



Sunday, April 26, 2020 Service – Online
Faith Presbyterian Church
Sierra Vista, AZ



PRELUDE *“Praise to the Living God”* Broughton

INTROIT *“The Lord in the Temple”* Heather Carter, Soloist Suzanne Walthall, Pianist

CALL TO WORSHIP

So much in life is unpredictable.

Life begins and ends.

The weather changes.

Love surprises us.

Doors close.

Others open.

Life is unpredictable,

But what we can count on is finding God in this time;

For this is God’s time, and all are welcome.

So bring your questions and concerns, your doubts and wonderings,

For in the midst of this unpredictable life, we can predict this:

Love lives wherever we are.

Let us worship God.

OPENING HYMN *“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”*

All hail the power of Jesus ’name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel’s race,
Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
And crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
And crown him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe
On this terrestrial ball
To him all majesty ascribe,
And crown him Lord of all!
To him all majesty ascribe,
And crown him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng
We at his feet may fall!
We’ll join the everlasting song,
And crown him Lord of all!
We’ll join the everlasting song,
And crown him Lord of all!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God,
You ask us to follow you, and we respond with logistical questions—
How long? Where to? Will we return?
You ask us to love each other, and we respond with excuses—
I don't know how. We don't see eye to eye.
You ask us to dream and we get stuck in our own heads—
Change will never come. Is it worth it?
You ask us to believe, and like Thomas, we ask for proof—
Unless I see the nails in his hands, I cannot believe.
Forgive us for our small-minded ways.
Open our eyes as you open our hearts.
Unravel our doubt. Unravel our unbelief.
Lead us to rest in you.
Gratefully we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

With calming words,
with a peaceful Spirit,
with overflowing love and hope,
our God forgives us and fills us with faith.
Our God affirms us for who we are –
our brokenness is made whole,
our sin is forgiven,
our lives overflow with faith.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God! Amen.

CHILDRENS TIME - Doubt Video

SPECIAL MUSIC ***“In the Bulb, There is a Flower/Hymn of Promise”*** Natalie Sleeth
Heather Carter, Soloist Suzanne Walthall, Pianist

In the bulb there is a flower;
In the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise:
Butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
There's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence,
Seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness
Bringing hope to you and me.

From the past will come the future;
What it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning;
In our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing;
In our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
At the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

SCRIPTURE

John 20: 19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin^[a]), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe^[b] that Jesus is the Messiah,^[c] the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Inviting God to Show Up"

RESPONSE –

From A Brief Statement of Faith Presbyterian Church, USA

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 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.

CLOSING HYMN *"Thine is the Glory"*

Thine be the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory,
Thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment
Rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave clothes
Where Thy body lay.
Thine be the glory,
Risen conquering Son,
Endless is the victory,
Thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us,
Risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us,
Scatters fear and gloom;
Let the church with gladness,
Hymns of triumph sing;
For her Lord now liveth,

Death hath lost its sting.
Thine be the glory,
Risen conquering Son,
Endless is the victory,
Thou o'er death hast won.

No more we doubt Thee,
Glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee;
Aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors
Through thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan
To thy home above.
Thine is the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *"May the God of Hope"*

**May the God of hope go with us every day,
Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
Bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace;
Singing, share our joy with all;
Working for a world that's new,
Faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

POSTLUDE *"Psalm of Glory"* Smith

NOTE: Following the showing of the service in our Facebook group on Sunday, Renée will lead us in communion on Facebook Live.