

**First Presbyterian Church
Las Cruces, New Mexico
2nd Sunday after Pentecost
June 14, 2020 - virtual**

PRELUDE

WELCOME, GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Introit: #628 Praise, I Will Praise You, Lord/Scholars

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Elizabeth Loman

(Ezekiel 34:11-12, 19)

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak.

Hymn of Praise: #275 A Mighty Fortress/Congregation

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

O Lord, may we never forget the infinite blessing of your willingness to hear our prayers, and that you are always present with us. Thank you for bringing us through life's storms and through the dry, questioning seasons of our lives. This day, may we hear your grace and feel your mercy as we come before you in worship, and in response, may we bend and bow to your will and purpose for us. Help us, Holy Spirit, to worship in truthful and joyful expectation. Lord, we know that we are here today because you brought us and have something special for us, some message of grace and hope. May we receive, and not reject or deny, your gift of love, as we pray the prayer Jesus taught His disciples... **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

Call to Confession: #604 Lamb of God/Scholars

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

God of justice, through your servants and prophets you have made known your desire for peace and harmony to include the whole human family. Through Jesus, you have shared your vision of a caring community where every person is honored and valued. We confess that we often blur that vision by our attitude toward others. Sometimes we devalue the talents and work of other people, neglecting to see them as an intentional part of your precious creation and purpose. Have mercy on us, O gracious Savior. Help us to live more faithfully as your stewards, by treating others and all of your creation with more care.

Music after Confession: #604 Lamb of God/Scholars

TIME OF PRIVATE CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

Friends, hear the Good News. Jesus died and rose again, overthrowing the powers of sin and death, and he did it for the sake of the world. We are enslaved no longer by the powers of darkness. We are set free to follow Jesus. Brothers and sisters, in Jesus Christ all our sins are forgiven. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and set free to follow Jesus. Thanks be to God.

Hymn of Assurance: #746 Send Me Jesus/Congregation

What do we mean when we speak of "the forgiveness of sins"? Because of Jesus Christ, God no longer holds my sins against me. Christ alone is my righteousness and my life. Grace alone is the basis on which God has forgiven me in him. Faith alone is the means by which I receive Christ into my heart, and with him the forgiveness that makes me whole.¹

¹ Question #62, The Study Catechism: Confirmation Version, Approved by the 210th General Assembly (1998) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Music Before Disciples: Standing Somewhere/Beth solo/acapella

Standing somewhere in the shadows you'll find Jesus. He's the one who always cares and understands. Standing somewhere in the shadows you will find him, and you'll know Him by the nail prints in His hands.

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Lon Anderson

Call to Prayer: #474 As A Child Rests/Scholars

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

Angels/Scholars

Angels/Scholars

All night, all day, angels watchin' over me, my Lord.

All night, all day, angels watchin' over me.

Chatter with the angels early in the morning, chatter with the angels all day long.

Chatter with the angels early in the morning, chatter with the angels, join their song.

Swing low, sweet chariot, comin' for to carry me home.

Swing low, sweet chariot, comin for to carry me home.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Read by Janet Loman

Numbers 27:15-23

Matthew 9:35-39

Numbers 27:15-23 (New Revised Standard Version)

¹⁵Moses spoke to the Lord, saying, ¹⁶“Let the Lord, the God of the spirits of all flesh, appoint someone over the congregation ¹⁷who shall go out before them and come in before them, who shall lead them out and bring them in, so that the congregation of the Lord may not be like sheep without a shepherd.” ¹⁸So the Lord said to Moses, “Take Joshua son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay your hand upon him; ¹⁹have him stand before Eleazar the priest and all the congregation, and commission him in their sight. ²⁰You shall give him some of your authority, so that all the congregation of the Israelites may obey. ²¹But he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall inquire for him by the decision of the Urim before the Lord; at his word they shall go out, and at his word they shall come in, both he and all the Israelites with him, the whole congregation.” ²²So Moses did as the Lord commanded him. He took Joshua and had him stand before Eleazar the priest and the whole congregation; ²³he laid his hands on him and commissioned him—as the Lord had directed through Moses.

Matthew 9:35-39 (New Revised Standard Version)

³⁵Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

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

SERMON

Rev. Norm Story

Closing Hymn: #697 Take My Life And Let It Be/Congregation

GO IN GOD’S NAME

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

#543 God, Be The Love To Send and Keep Me/Scholars

POSTLUDE

Hymn Tune Improvisation

Howard A. Smolleck