

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**and**  
**Comunidad de Esperanza (Community of Hope)**  
**Las Cruces, New Mexico**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
**November 29, 2020 – 10:30 AM**  
*Enter to worship – Leave to serve*  
*Entrar para adorar – Salir para servir*

PRELUDE *Preludio*

“Now Thank We All Our God” (From Cantata 79) J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

“Then Shall Your Light Break Forth” (French Advent Carol) Patricia Lou Harris (b. 1939)

“O Word of God Incarnate” James Mansfield (1927-2018)

\*\*The Prelude functions like a curtain that separates our world from the worship place of peace and sanctuary. We enter prayerfully. We wait expectantly, listening for God’s Spirit and truth, which challenges us to return to the world equipped for faithful and useful Christian service.

\* *Those who are able, please stand*

*Please turn off all cell phones*

\*\* *El Preludio funciona como un velo que separa a nuestro mundo del lugar de la adoración de la paz y el santuario. Entramos piadosamente. Esperamos para la verdad y el Espíritu de Dios que nos desafía para volver al mundo equipados para el servicio cristiano fiel y útil.*

\* *Aquellos que pueden, por favor ponganse de pie*  
*Por favor apaguen todos los teléfonos celulares*

WELCOME, GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Bienvenida, Saludos & Anuncios*

MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Meditación para la preparación para la adoración*

The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. (Isaiah 40:28-31 NRSV)

*El Señor es el Dios eterno, el Creador de los confines de la tierra. No se desmaya ni se cansa; su entendimiento es inescrutable. Él da poder al débil y fortalece al impotente. Incluso los jóvenes se desmayarán y se cansarán, y los jóvenes caerán exhaustos; pero los que esperan en el Señor renovarán sus fuerzas, levantarán alas como las águilas, correrán y no se cansarán, caminarán y no se fatigarán.*  
*(Isaías 40: 28-31 NRSV)*

CHORAL INTROIT *Coral Introito*

“To a Maiden Whose Name Was Mary”  
Beth Thomas, Solo

Annunciation

**ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME**  
**REÚNIRSE EN EL NOMBRE DE DIÓS**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP *Llamada a la adoración*

Bill Kuyper

Leader: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name. The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**People: The steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting, and his righteousness to children's children. Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul. Let everything that breathes praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!**

Leader: Bless the Lord, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, obedient to his spoken word.

**People: Bless the Lord, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.**

Líder: Bendice al Señor, oh mi alma, y todo lo que está dentro de mí, bendice su santo nombre. El Señor es misericordioso y Clemente, lento a la ira y abundando en amor inquebrantable.

**Gente: El amor constante del Señor es de eterno a eterno, y su justicia a los hijos de los niños. Bendice al Señor, todas sus obras, en todos los lugares de su dominio. Bendice al Señor, oh mi alma. ; que todo lo que respira Alabe al Señor! ; Alabado sea el Señor!**

Líder: Bendice al Señor, oh sus ángeles, ustedes los poderosos que hacen su voluntad, obediente a su palabra hablada.

**Gente: Bendice al Señor, todas sus obras, en todos los lugares de su dominio. Bendice el Señor, alma mía.**

HYMN OF PRAISE *Himno de Alabanza*

#93 “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

TRURO

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (unison)

*Oración de adoración y la oración del Señor (al unísono)*

Heavenly Father, as once again we prepare for Christmas, help us to find time in our busy lives for quiet reflection and prayer. May we grasp the wonder of your love and allow the story of the Savior's birth to penetrate our hearts and minds. So may our joy be deeper, our worship more real, and our lives more worthy of all you have done for us through the coming of Jesus, your Son. Grant that all who worship you may renew their relationships with you. Help each of us

rejoice in your presence and greet the coming of Jesus with gladness. **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**

