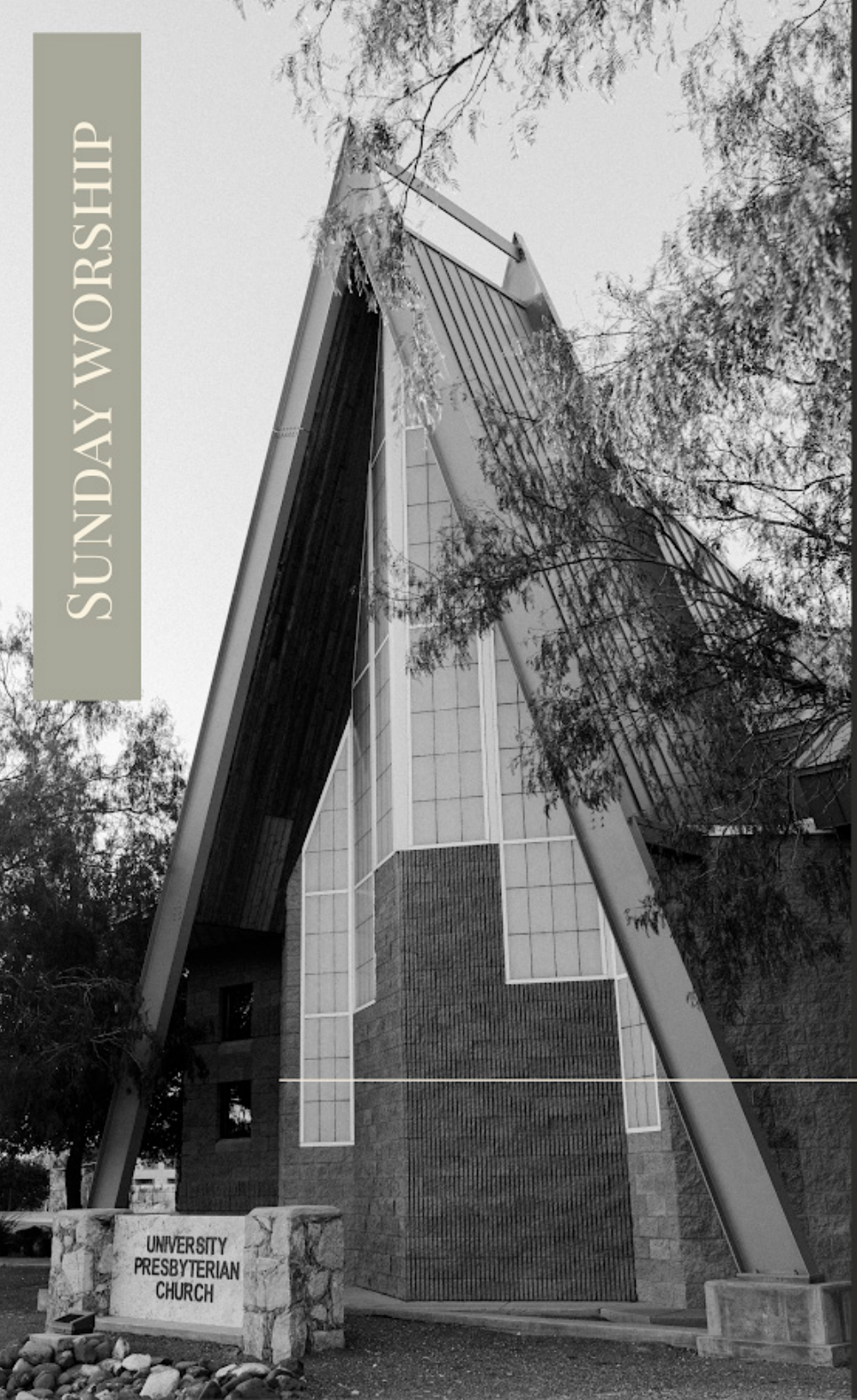
SUNDAY WORSHIP



UNIVERSITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ROOTED IN THE GOSPEL
SHAPED IN COMMUNITY
CULTIVATING DISCIPLES

November 29, 2026

Deliver us, when we draw near to You, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship You in spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Welcome

We're so *glad* you're here!

Whether it's your first time at UPC, or your first time at church altogether, we want you to know that you're welcome here.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Jesus invites us to come as we are, knowing He will not leave us there.

