sue Widmer

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor Chrisitan Johnson

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION/ PASTORAL PRAYER / LORD'S PRAYER

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 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.

CALL TO OFFERING **Pastor Christian Johnson**

OFFERTORY

You are invited to use this offertory as a time to reflect on your offering to God.

***DOXOLOGY** Hymn 606

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

PRAYER OF DEDICATION **Pastor Christian Johnson**

HYMN** ***A Mighty Fortress Is Our God Hymn 275

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** **Pastor Christian Johnson**

POSTLUDE ***A Mighty Fortress*** Luther/Lopez
Susan Martinez

***If you are able, please rise in body or spirit.**

Attendance last Sunday: 58
Thank you to our Worship and Tech Teams, Gaill Blackburn, Britney Blackburn, Jessica Dickens-Kilgore, Bruce Jackson, Susan Martinez, Roy Martin, Aria & Alex Martin, Damian Martin.

Thank you to those Serving today:
Liturgists: John Stover
Music Director: Damian Martin
Bagpiper: Eli Bachara
Piano/Organ: Susan Martinez
Time with Children: Pastor Christian
Ushers: Ginny & Lyn Goodbar, Mary Sumner
Communion Servers: Fred Lenz, Kitty Burgess, Mary Sumner, John Paterson

Announcements

FOOD/CLOTHING COLLECTION TODAY!
We will be collecting food and clothing for Mesa Mercy Market TODAY; you will find the donation boxes in the Narthex.

MESA MERCY MARKET THANKSGIVING FOOD BAGS
Help Mesa Mercy Market share the warmth of Thanksgiving with neighbors in our community. We are helping to contribute monetary donations to purchase turkeys and hams for Thanksgiving food bags. We also welcome donations of brown & serve rolls. Please place food donations in the narthex. If donating by check, write ***Thanksgiving food bags*** on the memo line. Thank you for helping make the holiday brighter for local families.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
We will not be meeting on Wednesday, November 4, as Pastor Christian is on vacation and we will not meeting on November 11(Veterans Day), but we will resume on Wednesday, November 18 at 11:00 am. All are welcome

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
PW ANNUAL COOKIE SALE ~ DECEMBER 13. Stay tuned for more details!

THANK YOU!!!
The Stewardship committee wants to thank everyone who is contributing to the church with their time, talents, and financial support. Without your contributions, GPC would not be able to fulfill its Mission which is to be a Christ-centered covenant family, nurtured by the Holy Spirit, to worship God and share God's love with EVERYONE. Without your assistance our ability to accomplish our mission would be difficult, to say the least. Thank you and God Bless you all

Happy November Birthday to:
November 3: Susan Deleso

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.

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.

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.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Children's Sunday School Class will be studying about Paul, in a series entitled "Amazing Adventures: Paul's Amazing Quest" We look forward to youngsters ages 5 and up joining us! The Children's class meets on most Sundays, immediately after the children's message.

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Do you like to sing? Well, come and join our choir. Our rehearsals are on Thursday's from 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm in the sanctuary. Even if you have never sung before we welcome everyone!

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY- Join us each Wednesday at 11:00 am for Bible Study. We are studying the Book of Acts! All are welcome!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY - Our Bible Study Sunday School meets @ 10:30 am in Room 7. All are welcome! This Sunday we will be studying ***R is for Ruth*.**

VIDEO BIBLE STUDY - Video Bible Study meets at 10:30 am in Room 6 of the Palmer Center. Join us for a time of faith, fellowship, and fun as we view videos followed by discussion. No bible expertise needed!! We are now doing the study Five things God Uses to Grow Your Faith narrated by Andy Stanley.

This Week at GPC

Sunday, November 1, 2026
Communion & Food Collection
9:00 am – Online & In Person Worship Service
Children's Sunday School
10:30 am - Video Sunday School - Room 6
10:30 am - Adult Sunday School - Room 7
11:00 am – Coffee Time in the Palmer Center
1:00 pm – Revival Presbyterian Church Service

Tuesday, November 3
8:00 am - Men's Breakfast
5:00 pm - Mission/Evangelism Meeting
Thursday, November 5
7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, November 8
9:00 am – Online & In Person Worship Service
Children's Sunday School
10:00 am – Coffee Time in the Palmer Center
10:30 am - Video Sunday School - Room 6
10:30 am - Adult Sunday School - Room 7
1:00 pm – Revival Presbyterian Church Service

HYMN INSERTS

THANKSGIVING

649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

CHOCTAW

Shilombish holitopa ma!
Ishmminti pulla cha
hatak ilbusha pia ha
is pi yukpalashke.

