

SOLI DEO GLORIA

Mountain

Reformed Church



Welcome to Mountain Reformed Church!

We are so grateful that you have chosen to worship with us today! The vision of our church is to provide an open door to relationship with God for all through worship, teaching God's Word, and by celebrating with music and the arts. Our mission is simple: All Glory to God! Our church is independent and non-denominational, with a theology based in the reformed way of being Christian. Please see our website at www.mountainreformed.org for more information about our church.

Prayer of Meditation

God of goodness and growth, let your love be made real in me this day. Soften the hardened places of my heart and crowd out any corners of greed or anxiety. Make me be fruitful in thought, word, and deed. Amen.

Operation Christmas Child

It's never too early to start thinking about what to put in this year's Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Right now during the back to school sales is a great time to stock up on pencils, pens, crayons, highlighters, and all things school related. Too early you think? Less than two months until we'll be handing out piles of empty shoeboxes for you to fill! Thank you for being a blessing to others!

Pastor on Call

The Rev. Dr. Gene Grimm is the Pastor on Call. If you would like to get in touch, feel free to email eugenegrimm@me.com or call 928-925-6057.

MRC Bulletin and Weekly Email

Would you like to place an announcement in the Sunday bulletin or "This Week at Mountain Reformed Church" email? Please send your info to Ryan Gastonguay at ryan@mountainreformed.org. The deadline is Monday evening of each week for the coming weekend, but we always appreciate as much notice as possible.

MRC Name Badges

If you would like an MRC name badge, please send your name as it should appear to Mary Bricker: marybricker18@gmail.com and she will have one made. **New name badges with our MRC logo COMING SOON!**

***A LARGE PRINT VERSION OF THIS BULLETIN
IS AVAILABLE AT THE USHER'S TABLE.**

ORDER OF WORSHIP
July 16, 2023 - 10:30 AM
7th Sunday After Pentecost

Gathering

Words of Greeting and Life of the Church

L: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

P: And also with you!

L: This is the day that the Lord has made;

P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Prayer of the Day

Prelude

Like a River Glorious (Hymn #516)

arr. Joel Raney

(Please stand as you are able)

Call to Worship

L: God's creation delights and astonishes.

Ps. 65:1-13

P: Let the people pause and wonder!

L: God, the Creator, has made it all.

P: Let all creation shout and sing! Alleluia!

(Please remain standing)

Opening Hymn #6

How Great Thou Art

O STORE GUD

(Please be seated)

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

**Patient and persistent God,
we come, polished and presentable,
to this comfortable room
as if we knew what to expect,
as if this were a safe and predictable place,
as if we could simply observe.**

Matt. 13:1-9, 18-23

**Holy One, forgive our tepid expectations.
In the mystery of your love, overshadow us.
Plant the seeds of your gospel in each of our hearts
until we bloom and spill with your passion
to serve in a world that is wasting.**

(Silent Confession)

L: Amen.

(Please stand as you are able)

Gloria Patri, Hymn #670

GLORIA PATRI (GRETOREX)

Declaration of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

(Please be seated)

Call to Offering

Offertory

Cast Thy Burden Upon The Lord
Dr. Craig Ralston & Ryan Gastonguay

by Benjamin Harlan

(Please stand as you are able)

Doxology, Hymn #668

OLD HUNDREDTH

Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

(Please be seated)

The Word

Reading of Scripture

Isaiah 55:10-13 (ESV)

10 “For as the rain and the snow come
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
12 “For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the Lord,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

L: The Word of our Lord.

P: **Thanks be to God!**

(Please remain seated)

Response Hymn #21

Hymn of Adoration

ADORATION

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (ESV)

13 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2 And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, 6 but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 He who has ears, let him hear.”

18 “Hear then the parable of the sower: 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, 21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. 22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. 23 As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

P: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

“How to Have a Fruitful Faith”

Rev. Dr. Dan Storvick

(Please stand as you are able)

Hymn of the Day #509

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

OLIVET

(Please remain standing)

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles’ Creed

**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 Ghost,
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 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

Prayers for the People, concluded with The Lord's Prayer in unison:

**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.**

Sending

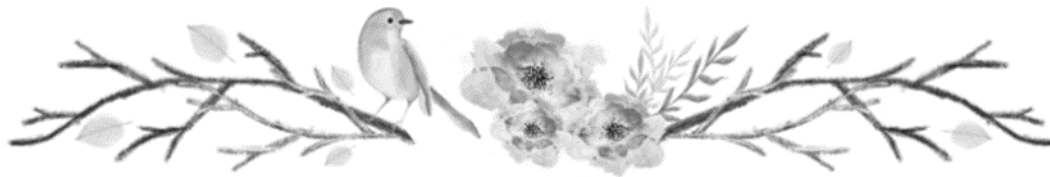
Charge

Benediction

Postlude

It Is Well with My Soul (Hymn #447)

Dr. Craig Ralston



Flowers today celebrate the 50th anniversary of Larry and Shirley Culver.

Assisting in Worship:

Liturgist: Bonnie Petit

Pianist: Dr. Craig Ralston

Acolyte: Tubal Gastonguay

Ushers: Larry & Shirley Culver

Greeter and Coffee Fellowship Coordinator: Karen Thorstad

Prayer Ministry and Prayer Chain

If you would like to be a part of our prayer ministry and prayer chain, please indicate this on your welcome card. Lyndi Peacock coordinates this ministry, and she will send prayer requests to you by email: lyndi@milehighlending.com. You can also call or text Lyndi at 928-899-2085. If you are seeking prayer please email Lyndi your request directly or fill out a prayer request card (available at the usher's table) and place in the offering plate.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawls serve as a tangible reminder of God's love for those who are walking through difficult times. A prayer shawl can bring great comfort! Shawls can also be given in celebration of milestones such as graduations, weddings, and new babies. Our shawls are lovingly created by Sharon Tom, Barbara Poland, Sheri Simpson, and Debra Ochoa. Please let us know if you have someone who needs a prayer shawl! Recipients do not have to be local. Anyone with a love for knitting or crochet is welcome to participate in this ministry as well. Please email Sharon: sharonctom@yahoo.com.

Card Ministry

Cards for encouragement, celebration, sympathy, get well, birthdays, and more can be mailed out via our Card Ministry. Sheri Simpson, Carolyn Peterson, Lyndi Peacock, Pam Rineholt, Amy Greenland, and Beth Wingate are coordinating this ministry and can always use donations of cards and stamps. Please let us know if you have someone whose day would be brightened by receiving a card from Mountain Reformed Church! Please email Sheri: charlieandsheri@gmail.com.

Mountain Reformed Church

Mailing address: PO Box 12228, Prescott, AZ, 8604

www.mountainreformed.org

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7/9/2023 Worship Attendance: 80
Bank Balances as of 7/5/2023: \$71,757