



**Faith Presbyterian Church  
Sierra Vista, AZ**

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**PRELUDE**            *“Revive Us Again”* - Bock

**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)

God has set this day before us,  
**A day set apart, a day of rest and praise.**  
God has set our lives before us,  
**A span of years in which we love, and learn, and serve.**  
God has set God’s seal upon our hearts,  
**So that we might live fully in deep love.**  
Let us worship God.

**OPENING HYMN**                    *“O Sing to the Lord”*                    #637            vs. 1-3

*O sing to the Lord; O sing God a new song.  
O sing to the Lord; O sing God a new song.  
O sing to the Lord; O sing God a new song.*

*For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders.  
For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders.  
For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders.*

*So dance for our God and blow all the trumpets.  
So dance for our God and blow all the trumpets.  
So dance for our God and blow all the trumpets.*

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)**

Gracious God, source of all life, Lord of mercy and grace, hear our prayer.

We come before you in need of healing:

The healing of our bodies and souls,

The healing of our relationships,

The healing of our pride and fear and apathy.

We know that with you, nothing is impossible, not even our healing,

Not even the restoration of the whole world.

We pray that you will heal us, that you will heal our world,

So that we will be freed to serve and love and dream and be,

As Christ calls us. Amen.

*(silent reflection)*

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

Friends, the God who created the world is also the God who redeems us.

We are forgiven, healed, and restored to new life. Let us praise God!

**Alleluia, Amen!**

**CHILDRENS TIME**      Jane Bourne

**SPECIAL MUSIC**      *"Let us Break Bread Together"* - arr. Young (Instrumental)

**SCRIPTURE – the History**                      2 Kings 2:1-14

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup> Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. <sup>3</sup> The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

<sup>4</sup> Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. <sup>5</sup> The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

<sup>6</sup> Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. <sup>7</sup> Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. <sup>8</sup> Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

<sup>9</sup> When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." <sup>10</sup> He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will

not.” <sup>11</sup> As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. <sup>12</sup> Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

<sup>13</sup> He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. <sup>14</sup> He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, “Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?” When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

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

## **SCRIPTURE – the New Testament**

Acts 9:25-31

<sup>26</sup> When Saul [Paul] had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples; and they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple. <sup>27</sup> But Barnabas took him, brought him to the apostles, and described for them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had spoken boldly in the name of Jesus. <sup>28</sup> So he went in and out among them in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord. <sup>29</sup> He spoke and argued with the Hellenists; but they were attempting to kill him. <sup>30</sup> When the believers<sup>[b]</sup> learned of it, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus.

<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile the church throughout Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and was built up. Living in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it increased in numbers.

## **SERMON**

**“The Gift of Encouragement”**

*Part 7 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*

## **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      “Will You Come and Follow Me” #726 (verses 1, 2, and 4)**

*“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;  
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”*

*“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?”*

*“Will you love the ‘you’ you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,  
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?”*

## **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      “Make a Joyful Noise” - Viner**