*Padre celestial, mientras nos preparamos una vez más para Navidad, ayúdanos a encontrar tiempo en nuestras vidas ocupadas para la reflexión y la oración. Que podamos captar la maravilla de tu amor y permitir que la historia del nacimiento del Salvador penetre en nuestros corazones y mentes. Así que nuestra alegría sea más profunda, nuestra adoración más real y nuestras vidas más dignas de todo lo que has hecho por nosotros a través de la venida de Jesús, tu Hijo. Concede que todos los que entren aquí puedan renovar sus relaciones contigo. Ayúdenos a cada uno de nosotros a alegrarnos en su presencia y saludar la venida de Jesús con alegría. Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu Nombre, venga tu reino, hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden. No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria, ahora y por siempre. Amén.*

**PLEASE BE SEATED** *Tomen asiento por favor*

**CALL TO CONFESSION** *Llamada a la confesión*

#108 “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” DIVINUM MYSTERIUM  
Leah Rasmussen, Solo

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)** *Oración de confesión (unísono)*

Holy God, forgive us. In this season of anticipation, the voices of advertisers and culture compete for our attention, drowning out your voice. We busy ourselves with tasks we think we’re supposed to do and neglect those things we truly ought to do. Renew our spirits. Fill our hearts with joy and song so others see in us the grace and mercy you have given us through your Son. Instill in us a spirit of gratitude. Open our eyes and ears, and prepare our hearts to receive the most precious gift of all.

*Santo Dios, perdónanos. En esta temporada de anticipación, las voces de los anunciantes y la cultura compiten por nuestra atención, ahogando tu voz. Estamos ocupados con las tareas que creemos que se supone que debemos hacer y descuidar las cosas que debemos hacer. Renovar nuestros espíritus. Llena nuestros corazones de gozo y de canto para que los demás vean en nosotros la gracia y la misericordia que nos has dado a través de tu Hijo. Inculca en nosotros un espíritu de gratitud. Abre nuestros ojos y oídos, y prepara nuestros corazones para recibir el regalo más precioso de todos.*

## TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

*Momento de confesión en silencio y reflexión*

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

*Seguros del amor y misericordia de Dios*

**Leader:** Hear the truth. Neither this world nor our lives are so broken that God cannot restore to wholeness. Trust and believe that reconciliation is possible. God does show us the way home. In the name of Jesus, our sins are forgiven.

**People:** **We rejoice in the Good News that through Jesus Christ, all our sin is forgiven.**

**Leader:** What does Scripture reveal about the Good News?

**People:** **This is the Good News which we received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved: that Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day; and that he appeared to the women at the tomb, to Peter, then to the Twelve and to many faithful witnesses. We believe he is the Christ, the Son of the living God. He is the first and the last, the beginning and the end. He is our Lord, our Savior and our God. Amen.**

*Líder: Escuche la verdad. Ni este mundo ni nuestras vidas están tan quebrantados que Dios no puede restaurar a la totalidad. Confiar y creer que la reconciliación es posible. Dios nos muestra el camino a casa. En el nombre de Jesús, nuestros pecados son perdonados.*

*Gente: nos regocijamos en la buena nueva que a través de Jesucristo, todo nuestro pecado es perdonado.*

*Líder: ¿Qué revela la escritura acerca de las buenas nuevas?*

*Gente: esta es la buena noticia que recibimos, en la que nos encontramos, y por la cual nos salvamos: que Cristo murió por nuestros pecados, según las escrituras, que fue sepultado, que fue levantado en el tercer día; y que se le apareció a las mujeres en la tumba, a Pedro, luego a los doce y a muchos testigos fieles. Creemos que él es el Cristo, el hijo del Dios viviente. Él es el primero y el último, el principio y el final. Lo es nuestro Señor, nuestro Salvador y nuestro Dios. Amén.*

## INVITATION TO ADVENT Invitación al Adviento

Please sing to the tune of "Breath On Me Breath Of God"

Kindle this flame of hope.  
May it burn bright and true.  
Lighting the way that is of God;  
the journey we pursue.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE  
*Encendido de la vela de Adviento*

