



**Sunday, June 28, 2020 Service – Online**  
**Faith Presbyterian Church**  
**Sierra Vista, Arizona**  
Seeking God's Wisdom in the Bible 3



**PRELUDE** *"Whispering Hope"* Hawthorne Piano/Organ Duet  
Janis Wheat & Sharon Keene

**INTROIT** *"The Family Song"* Heather Carter, Soloist Richard Carter, Accompanist

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Sometimes life takes us where we don't expect.

**Sometimes, God takes us where we don't expect.**

In worship, we draw toward God to get in touch with God's bigger story.

**In worship, we draw toward God to expand our hearts.**

So let us worship the God of unending surprises.

**Let us worship the God of love.**

**OPENING HYMN** *"In Christ There is No East or West"* #318

*In Christ there is no east or west,  
in him no south or north,  
But one great fellowship of love  
throughout the whole wide earth.*

*Join hand, disciples of the faith,  
whate'er your race may be.  
All children of the living God  
are surely kin to me.*

*In Christ shall true hearts everywhere  
their high communion find;  
His service is the golden cord  
close binding human kind.*

*In Christ now meet both east and west;  
in him meet south and north.  
All Christly souls are one in him  
throughout the whole wide earth.*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Creator God,  
Being faithful has never been easy.  
You asked Noah to build a ship.  
You asked the Israelites to plant gardens and build homes while in exile.  
You asked the prophets to speak challenging truths.  
You asked the disciples to drop their nets and follow you.  
And you ask us to love bigger than society wants to.  
Being faithful has never been easy, and as a result, we often miss the mark.  
Forgive us for holding tightly to human-made plans.  
Forgive us for the times we say no to you so that we can say yes to ourselves.  
Loosen the grip we have on our agenda so that we can make room for you.  
Gratefully we pray, Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Friends, the God who loves all invites all to repent.  
We are invited to receive forgiveness to allow us to travel on another path,  
with more love, more courage, and a bigger vision. In Christ we pray, Amen.

**CHILDREN'S TIME-** Heather Carter- Daniel in the Lion's Den

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "Cramer Etude #9" Adrienne Dorman Hickey, piano

**SCRIPTURE** Jeremiah 29:1-14

**29** These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. <sup>2</sup> This was after King Jeconiah, and the queen mother, the court officials, the leaders of Judah and Jerusalem, the artisans, and the smiths had departed from Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> The letter was sent by the hand of Elasah son of Shaphan and Gemariah son of Hilkiah, whom King Zedekiah of Judah sent to Babylon to King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. It said: <sup>4</sup> Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: <sup>5</sup> Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. <sup>6</sup> Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. <sup>7</sup> But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. <sup>8</sup> For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream,<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>9</sup> for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the LORD.

<sup>10</sup> For thus says the LORD: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. <sup>11</sup> For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. <sup>12</sup> Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. <sup>13</sup> When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, <sup>14</sup> I will let you find me, says the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

*Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.***

**SERMON** "Wisdom on How to Live in Exile "  
*Part 3 of Seeking God's Wisdom in the Bible*

**RESPONSE** From A Brief statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church, USA

**In life and in death we belong to God,  
through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,  
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**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.

With believers in every time and place  
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death  
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord! Amen.

#### **PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed by 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** “*God of Grace, and God of Glory*” #307

*God of grace and God of glory,  
on thy people pour thy power;  
Crown thine ancient church's story;  
bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour,  
For the facing of this hour.*

*Cure thy children's warring madness;  
bend our pride to thy control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
Rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,  
Lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.*

*Lo! The hosts of evil round us  
Scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
Free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
For the living of these days,  
For the living of these days.*

*Save us from weak resignation  
To the evils we deplore.  
Let the gift of thy salvation  
Be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving thee whom we adore,  
Serving thee whom we adore.*

#### **BENEDICTION**

#### **BENEDICTION RESPONSE** “*On Eagle's Wings*” #43

*And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun,  
and hold you in the palm of his hand.*

#### **POSTLUDE** “*Psalm of Glory*” Smith

*Today's liturgy is adapted from A Sanctified Art | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)*