So, we invite you to take a few moments of quiet reflection before the service to prepare your heart for worship.

PARENTS WITH SMALL CHILDREN

We understand parenting is challenging! In an effort to support you, we offer a staffed nursery for our youngest ones (ages 0-3) during each worship service.

Our hope, however, is for our children to participate in corporate worship as soon as they are able!

PRAYER REQUEST?

Prayer is an invitation to bring our hearts before God our Father. More than simply thinking about God or carrying our concerns alone, we are invited to come to Him— expressing our needs, desires, gratitude, and burdens, trusting that He hears us.

CONNECT

Want to stay connected to the life of UPC?

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OUR CHURCH?

NEED PRAYER?

ORDER OF WORSHIP



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: It shall come to pass in the latter days, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come and say,

Congregation: "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."

Leader: For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and 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 anymore.

Congregation: O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Isaiah 2: 2-5

CALL TO WORSHIP
A formal invitation to the congregation to enter corporate worship. It is drawn from Scripture and unites the congregation in acknowledging God's presence and preparing their hearts for worship.



*PRAYER OF ADORATION

ADVENT READING AND CANDLE LIGHTING

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" **Trinity 194**

O come, O come, Emmanuel,

*Please stand if you're able.



And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

[Chorus]
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O, Israel.

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the law,
In cloud and majesty and awe.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

O come, Thou Dayspring, from on high
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home.
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

Trinity 194 John Mason Nealle, Thomas Helmore
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UBP

ORDER OF WORSHIP



CALL TO CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION
This is an invitation to bring our sins before the Lord. Because of Christ's work on the cross, we can confess freely, knowing that in Him, there is no condemnation, only grace and restoration.

Oh, that You would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at Your presence-- as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil--to make Your name known to Your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at Your presence!

When You did awesome things that we did not look for, You came down, the mountains quaked at Your presence. From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides You, who acts for those who wait for Him. You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember You in Your ways.

Behold, You were angry and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like wind, take us away.

There is no one who calls upon Your name, who rouses himself to take hold of You; for You have hidden Your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.

But now, O LORD, You are our Father; we are the clay, and You are our potter; we are all the work of Your hand. Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all Your people.

Isaiah 64: 1-9



CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Emmanuel, God with us, in this Advent season, we confess how hard it is to slow down and wait. We often chase busyness, fear,

and things we can see rather than trusting Your promises. Looking at the world and our own hearts, it is easy to grow weary and lose hope. Forgive us when we doubt Your faithfulness or look for security ouside Your lovingkindness. Restore us by Your grace, anchor our hope in Your unfailing word, and renew us as we await Your coming.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION



***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

These words are an invitation to rest in God's grace. He declares that all who repent and believe in Jesus are completely forgiven from all of their sins, and their guilt wiped clean.

"Remember these things, O Jacob, for You are My servant; I formed you; you are My servant; O Israel, you will not be forgotten by Me. I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like mist; return to Me, for I have redeemed you. Sing, O heavens, for the LORD has done it; shout, O depths of the earth; break forth into singing, O mountains, O forest, and every tree in it! For the LORD has redeemed Jacob and will be glorified in Israel."

Isaiah 44: 21-23

Congregation: Amen.

***"Comfort, Comfort Ye, My People"** **Trinity 197**

Comfort, comfort ye, my people,
Speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
Comfort those who sit in darkness,
Mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.

Speak ye to Jerusalem

*Please stand if you're able.

Of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover,
And her warfare now is over.
Trinity 197; Johannes. G. Olearius | Louis Bourgeois
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*** "Lovely Child, Holy Child" Trinity 231**

Lovely Child, holy Child,
Gentle, mild, undefiled;
Infant King, fairest King, gifts we'll bring and anthems sing.

[Chorus]
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Child of light, born tonight;
Our delight, promise bright;
Child so fair, see Him there, now declare Him everywhere.

Rest Your head, sweetest head;
Gifts we'll spread at Your bed.
Jesus, Lord, be adored, may this word now be outpoured.

To this boy, our great joy,
We employ hymns of joy;
Child so fair, see Him there, now declare Him everywhere.
Trinity 231; David N. Johnson
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TITHES & OFFERINGS

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We give back to God the portion of our wealth and talents that he calls his in recognition that they all come from him. These gifts help support the mission and ministries of the church. Some of us choose to put an offering in the plate, while others give online.