Taylor Family

Congregational Response

Please sing to the tune of “Breath On Me Breath Of God”

God’s Realm Is Our Desire  
Where peace and justice reign.  
Heaven and earth combined as one,  
when Christ shall come again.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE *Himno de Aseuramiento*

#145 “What Child Is This”

GREENSLEEVES

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Erin Taylor

*Momento de buenas noticias para los discípulos jóvenes*

- Children are asked to remain with their families throughout the worship service.
- *Se les pide a los niños que permanezcan con sus familias durante todo el servicio de adoración.*

CALL TO PRAYER *Llamada a La Oración*

“While We Are Waiting, Come”  
Choral Scholars

WAITING

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM *Himno*

“My Soul Cries Out With a Joyful Shout”

Star of the County Down

- To follow text, #100 in the hymnal

**PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD**

PROCLAMACIÓN DE LA PALABRA DE DIÓS

SCRIPTURE LESSONS *Lecturas de la escritura*

Janet Loman

Isaiah 63:19-64:8      1 Corinthians 1:2-9

Isaiah 63:19-64:8 (New Revised Standard Version)

We have long been like those whom you do not rule, like those not called by your name. O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the

nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

### 1 Corinthians 1:2-9 (New Revised Standard Version)

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Leader:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

### *Isaías 63:19-64:8 (Nueva Versión Internacional)*

<sup>19</sup> *Estamos como si nunca nos hubieras gobernado, como si nunca hubiéramos llevado tu nombre. 64 ¡Ojalá rasgaras los cielos, y descendieras! ¡Las montañas temblarían ante ti,* <sup>2</sup> *como cuando el fuego enciende la leña y hace que hierva el agua! Así darías a conocer tu nombre entre tus enemigos, y ante ti temblarían las naciones.* <sup>3</sup> *Hiciste portentos inesperados cuando descendiste; ante tu presencia temblaron las montañas.* <sup>4</sup> *Fuera de ti, desde tiempos antiguos nadie ha escuchado ni percibido, ni ojo alguno ha visto, a un Dios que, como tú, actúe en favor de quienes en él confían.* <sup>5</sup> *Sales al encuentro de los que, alegres, practican la justicia y recuerdan tus caminos. Pero te enojas si persistimos en desviarnos de ellos. ¿Cómo podremos ser salvos?* <sup>6</sup> *Todos somos como gente impura; todos nuestros actos de justicia son como trapos de inmundicia. Todos nos marchitamos como hojas; nuestras iniquidades nos arrastran como el viento.* <sup>7</sup> *Nadie invoca tu nombre, ni se esfuerza por aferrarse a ti. Pues nos has dado la espalda y nos has entregado en poder de nuestras iniquidades.* <sup>8</sup> *A pesar de todo, SEÑOR, tú eres nuestro Padre; nosotros somos el barro, y tú el alfarero. Todos somos obra de tu mano.*

*1 Corintios 1:2-9 Nueva Versión Internacional*

<sup>2</sup> a la iglesia de Dios que está en Corinto, a los que han sido santificados en Cristo Jesús y llamados a ser su santo pueblo, junto con todos los que en todas partes invocan el nombre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, Señor de ellos y de nosotros: <sup>3</sup> Que Dios nuestro Padre y el Señor Jesucristo les concedan gracia y paz. <sup>4</sup> Siempre doy gracias a Dios por ustedes, pues él, en Cristo Jesús, les ha dado su gracia. <sup>5</sup> Unidos a Cristo ustedes se han llenado de toda riqueza, tanto en palabra como en conocimiento. <sup>6</sup> Así se ha confirmado en ustedes nuestro testimonio acerca de Cristo, <sup>7</sup> de modo que no les falta ningún don espiritual mientras esperan con ansias que se manifieste nuestro Señor Jesucristo. <sup>8</sup> Él los mantendrá firmes hasta el fin, para que sean irreprochables en el día de nuestro Señor Jesucristo. <sup>9</sup> Fiel es Dios, quien los ha llamado a tener comunión con su Hijo Jesucristo, nuestro Señor.

