



**Faith Presbyterian Church
Sierra Vista, AZ**

July 4, 2021

Rev. Renée Rico, Pastor
Elder Gene Raymond, Worship Leader
Janis Wheat, Director of Music
Bianca Garcia, Video-Tech Assistant



PRELUDE

*Patriotic Medley: "Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor", "America the Beautiful",
"Battle Hymn of the Republic", "Bless This House", "This is My Country"*

GREETING

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

INTROIT

"Surely the Presence"

***Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angel's wings, I see glory on each face,
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.***

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

In the Spirit of God who shares divinity with us,
In the Spirit of God who shares humanity with us,
In the Spirit of God who unsettles and inspires us...
Let us celebrate the richness and diversity of life.

OPENING HYMN ***"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"*** #263 Verses 1-3

***All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!***

***Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!***

***Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (responsively)

Gentle us, Holy One, into an unclenched moment,
a deep breath, a letting go of heavy experiences,
of life-shriveling anxieties, of dead certainties,

**that, softened by the silence, surrounded by the light,
and open to the mystery,
we may be found by wholeness
entranced by the simple and filled with the joy that is you.** *Ted Loder, adapted.*

(silent reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsively)

Friends, the God who created the world is also the God who redeems us. We are forgiven and set free to new life. Let us praise God!

Alleluia, Amen!

CHILDRENS TIME

Richard Carter

SPECIAL MUSIC *"American Patrol"* - Meacham (instrumental)

SCRIPTURE – the Psalms Psalm 47

1 Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with loud songs of joy.

2 For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome,
a great king over all the earth.

3 He subdued peoples under us,
and nations under our feet.

4 He chose our heritage for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves *Selah*

5 God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

6 Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

7 For God is the king of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm.^[a]

8 God is king over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.

9 The princes of the peoples gather
as the people of the God of Abraham.

For the shields of the earth belong to God;
he is highly exalted.

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

SCRIPTURE – the New Testament Acts 11: 1-18

Now the apostles and the believers^[a] who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers^[a] criticized him, ³ saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” ⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵ “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of

the air. ⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸ But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

SERMON

"Stretching Lessons"

Part 5 in the series Faithful Saints

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

"My Country, 'Tis of Thee"

#337

*My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing:
land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims' pride,
from every mountainside let freedom ring.*

*My native country, thee, land of the noble free, thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and templed hills;
my heart with rapture thrills like that above.*

*Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song.
Let mortal tongues awake; let all that breathe partake;
let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.*

*Our fathers' God, to thee, author of liberty, to thee we sing.
Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;
protect us by thy might, great God, our King.*

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE “Let There Be Peace on Earth”

*Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father, brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my brother, in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.*

POSTLUDE “God Bless America” - Berlin