



Faith Presbyterian Church

Sierra Vista, AZ

May 9, 2021

Rev. Renée Rico, Pastor
Elder Bill Brouwer, Worship Leader
Janis Wheat, Organ/Piano
Elder Paul Hay, Video-Tech



PRELUDE *"Fantasy on an Old Easter Song" - arr. Alphenaar*
 ("A Voice Calleth, the Son of God is Risen")

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

INTROIT *"Spirit, Open My Heart"*

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

One: Listen to the world sing God's praises!

Two: The sound of children laughing, the feel of a gentle breeze,
the taste of a home-cooked meal, the fresh smell of morning.

Many: God's steadfast love is everywhere around us.

One: Listen to the world sing God's praises!

Two: In friendship restored, in reconciled relations, in love refreshed.

Many: God's steadfast love is everywhere around us.

One: May God's love be present to us in this time together,

Many: that God's presence might be known through us in all the earth. Amen.

OPENING HYMN *"Though I May Speak"* #693

*Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain,
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.*

*Though I may give all I possess,
and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within,
the profit soon turns strangely thin.*

*Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control;
our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
by this we worship, and are freed.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Joy-giving God, we know who we are:

People who hear the harmony of your grace and love in our souls, but who sing off-key so often. We want to learn new songs, but those haunting tunes of our past mistakes run through our heads. We long to make a joyful noise to you, but the hurts inflicted on us, and the pain we have caused others, silence our voices.

Sing to us, Conductor of Grace: sing of your forgiveness, your hope, your love for us.
Amen.

(silent reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsively)

One: Hear the words of Jesus:

“I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.”

The New Testament and Psalms: An Inclusive Version

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

CHILDRENS TIME Elder Richard Carter

SPECIAL MUSIC “Stay Amazed” - arr. Wise (Choir Members)

SCRIPTURE – 1 John 5:1-6

5 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. **2** By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. **3** For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, **4** for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. **5** Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? **6** This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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

SCRIPTURE – The Gospels John 15:9-17

9 As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. **10** If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. **11** I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. **12** “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. **13** No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. **14** You are my friends if you do what I command you. **15** I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I

have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷ I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

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

SERMON "The Greatest Teaching: Love One Another"

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.*

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 "We are One in the Spirit" #300 Verses 1, 2 and 4

*We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored:*

Refrain: *And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

*We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:*

Refrain: *And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

***All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:***

**Refrain: *And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.***

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 - "Oh, Worship the King" - arr. Frank