Scan here to Give

*Please stand if you're able.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

“Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery” **Boswell/Papa**

Come behold the wondrous mystery
In the dawning of the King.
He, the theme of heaven’s praises
Robed in frail humanity.
In our longing, in our darkness,
Now the light of life has come.
Look to Christ, who condescended
Took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous mystery,
He, the perfect Son of Man.
In His living, in His suffering
Never trace nor stain of sin.
See the true and better Adam
Come to save the hell-bound man.
Christ, the great and sure fulfillment
Of the law; in Him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous mystery,
Christ the Lord upon the tree.
In the stead of ruined sinners,
Hangs the Lamb in victory.
See the price of our redemption,
See the Father’s plan unfold.
Bringing many sons to glory
Grace unmeasured, love untold.

Come behold the wondrous mystery,
Slain by death the God of life.
But no grave could e'er restrain Him,
Praise the Lord; He's alive.
What a foretaste of deliverance,
How unwavering our hope.
Christ in power resurrected,
As we will be when He comes.
What a foretaste of deliverance,
How unwavering our hope.
Christ in power resurrected,
As we will be when He comes.

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CCLI#: 372115

*DOXOLOGY

***"Gloria Patri"** **Smart/Bonar**

Glory be to God the Father,
Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit,
Ever Three and ever One;
As it was in the beginning,
Now and evermore shall be.

Henry Smart | Horatius Bonar
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PASTORAL PRAYER

*Please stand if you're able.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name;
Your kingdom come;
Your 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 Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.

***SCRIPTURE READING** Miriam Rawson
Luke 1: 5-25

Leader: If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.

SERMON **Dan Smith**

***CONFESSION OF FAITH**

The Son of God, the second Person in the Trinity, being very and eternal God, of one substance and equal with the Father, did, when the fullness of time was come, take upon Him man's nature, with all the essential properties, and common infirmities thereof, yet without sin;

being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the virgin Mary, of her substance.

So that two whole, perfect, and distinct natures, the Godhead and manhood, were inseparably joined together in One person, without conversion, composition, or confusion.

GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

We come to Scripture to hear what God has said and to be shaped by what is true. As His Word is read and preached, we are invited to listen carefully, consider what we hear, and respond with faith and obedience.

*Please stand if you're able.

Which Person is very God and very man, yet one Christ, the only Mediator between God and man.

Westminster Confession of Faith, 8.2



THE LORD'S SUPPER

All those who have publicly professed their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, are repentant of their sins, and are baptized members where the gospel is loved and proclaimed, are warmly invited to participate in the Lord's Supper with us. For those of you who have not yet trusted in Jesus, please let these elements pass by you. We would love to talk to you about your relationship with the Lord after the service.

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

We invite those seated closest to the pulpit to come to the table first.

Please file through the outer aisles and back up the middle aisle.

Wine is in the clear cups; juice is in the purple cups.

Please take the bread as you receive it. Hold onto the cup, as we will drink it together, signifying our unity in the body of Christ.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

DISTRIBUTION OF BREAD AND WINE

"Of the Father's Love Begotten" **Trinty 162**

Of the Father's love begotten,
'Ere the world began to be;
He is Alpha and Omega,
He, the source, the ending, He.
Of the things that are that have been,
And the future years shall see;
Evermore and evermore!

O, that birth forever blessed
When the Virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bore the Savior of our race,

And the Babe, the world's Redeemer
First revealed His sacred face,
Evermore and evermore!

This is He whom heav'n taught singers
Sang of old with one accord,
Whom the Scriptures of the prophets
Promised in their faithful word.
Now He shines, the long expected,
Let creation praise its Lord,
Evermore and evermore!

O, ye heights of heaven adore Him,
Angel hosts, His praises sing.
All dominions bow before Him,
And extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Ev'ry voice in concert ring;
Evermore and evermore!

Christ, to Thee with God the Father,
And O Holy Ghost, to Thee;
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving,
And unwearied praises be.
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory;
Evermore and evermore!

Trinity 162; Aurelius Clemens Prudentius

Public Domain

*MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH

"Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!
Hallelujah!"

*Please stand if you're able.

ORDER OF WORSHIP



*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***"Joy Has Dawned" Getty/Townend**

Joy has dawned upon the world, promised from creation;
God's salvation now unfurled, hope for every nation.
Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of glory,
But, a humble gift of love, Jesus born of Mary.

Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the songs of angels,
As the mighty Prince of Life shelters in a stable.
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in darkness,
Cling now to a mother's breast, vulnerable and helpless.

Shepherds bow before the Lamb, gazing at His glory;
Gifts of men from distant lands prophesy a story.
Gold, a King is born today; Incense, God is with us;
Myrrh, His death will make a way, and by His blood He'll win us.

Son of Adam, Son of heav'n, given as a ransom,
Reconciling God and man, Christ, our mighty Champion!
What a Savior, what a Friend, what a glorious myst'ry:
Once a Babe in Bethlehem, now, the Lord of hist'ry.

Keith Getty | Stuart Townend
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*BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION

A pronouncement of God's blessing and commission upon His people as they are sent into the world. It is more than a closing prayer—it is a declaration of God's grace, peace, and presence. We depart with this "good Word" as a reassurance of His faithfulness and a charge to walk in obedience and faith throughout the week.

*Please stand if you're able.

SERMON NOTES



THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- What are the main points?
- What is the context of this passage?
- What are some repeated words and themes?
- How does this message point to Christ?
- How do we see God's grace, justice, mercy, or sovereignty in the text?
- How does this passage stir us to action?

*Please stand if you're able.

Announcements

- **Deck the Halls of UPC—** All are invited to deck the halls of UPC the Saturday after Thanksgiving, 28 November. This is a come-and-go event starting at 9am.

- **Lament Service**--Join us Wednesday, 2 December, at 6:30pm, as we cry out to the God who entered creation to ransom His people, who mourn in lonely exile. He is the God who promises to return, to make His blessings flow, far as the curse is found. We will have a brief service of Scripture, songs, and prayers in the Sanctuary.

- **Women's Christmas Brunch and Ornament Exchange --** We will meet at 10:00am on 5 December in the foyer. Bring your favorite holiday-style dish to share and an ornament that represents a way God has worked in your life this past year.

- **Congregation and Corporation meeting**-- The next C&C meeting will be held Sunday, 6 December. Please join us to vote for the re-election of officers and to vote for our new trustees.

- **RUF Final Exams Goodie Bags -** UPC is filling goodie bags again for our college students for Finals Week. If you would like to help, please use the link in the CrossTalk. Items need to be back at UPC by Dec 6th!

- **NEW OFFICE HOURS**-- Due to changes in availability, the new office hours are as followed: Mon/Wed: closed; Tues/Thurs/Fri: 9:00am-2:00pm or by appointment.

- **Christmas Caroling and Soup Potluck--** Join us Sunday, 13 December, as we visit various places around Las Cruces to bless our neighbors with Christmas hymns. We will meet in the Great Hall at UPC at 4:00pm and team up there. Please bring a soup to share afterward!

This week at UPC

SUN (11/29)
- First Sunday in Advent
- Prayers From the Boiler Room, 8:15am
- Adult/Youth/Children Sunday School, 9:00am
- Worship Service, 10:00am

TUES(12/1)
- Milagro Men's Book Study, 6:30am
- Women's Prayer Group, 10:00am
- Women's Bible Study, 6:45pm

WED (12/2)
- Midweek Fellowship Dinner, 5:00pm
- Lament Service, 6:30pm

THURS (12/3)
- Worship Team Practice, 6:00pm

SAT (11/28)
- Women's Ornament Exchange, 10:00am

SUN (12/6)
- Second Sunday in Advent
- Prayers From the Boiler Room, 8:15am
- Adult/Youth/Children Sunday School, 9:00am
- Worship Service, 10:00am
- Congregation & Corporation Meeting, 11:30am



About our church

Staff & Elders

Pastoral Staff

Dan Smith, *Pastor*
Daniel Dávalos, *RUF Pastor*

Church Staff

Tessa Kennedy,
Ministry & ComunnicationsCoodinator

Judy Lopez, *Office Coodinator*

Samantha Lish, *Bookkeeper*

To contact Dan Smith,
Please email him at

upcoffice@upclc.com

Elders

Richard Heerema
Chris Hoxworth
David Moon
Simon Rawson
Robin Rose

Deacons

Luke Biel
Chris Kennedy
Eric Tessier

Stay Connected

Want to stay up to date with what's happening in the life of UPC? Please sign up for our weekly newsletters by scanning the QR code below.

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