



**Faith Presbyterian Church**  
**Sierra Vista, AZ**  
September 5, 2021  
Rev. Renée Rico, Pastor  
Sharon Raymond, Worship Leader  
Janis Wheat, Director of Music  
Bianca Garcia, Video-Tech Assistant



*~ At the sound of the chimes, please use this time to silently prepare for worship. ~*

**PRELUDE** *Prelude on "Cincinnati" - Paxton (based on an early American melody)*

**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)**

One: Come, bring your hearts and minds to God.  
Come, expect Jesus to open for us a new vision for life.  
Come, rejoice in the movement of the Spirit that knows no boundaries.

All: **We give thanks for God's presence among us.**  
**Open us, God!**  
**Open our hearts to your unexpected, saving Word.**  
**Open our minds to encounter your sure Wisdom.**  
**Renew our spirits to follow your call.**  
**Open us, God!**

**\*OPENING HYMN** *"I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"* #730

*I sing a song of the saints of God, patient and brave and true,  
who toiled and fought and lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew.  
and one was a doctor, and one was a queen, and one was a shepherdess on the green:  
they were all of them saints of God, and I mean, God helping, to be one too.*

*They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and God's love made them strong;  
and they followed the right, for Jesus' sake, the whole of their good lives long.  
And one was a soldier, and one was a priest, and one was slain by a fierce wild beast:  
and there's not any reason, no, not the least, why I shouldn't be one too.  
They lived not only in ages past; there are hundreds of thousands still;*

*the world is bright with the joyous saints who love to do Jesus' will.  
You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea,  
in church, or in trains, or in shops or at tea;  
for the saints of God are just folk like me, and I mean to be one too.*

### **\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (responsively)**

One: O Holy God of all understanding,  
hear the prayers of your people.

**All: For the times that we have tried to place human boundaries  
on your infinite Wisdom and your saving Word, forgive us.  
For the times that our hearts  
have been hard against our families and neighbors, forgive us.  
For the times that our minds have been closed to learning from you  
how to extend your peace in the world, forgive us.  
For the times that our spirits  
have tried to limit the life-giving work of your Spirit,  
Forgive us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

*(silent reflection)*

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

One: Dear friends in Christ, God's mercy and love open a new beginning for each one of us. God promises to surround us as his own, from this time on and forevermore. Amen.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### **\*GLORIA PATRI**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.*

### **WELCOME**

*We invite all our guests to identify themselves as they wish.*

### **CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHILDRENS TIME**      Debbie Wood

**SPECIAL MUSIC**      "Trust and Obey" - arr. Shackley (Duet: George Wheat & Fred Whitley)

**SCRIPTURE – the Psalms**                      **Psalm 70**

<sup>1</sup> Be pleased, O God, to deliver me.  
O LORD, make haste to help me!

<sup>2</sup> Let those be put to shame and confusion  
who seek my life.

Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor  
who desire to hurt me.

<sup>3</sup> Let those who say, “Aha, Aha!”  
turn back because of their shame.

<sup>4</sup> Let all who seek you  
rejoice and be glad in you.

Let those who love your salvation  
say evermore, “God is great!”

<sup>5</sup> But I am poor and needy;  
hasten to me, O God!

You are my help and my deliverer;  
O LORD, do not delay!

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

**SCRIPTURE – The Gospels                      Mark 7:24-30**

<sup>24</sup> From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, <sup>25</sup> but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup> Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup> He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>28</sup> But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” <sup>29</sup> Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” <sup>30</sup> So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. <sup>31</sup> Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup> They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup> He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup> Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” <sup>35</sup> And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup> Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup> They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

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

**SERMON    “Gaining One’s Voice and Vision”**  
*Part 14 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.*

## **SHARING OUR PRAYERS FOR JOYS AND CONCERNS**

### **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.**

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD**

#### **\*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.*

#### **\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF OUR OFFERINGS**

#### **\*CLOSING HYMN**

*“Be Thou My Vision”*

#450

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;  
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;  
thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
high King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*High King of Heaven, my victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

### **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**     *“A Ceremonial Pageant” - Clark*

~ September ~

# Friendly Reminders

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The office is closed Monday, September 6 in honor of Labor Day.

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September 7 - Men's Lunch - 11:30 am - La Casita Restaurant

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September 12 - OHANA Family Sunday - Wear Hawaiian clothes -  
Enjoy your Faith Family!

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September 19 - Gaslight - 3:00 pm - "Frankenstein"

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Women's Bible Study - Sign up in Narthex - Date and time will be  
announced

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Seeking Worship Leaders - Sign up in Narthex

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From Heather Carter, CE Chair: Thank you to all who have helped  
with Children's Sermons each week.

Looking forward to the time when we will be able to have Sunday  
School. I am asking our congregation to consider volunteering to  
help teach at least once a month on a rotating basis. We need two  
adults in the class each week. Our children are the future of our  
church. Please prayerfully consider being a part of this ministry.