CREEK

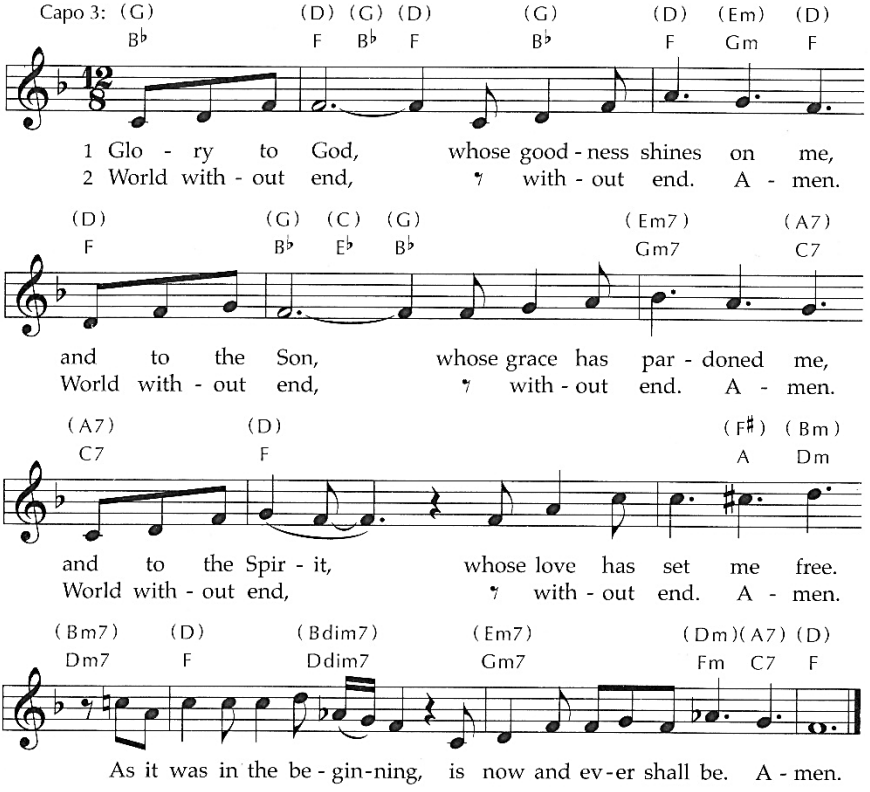
Po ya fek cha he thlat ah tet
ah non ah cha pa kas
cha fee kee o funnan la kus
um e ha ta la yus.

NAVAHO

Nizhóntíigo joobá diits' a'
yisdáshúťinigíť,
lah yóóiiyá, k'ad
shéndhoosdzin,
doo eesh'íí da ńt'éé.

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16–17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it "Faith's Review and Expectation." Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me



606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology

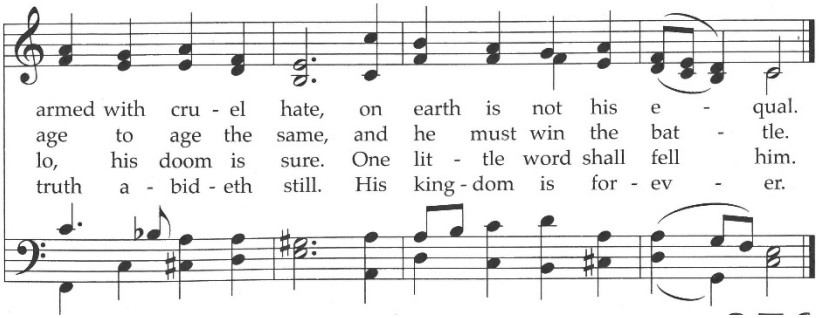
*Or "God"

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

OLD HUNDREDTH
LM

275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Long before Isaac Watts began to Christianize the Psalms, Martin Luther had already done so when he created the text and tune for this, his most famous hymn, which is based on Psalm 46. Luther encouraged metrical versions of psalms as well as chanted psalms and new hymns.


armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.
truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

Scripture Readings –November 1, 2026 John Stover

Introduction to be said by liturgist:

On this Reformation Sunday we remember that the Church is continually called back to the living Word of God. In the passage we are about to hear, Jesus speaks of remaining in his word, knowing the truth, and being set free. These words shaped the reformers' conviction that true freedom is found not in human tradition or religious effort, but in Christ alone and in the gospel he proclaims. Hear now the Word of the Lord.

Gospel Reading: John 8:31-36 NRSVUE

31 Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If
you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and
you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."
33 They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and
have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by
saying, 'You will be made free'?"
34 Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who
commits sin is a slave to sin. 35 The slave does not have a
permanent place in the household; the son has a place there
forever. 36 So if the Son makes you free, you will be free
indeed.

This is the word of God!

Thanks be to God!

Primary Passage: Romans 1:16-17 NRSVUE

Pastor Christian Johnson."

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is God's saving power for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith, as it is written, "The one who is righteous will live by faith."

This is the word of God!

Thanks be to God!