

Sunday, March 7th, 2021 Service Online Faith Presbyterian Church Sierra Vista, Arizona

That the World Might be Saved 3



PRELUDE - "O Lamb of God" - arr. Yocum

INTROIT - "Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days" - Choir Members

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

The morning stars profess God's glory:
the waking birds harmonize a refrain of grace.
The sun warms us with God's hope,
The night sky whispers peace to our sleepy souls:
creation's voice echoes continually in our hearts,
Reminding us of God's steadfast love.
Our wisdom is shattered by God's absurd love;
God's vulnerability strengthens our feeble faith:
God's words place joy in our hearts;
we follow them to peace and hope.

OPENING 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.

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.

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.

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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (responsively)

One: God of Justice,

All: we are guilty of forgetting where we are,

of turning faith into a negotiation tool and the church into a place for insiders.

One: God of Justice,

All: We are guilty of ignoring the point;

For you taught that the temple was for worship

And your message was for all.

One: God of our hearts,

All: Be in our decision making.

Draw near to our choices.

All: Forgive our mistakes.

One: And as you do,

All: Flip every table, habit, belief, or point of view that needs adjusting.

With hope we pray for a better day. Amen

(time for silent reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsively)

One: Family of faith,

The good news is that God took on flesh and walked this earth to show us the way. God took on flesh so that we could see what it looks like to disrupt and overturn systems of corruption.

God took on flesh to teach us another way. God took on flesh to point us to restoration. God took on flesh so that we might be forgiven.

Friends, we are held, loved, and forgiven by a just and merciful God.

All: Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

CHILDRENS TIME - Elder Heather Carter

SPECIAL MUSIC - "Gabriel's Oboe" Nedoh Hope Struse, cello; Hannah Struse, piano

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE - The Psalms Psalm 19:1-10,14

¹ The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

² Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

³ There is no speech, nor are there words;

their voice is not heard;

⁴ yet their voice goes out through all the earth,

and their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

⁶ Its rising is from the end of the heavens,

and its circuit to the end of them:

and nothing is hid from its heat.

⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure. making wise the simple: ⁸ the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes; ⁹ the fear of the LORD is pure. enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. ¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. ¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart

Holy wisdom, holy word, thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE – The Gospels

be acceptable to you,

O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

John 2:13-22 NRSV

¹³ The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵ Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶ He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷ His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸ The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹ Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰ The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹ But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²² After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Holy wisdom, holy word, thanks be to God.

SERMON "God Saves by Showing Us the Way"

RESPONSE

We believe in a God who knows holy rage—a God who stands with the underdog, Who passionately protects the suffering, and who overturns systems of corruption We believe in a God who leads by example—feeding the hungry, welcoming the children, Offering water to the Samaritan, eating with the tax collector, healing the sick, Preaching from the mountaintop, and offering second chances. We believe in a God who knew that we would lose our way, And still said, "This is my body broken for you."

We believe in a God who knew our capacity for mistakes, And still said, "I'm going to prepare a place for you."

And because of this love, we believe that God shows us the way. Thanks be to God. Amen.

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.

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 - "Canticle of the Turning" #100 Verses 1, 3 and 4

1My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great, and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait. You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain: My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

3From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.

Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.

The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;

there are tables spread; every mouth be fed, for the word is about to turn. (Refrain)

4Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around. (Refrain)

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE - "O Lord, Hear My Prayer" #471

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.
O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer.
Come and listen to me.

The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise; All my hope comes from God. The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

POSTLUDE - "The Greatness of the Lord" Miles

Liturgy and prayers Lectionary Liturgies by Thom Shuman and by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org. Used with permission

Participants:

Rev. Renée Rico – Pastor Elder Bill Brouwer – Worship Leader Elder Heather Carter – Children's Time Hope and Hannah Struse – Special Music 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

<u>Dial by your location</u> (call any number)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)