



Sunday, April 18th 2021 Service Online
Faith Presbyterian Church
Sierra Vista, AZ
Commissioning of Stephen Leader



PRELUDE *"Nothing But the Blood"* - arr. Birchwood

*This is all my hope and peace: nothing but the blood of Jesus.
This is all my righteousness: nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

-Robert Lowry, 1876

GREETING One: This is the day that the Lord has made!
All: Let us be glad and rejoice in it!

INTROIT *"We Bow Down"*

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

One: Though we find ourselves isolated
in homes, apartments, and residential places,

**All: yet, we would listen to the birds singing,
reminding us that the whole creation
rejoices in the love of our God.**

One: Though we cannot reach out and touch
our friends and neighbors,

**All: we would rejoice that Jesus is in our midst,
holding out hands of grace and hope to us!**

One: Though we have to stand at a safe distance
from others, whispering hello through masks,

**All: we know that the Spirit is all around us,
breathing peace on us in these moments,
surrounding us with grace and hope.**

OPENING HYMN *"Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks"* #240

**Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.**

*Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
He is the King of creation.*

Refrain

*Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen.*

Refrain

*We have been crucified with Christ.
Now we shall live forever.*

Refrain

*Come let us praise the living God,
Joyfully sing to our Savior.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Loving God, when you raised your Child, Jesus, from death to new life, you showed us that not even a tightly-closed tomb could separate us from you. Help us to open our hearts to receive you Good News for us. Forgive us for the times when our hearts have been shut tight to others. Forgive us for the times when our hearts have been shut tight to you. Forgive us for the times we have hidden behind closed doors because we were afraid, or ashamed, or filled with hopelessness. In the name of the Risen One, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsively)

One: After everything that had happened, and after he had been raised to new life, Jesus met his friends and said to them, "Peace be with you." The peace of Jesus is true welcome and forgiveness. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

CHILDRENS TIME – Elder Heather Carter

SPECIAL MUSIC "Turn Your Radio On" - Brumley

(George Van Otten, soloist; Sharon Keene, accompanist – recorded in 2020)

SCRIPTURES – The Psalms

Psalm 133

1 How very good and pleasant it is
when kindred live together in unity!
2 It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,
running down over the collar of his robes.
3 It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion.
For there the LORD ordained his blessing,
life forevermore.

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

SCRIPTURE – The Gospels

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples

rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." ²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

SERMON

"Unlocking the Doors to New Life"

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.

COMMISSIONING OF STEPHEN LEADER

Our Stephen Ministers commission Pastor Renée as a new Stephen Leader

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

“Here I Am Lord” #69

*I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?*

**Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

*I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom Shall I send?*

**Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

*I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?*

**Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“You Shall Go Out with Joy” #80

*You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
there’ll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands.*

*And all the trees of the field will clap their hands: **
the trees of the field will clap their hands; **
the trees of the field will clap their hands **
while you go out with joy.*

*You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
there’ll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands.*

** clap hands

POSTLUDE “Praise Him! Praise Him!” - Allen

PARTICIPANTS:

Rev. Renée Rico - Pastor
Stephen Ministers - Worship Leaders
Elder Heather Carter - Children's Time
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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