



Sunday, December 20th, 2020 Service Online  
Faith Presbyterian Church  
Sierra Vista, Arizona  
Fourth Sunday in Advent  
Those Who Dream...are Not Alone



PRELUDE "Bethlehem Star" - Scott

INTROIT "Emmanuel" - George & Ruth Van Otten and George Wheat

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: I knew joy, but when I heard the laugh of my child,

**All: Suddenly, joy was overflowing.**

One: I knew love, but when you held my hand,

**All: Suddenly, love was overflowing.**

One: I knew God, but when you showed me grace,

when you forgave me,

when you loved me,

when you raised me,

**All: Suddenly, God was overflowing.**

One: So, let us worship Holy God together

As a reminder that God is here and we are never alone.

**All: This is community.**

One: This is the body of Christ.

**All: Welcome home.**

OPENING HYMN "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" #119

**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

**Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,  
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

**Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

God of Good News,  
You say to me, "You are highly favored," but I struggle to see how that could be.  
You say to me, "Do not be afraid," but I am afraid all the time.  
You say to me, "Even the impossible is possible, just look at Elizabeth!"  
But hope slips through my hands like water.  
The impossible still feels impossible.  
So today I pray,  
Today we pray:  
Teach us to sing like Mary.  
Teach us to laugh like Elizabeth.  
Teach us to trust like the angels.  
Forgive us when we can only do one at a time, or none at all.  
Amen.

*(time for silent reflection)*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear this good news of great joy:  
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

All: **Thanks be to God!**

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - The Rutgers Family

### THE WORD OF GOD *"Christmas Pageant"*

Narrators: Patricia Garcia, Christina Wyatt, Bianca Garcia  
Mary: Bryanna Townsend  
Joseph: Donald Townsend  
Shepherds/Sheep: Hunter, Hudson, and Huck Rutgers, Ashton and Lily Smith  
Angels: Reina Prescott, Sammy Diekema, and Gretta Hickey

## RESPONSE

We believe that this world is hard—  
Harder than it has to be.  
When the world falls apart around us,  
We believe in listening for the angels that say, "Do not be afraid,"  
And in seeking out the messengers in our lives—  
Those who laugh with joy at our arrival  
And throw open the doors to their homes.  
We believe that healthy relationships can offer healing,  
Through the laughter of cousins,  
The joy shared between siblings,  
And the home found in partnership.  
Therefore, we believe in church families,  
In chosen families,  
And in the love that extends beyond family.  
We believe in friendships,

In neighbors,  
And in leaning on each other when the going gets tough.  
We believe in the Triune God—  
Lover, Beloved, and Love itself—  
Inherently relational, always connected, and never alone.  
We believe that that same belovedness exists for us.  
We believe that we are loved and claimed,  
Never alone.  
Thanks be to God for a love like that.

## DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Holy, holy holy Lord, God of power and might  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## 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 “Joy to the World” Verses 1, 2 and 4

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

*Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ;  
while fields and floods,  
rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.*

## **BENEDICTION**

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE**    *“While We Are Waiting, Come”* #92 (Verses 1 and 3)

*While we are waiting, come;  
while we are waiting, come.  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,  
while we are waiting come.*

*Come, Savior, quickly come;  
come, Savior, quickly come.  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,  
while we are waiting, come.*

**POSTLUDE** *“Children, Go Where I Send Thee”* - Traditional

*Worship liturgy is adapted from prayers by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

## **PARTICIPANTS:**

The Reverend Renée Rico - Preacher  
Elder Ann Lorris – Worship Leader  
Elders George & Ruth Van Otten and Elder George Wheat – Introit  
Elder Richard Carter – Children’s Sermon  
Elder David, Jamie, Hunter, Hudson, and Huck Rutgers – Lighting Advent Candles  
Children and Youth – Christmas Pageant  
Janis Wheat – Piano and Organ  
Elder Paul Hay – Video/Tech  
Elder Judy Mayhew – Photos

## **ZOOM COFFEE HOUR    *Happens at 11:15 a.m.***

Sign into ZOOM, and we’ll place you in a small, Hosted group to have conversation with Faith folks to catch up and for conversation. Join Zoom Meeting :

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85471968282?pwd=WnNpVXM1QndXTWdNNXN1QzNtNXFTUT09>

**Meeting ID: 854 7196 8282    Passcode: 603532**

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