

**FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**SIERRA VISTA, AZ**  
**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**FEBRUARY 17, 2021**  
**ONLINE SERVICE**



**PRELUDE** *"Thy Word is a Lamp  
Unto My Feet"* - Smith & Grant

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: We are invited—

**ALL: Into the story,  
Into this place,  
Into this hour of worship.**

ONE: We are invited—

**ALL: Into reflection,  
Into community,  
Into our own spiritual  
journeys.**

ONE: We are invited—

**ALL: The broken and bruised,  
The hopeful, the new,  
The faithful, the doubting,  
The wondering, the waiting.**

ONE: We are invited—

**ALL: Because God so loved;**

ONE: So listen, trust the invitation,  
and bring your whole self.

**All: All are invited here.**

**SONG** *"Sign Us With Ashes"* #433  
Verses 1-3

Refrain:

*Sign us with ashes, merciful God,  
children of dust, as to dust we return.  
Sign us with ashes, merciful God.  
Mark us and make us your own.*

*Surely, you alone can save us. You  
pay our price with precious blood.  
Reaching through your great  
compassion, you lift up your people  
with love.*

*Surely, you alone uphold us. You give  
us strength for all our needs.  
Shielding with a father's favor, you  
bless us with pardon and peace.*

*Surely, you alone can heal us. Yours is  
the will to make us whole. Soothing  
with a mother's kindness, the contrite  
of heart, you console.*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**ALL: Holy God— We know that  
you are near,  
For you are always here,  
gathered among us, just a breath  
away.  
And despite knowing your nearness,  
we still stumble over ourselves,  
unsure of how to pray.  
So often we talk to you**

**like a stranger,  
Praying prayers of small talk about  
the weather and surface level  
concerns.  
We keep genuine fear and doubt  
tucked  
into corners, out of sight, out of  
mind.  
And too regularly, we limit our  
experience  
of you to one hour a Sunday,  
missing your constant invitation into  
the  
holiness all around us.  
ONE: Forgive us. Guide us.  
Bring our hearts into the room.  
all: Bring our hearts into the room.  
Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*"Thy Word is a Lamp  
Unto My Feet"* - Smith & Grant  
Debi Godwin & Deb Koltveit, Duet

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURES**

THE PROPHETS      Isaiah 58: 1-12

GOSPEL      Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

**MESSAGE**

## BLESSING THE DUST IN OUR LIVES

“Blessing the Dust”

Jan Richardson

## PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

**SONG** “*Sign Us With Ashes*” #433  
Verses 4-6

Refrain:

*Sign us with ashes, merciful God,  
Children of dust, as to dust we return.  
Sign us with ashes, merciful God.  
Mark us and make us your own.*

*Surely, you alone can free us.  
You break the bonds of guilt and sin.  
Bracing, till we walk uprightly,  
you bolster our hope once again.*

*Surely, you alone refine us.  
You give us grace for lives made new,  
forging, through your fire and  
radiance, a sacrifice worthy for you.*

*Surely, you alone redeem us.  
You fill our dust with holy breath.  
Bursting from the grave in glory,  
you rise from the ashes of death!*

## BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** “*A Lenten Blessing*”  
Southbridge

## PARTICIPANTS:

The Rev. Renée Rico, Preacher  
Paul Lewis, Worship Leader  
Debi Godwin/Deb Koltveit,  
Special Music  
Janis Wheat, Organ and Piano  
Elder Paul Hay – Video-Tech