*Lider:*            *Esta es la palabra del Señor.*

*Gente:*            *Gracias a Dios.*

SERMON *Sermón*            “Using This Advent Season Well”            Rev. Norm Story

\*CLOSING HYMN *Himno Final*

#82 “Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

**GO IN GOD’S NAME**

VAYAN EN EL NOMBRE DE DIÓS

\*BENEDICTION *Bendición*

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION *Bendición Coral*

“Wait for the Lord”

WAIT FOR THE LORD

\*POSTLUDE *Postludio*            Hymn Tune Improvisation            Howard A. Smolleck

*Liturgist – Bill Kuyper*

*Deacon Captain – Dale Cook*

Rev. Dr. Norm Story	Pastor	Rev. Pyong San Yu	Korean Congregation
Dr. Janet Loman, CLP	College Ministry	Dr. Howard A. Smolleck	Organist
Bobby & Karen Candusso	Youth Group Sponsors	Karen Candusso	Salt & Light Coord.
Beth Borchert-Thomas	Dir. of Music & Bells		

*Greeting before Worship Service:*

*Wanda Mattiace - E    Debra Smith – W    Divine Mboh -S*

*Greeting after Worship Service:*

*Rev. Norm Story – E    Bill Kuyper – W    Erin Taylor – S*

**\*Those who are able, please stand**

**Please turn off all cell phones**

**Please remember in your prayers:** David Bridges; Ed and Carol Green; TJ and Jacqui Jones; Roegge family; Vanessa Medina; Corina Armendariz and family; Robert Watkins; Fred Yanker; Dorris Hamilton; Rev. Marcus Burr; all who feel isolated in these troubled times; Presbyterian Church (USA); La Casa: Gospel Rescue Mission; Casa de Peregrinos; Missionaries Doug and Sherry Barron, CRU Headquarters in Orlando, Florida.

Welcome!

We come together as a community at worship to experience the grace of God, who is present in our midst. This is a time to open ourselves to Him and to each other. Expect great things of God and His grace will come to you! Please take a moment to fill out the friendship pads so we can greet you by name. Thank you for coming to First Presbyterian Church; we are glad that you are here. If you are not active in a church home in this community, we invite you to consider joining our fellowship and sharing in this ministry of Christ.

Our sacred space is not this building or this Sanctuary, but it is the fellowship we share, the hospitality we live, and the presence of God we see in each other.

*For prayer requests during the week, call the church office to get your request on the Church-wide Prayer Chain, or e-mail Linda Ramirez at [linda@fpc.lc](mailto:linda@fpc.lc)*

**Our Vision:** A place where Christian love is modeled

**Our Mission:** To be a place where Christian love is modeled through:

1. Understanding, celebrating, and sharing God's Word.
2. Following obediently where God is leading us.
3. Leading, nurturing, and serving our community for Christ.

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### **Happy Birthday to:**

12/01 – Carol Bott

12/06 – Mary Ferguson, Susan Trumble

(If we missed your birthday please call the office at 526-5559 or email Linda at [linda@fpc.lc](mailto:linda@fpc.lc))

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**Today, Sunday, November 29, 2020      1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent**

*Domingo, 29 de noviembre de 2020*

11:45 AM      Sermon discussion with Rev. Story in the Library

**Sunday, December 6, 2020      2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

*Domingo 6 de diciembre de 2020      segundo domingo de Adviento*

Worship service at 10:30, please wear a mask and practice social distancing

*Servicio de adoración a las 10:30, por favor use una máscara y practique el distanciamiento social*



www.fpc.lc\_ or e-mail: linda@fpc.lc  
Rev. Norm Story e-mail: revstory@fpc.lc  
Facebook: Look up First Presbyterian Church of Las Cruces  
Our worship services and midweek concerts  
are available on our website, Facebook and YouTube.  
You can listen to the service in the east parking lot on 106.3 FM.

