

**First Presbyterian Church
Las Cruces, New Mexico
4th Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2020 - virtual**

PRELUDE

WELCOME, GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

CHORAL INTROIT #515 I Come With Joy-Beth

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rachel Breck

(Psalm 33)

Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous. Praise befits the upright. Praise the LORD with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings. He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD. Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and shield. Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

HYMN OF PRAISE #1 Holy, Holy, Holy- need to record

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Gracious God, we give you thanks and praise for the day you have made, for the life you have given, and for the love you have poured out. We thank you for Christ Jesus our Shepherd, and that he calls us by name and leads us safely to the waters that refresh and well up to eternal life. We thank you for the bread of heaven to earth come down and for the cup of salvation that lifts us up to you in glory. Help us to render to you all the praise and honor you so richly deserve and to worship you in truth and righteousness in this hour and all the day through. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION #518 Your Only Son-Beth

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Holy Refuge of our hearts, we must admit that all too often you are not the center of our lives. We find shelter in all the false securities the world

offers, rather than grounding ourselves in your promises. Our emotions drive our fears, and so we end up making foolish choices, rather than being guided by your word and Spirit. Lord God, do not hide your face from us, but turn to us with forgiveness and hope. Be gracious to us, so we might share such grace with those around us. Fill our emptiness with your love, so we might become more loving and live lives that honor and glorify your name.

TIME OF PRIVATE CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

MUSIC AFTER CONFESSION #518 more verses to Your Only Son-Beth

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

In the beginning was God, and at the end will be God, and in every moment in between, there is God: creating, redeeming, sustaining us. By the power that raised Jesus from the grave, I declare that all our sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God, we are set free. Amen.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE At This Table-

Choral scholars like we did for Presbytery

DECLARATION OF FAITH

Let us confirm what we believe using the Apostles 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.

MUSIC BEFORE YOUNG DISCIPLES Howard play 8 measures- need to record

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Erin Taylor

CALL TO PRAYER Someone's Praying Lord #472 Beth-record

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE #472 Kum Ba Yah-record

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Romans 12:1-2, 9-12, 14-18, 21

Read by Janet Loman

1 Peter 2:16-26

1 Peter 2:16-26 (NRSV)

¹⁶As servants of God, live as free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext for evil. ¹⁷Honor everyone. Love the family of believers. Fear God. Honor the emperor. ¹⁸Slaves, accept the authority of your masters with all deference, not only those who are kind and gentle but also those who are harsh. ¹⁹For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. ²²“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” ²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Romans 12:1-2, 9-12, 14-18, 21 (NRSV)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it

depends on you, live peaceably with all. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Norm Story

COMMUNION HYMN #525 Let Us Break Bread Together-record

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD'S PRAYER

El Padre Nuestro y oración de acción de gracias

...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

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE - virtual

~~CLOSING HYMN~~

GO IN GOD'S NAME
VAYAN EN EL NOMBRE DE DIÓS

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION In The Singing #533 Beth-record

POSTLUDE

Hymn Tune Improvisation

Howard A. Smolleck