



Sunday, March 14, 2021 Service Online  
Faith Presbyterian Church  
Sierra Vista, Arizona  
*That the World Might be Saved 4*



**PRELUDE**    *“Via Dolorosa”* - Sewell

**INTROIT**    *“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”* (choir members) #166

**CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)**

In this place, the community of faith  
is reminded of the promise:

**God's love endures forever!**

In spite of our impatient grumbling,  
despite our attraction to the shadows:

**Christ's light shines in us!**

When we think our hands are empty,  
when we have no music in our souls:

**the Spirit fills us with glad songs,  
and creates us for good works!**

**OPENING HYMN**    *“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”*

#377    Verses 1 and 2

*I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.  
In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

*I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.  
In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)**

God of love, we forget the beginning of the story -- that we were made from love, to be love, to give love. Instead of rooting our narrative in the goodness refrain of creation, we skip ahead and find our worth at the fall, with Cain and Abel, lost in the wilderness.

We forget that first there was you, and you are love.

We forget that out of that love you created us.

We forget that from the very first day, you loved first.

We forget, because a love like that doesn't make sense to us.

Forgive our low self-esteem. Forgive our resistance to love ourselves. Forgive our hesitation to trust that even we could be made good. And forgive our tendency to pass that doubt on—

from generation to generation. Write a new beginning for us that roots our confidence in your unrelenting love.

With hope we pray, Amen.

*(time for silent reflection)*

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsively)**

One: Family of faith, no matter what we do, where we go, or what we tell ourselves—  
God is love, and God is loving us.

**All: Again and again, we are claimed, held, forgiven, and cared for.**

**In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself—thanks be to God. Amen!**

**MINUTE FOR MISSION – One Great Hour of Sharing**

**CHILDRENS TIME - Elder Richard Carter**

**SPECIAL MUSIC “Pie Jesu” (from Requiem) - Webber**

Beth Smith, Heather Carter, Debi Godwin - Trio

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE – The Epistles**

Ephesians 2:1-10

**2** You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. <sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

*Holy wisdom, holy word, **thanks be to God.***

**SCRIPTURE – The Gospels**

John 3:14-21

<sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.” <sup>17</sup> “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup> Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup> And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup> For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

*Holy wisdom, holy word, thanks be to God.*

**SERMON**

***“God Saves by Loving First”***

**RESPONSE**

**The Apostle’s Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. 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.***

**SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

**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      *“To God Be the Glory”***

**#634**

***To God be the glory; great things he has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.***

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory: great things he has done.***

***Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer and higher and greater will be  
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.***

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!***

***O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
And give him the glory: great things he has done.***

## **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** “*Cross of Sorrow*” - Keeney

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

## **Participants:**

Rev. Renée Rico – Pastor  
Elder Sonny Coble – Worship Leader  
Elder Richard Carter – Children’s Time  
Elders Beth Smith, Heather Carter, and Debi Godwin – 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**

Dial by your location (call any number)

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