## Ways To Give

Don't have cash, ran out of checks? That is not a problem with our new multi-way to give options below. Simply Text 84321 a dollar amount, follow the steps and you are good to go for all future giving. One simple step to giving with the convenience of one text moving forward.

QR Scan: Follow the prompts and it is as easy as 1, 2, 3! Give quickly, securely and even set up recurring gifts. Supporting your church has never been easier!

Download the Planning Center App: Find First Presbyterian Church, select and start your tithes in under a minute.

Go to the church website: [fpc.lc](http://fpc.lc) click on the "heart" icon and set up your giving today.

Or go directly to: [fpc.lc/giving](http://fpc.lc/giving)





### ***Deacons' Christmas Basket Project***

Praise God for the spirit of kindness and generosity! We are so fortunate to live in a beautiful land of plenty and be able to share our bounty to help others. This year family holiday celebrations may look very different from years gone by, but what has not changed are the reasons for rejoicing. The deacons are excited to be able to once more offer Christmas food baskets to families in need this year.

It is a time-honored tradition with First Presbyterian Church to supply generous gift baskets to local families so they can be blessed with special holiday meals and food staples. The deacons have compiled a wish list of non-perishable food items and gift cards to fill boxes and arrangements are being made through a local grocery store to purchase the food.

You are invited to participate in this project with your prayers and donations. If you know some families who would benefit from a food basket, please submit their names to our church secretary, Linda Ramirez, via email at [Linda@fpc.lc](mailto:Linda@fpc.lc). There is a limit to the number of baskets we will be able to give, so submissions should be given as soon as possible. Christmas trees are placed at each entrance of the sanctuary with stars and monetary values. Please select stars in the amount you feel led to give and place them along with your donation in the offering boxes placed at the end of each aisle. The deadline for contributions is December 6. Designate Deacons Christmas Basket fund if you are giving by check. If you are not able to attend church in person at this time, please consider giving electronically from your home. You can use the following link then select "Deacons Christmas Baskets" from the pull-down menu:

<https://firstpreschurchlc.churchcenter.com/giving>

The deacons would like to thank you in advance for your generous support of this worthwhile project. At a time when so many families are struggling through the many issues and side effects caused by the pandemic, we are indeed blessed to be able to reach out a helping hand. You are making a difference to others and we are very thankful for each of you. Joy to the world!

- Everyone is asked to please wear a mask over your mouth and nose at all times. Even if you question the effectiveness, please do so for the comfort and sake of others. Let us focus on loving our neighbors.
  - Please practice social distancing, 6 ft. from others not in your family unit.
  - Hand-sanitizer and wipes are located at each door.
  - A box is located in each aisle with slots where you can deposit your offering.
  - Children are expected to stay with their families throughout the worship service; no child-care is available at this time.
  - Please register your presence on the slip of paper in your bulletin and place it in the offering box in the aisle, so that if we need to do contact tracing later we will have a good idea of who came to worship.
- 
- *Se le pide a todos que usen una máscara sobre su boca y nariz en todo momento. Incluso si cuestiona la efectividad, hágalo para la comodidad y el bien de los demás. Centrémonos en amar a nuestros vecinos.*
  - *Practique el distanciamiento social, a 6 pies de otros que no estén en su unidad familia.*
  - *Desinfectante de manos y toallitas se encuentran en cada puerta.*
  - *En cada pasillo hay una caja con ranuras donde puede depositar su oferta.*
  - *Los niños deben permanecer con su familia durante todo el servicio de adoración, no hay cuidado de niños disponible en este momento.*
  - *Registre su presencia en el trozo de papel en su boletín y colóquelo en la caja de ofrendas en el pasillo, de modo que si necesitamos hacer un seguimiento de contactos más adelante, tengamos una buena idea de quién vino a adorar.*