

First Presbyterian Church
and
Comunidad de Esperanza (Community of Hope)
Las Cruces, New Mexico
1st Sunday of Christmas
December 27, 2020 – 10:30 AM
Enter to worship – Leave to serve
Entrar para adorar – Salir para servir

PRELUDE *Preludio*

Love Came Down at Christmas”

Lani Smith (1934-2015)

“Lo, How A Rose”

John Leavitt (b. 1956)

“Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning”

Robert J. Hughes (1916-1999)

**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 adoracion

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, ‘Abba! Father!’ So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God. (Galatians 4:4-7)

*Pero cuando llegó el cumplimiento de los tiempos, Dios envió a su Hijo, nacido de mujer, nacido bajo la ley, para redimir a los que estaban bajo la ley, para que recibiéramos la adopción de niños. Y porque sois niños, Dios ha enviado el Espíritu de su Hijo a nuestros corazones, clamando: "¡Abba! ¡Padre! "Así que ya no eres un esclavo, sino un niño, y si un niño, también un heredero, por Dios.
(Gálatas 4: 4-7)*

CHORAL INTROIT *Coral Introito*

“Away in a Manger”
Beth Thomas and Leah Rasmussen

CRADLE SONG

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Llamada a la adoración*

Greg Sherman

(from Psalm 148)

Leader: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens! Praise him in the heights!

People: **Praise him, all his angels; Praise him, all his host!**

Leader: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
Young men and old women alike, old and young together!

People: **Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven. He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the LORD!**

(del Salmo 148)

Líder: *¡Alabado sea el Señor! ¡Alabado sea el Señor desde los cielos! ¡Alabadlo en las alturas!*

Gente: *Alabadle todos sus ángeles; ¡Alabadlo, todo su anfitrión!*

Líder: *¡Reyes de la tierra y todos los pueblos, príncipes y todos los gobernantes de la tierra! ¡Jóvenes y ancianas por igual, viejos y jóvenes juntos!*

Gente: *Alaben el nombre del SEÑOR, porque sólo su nombre es exaltado; su gloria está sobre la tierra y el cielo. Ha levantado un cuerno para su pueblo, alabanza para todos sus fieles, para el pueblo de Israel que está cerca de él. ¡Alabado sea el Señor!*

HYMN OF PRAISE *Himno de Alabanza*

#143 “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

REGENT SQUARE

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

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

Holy and magnificent God, you are the Light of the World. Your radiance dispels the darkness in which we hide. Your majesty stuns us to silence. Your beauty humbles us to our knees. As we behold your glory, all else fades away. That which we thought was so important and so urgent is exposed as insignificant and temporal in the light of your eternal love and holiness. Help us in our worship today to see beyond our preconceptions and expectations. Instead, give us faith to see and worship the Lord of the universe, the Creator of all that is, the Sustainer of our lives, the Redeemer who reigns in power even now, and who taught us to pray: **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**

Lo que pensamos que era tan importante y tan urgente se expone como insignificante y temporal a la luz de tu eterno amor y santidad. Ayúdanos en nuestra adoración hoy a ver más allá de nuestras preconcepciones y expectativas. En cambio, danos fe para ver y adorar al Señor del universo, el Creador de todo lo que es, el Sustentador de nuestras vidas, el Redentor que reina con poder incluso ahora, y que nos enseñó a orar: 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*

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Leah Rasmussen, Solo

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

O God, in Christ you were born a humble child, love-made-flesh, God-with-us. Forgive us when we fail to follow in your way of humility, love, and peace. Free us to see your Light reflecting in the faces of friends and family, neighbors and strangers, enemies and friends, and make us shine forth with your love.

Oh Dios, en Cristo naciste como un niño humilde, amor-hecho-carne, Dios-con-nosotros. Perdónanos cuando no seguimos tu camino de humildad, amor y paz. Libéranos para ver tu Luz reflejada en los rostros de amigos y familiares, vecinos y extraños, enemigos y amigos, y haznos brillar con tu amor.

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 promise of the Lord:
See, your salvation has come! You are a holy people, redeemed by God, sought out, not forsaken. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Líder: Escuche la promesa del Señor: ¡Mira, tu salvación ha llegado! Sois un pueblo santo, redimido por Dios, buscado, no abandonado. En el nombre de Jesucristo, ¡somos perdonados!

Gente: **Gracias a Dios.**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE *Himno de Aseuramiento*

#125 “Before the Marvel of This Night”

MARVEL

- Choral Scholars to sing verse 1
- Congregation to join on verses 2-3

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Elizabeth Loman

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*

#137 “He Came Down”

HE CAME DOWN

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM *Himno*

“The Snow Lay on the Ground”

VENITE ADOREMUS

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD
PROCLAMACIÓN DE LA PALABRA DE DIÓS

SCRIPTURE LESSON *Lectura de la escritura*

Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Luke 2:22-40

Isaiah 61:10-62:3 (New Revised Standard Version)

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Luke 2:22-40 (New Revised Standard Version)

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Isaías 61:10-62:3 (Nueva Versión Internacional)

¹⁰ *Me deleito mucho en el SEÑOR; me regocijo en mi Dios. Porque él me vistió con ropas de salvación y me cubrió con el manto de la justicia. Soy semejante a un novio que luce su diadema, o una novia adornada con sus joyas.* ¹¹ *Porque así como la tierra hace que broten los retoños, y el huerto hace que germinen las semillas, así el SEÑOR omnipotente hará que broten la justicia y la alabanza ante todas las naciones.* ^{62:1} *Por amor a Sión no guardaré silencio, por amor a Jerusalén no desmayaré, hasta que su justicia resplandezca como la aurora, y como antorcha encendida su salvación.* ² *Las naciones verán tu justicia, y todos los reyes, tu gloria; recibirás un nombre nuevo, que el SEÑOR mismo te dará.* ³ *Serás en la mano del SEÑOR como una corona esplendorosa, ¡como una diadema real en la palma de tu Dios!*

Lucas 2:22-40 (Nueva Versión Internacional)

²² *Así mismo, cuando se cumplió el tiempo en que, según la ley de Moisés, ellos debían purificarse, José y María llevaron al niño a Jerusalén para presentarlo al Señor.* ²³ *Así cumplieron con lo que en la ley del Señor está escrito: «Todo varón primogénito será consagrado al Señor».* ²⁴ *También ofrecieron un sacrificio conforme a lo que la ley del Señor dice: «un par de tórtolas o dos pichones de paloma».* ²⁵ *Ahora bien, en Jerusalén había un hombre llamado Simeón, que era justo y devoto, y aguardaba con esperanza la redención de Israel. El Espíritu Santo estaba con él* ²⁶ *y le había revelado que no moriría sin antes ver al Cristo del Señor.* ²⁷ *Movido por el Espíritu, fue al templo. Cuando al niño Jesús lo llevaron sus padres para cumplir con la costumbre establecida por la ley,* ²⁸ *Simeón lo tomó en sus brazos y bendijo a Dios: «Según tu palabra, Soberano Señor, ya puedes despedir a tu siervo en paz.* ³⁰ *Porque han visto mis ojos tu salvación,* ³¹ *que has preparado a la vista de todos los pueblos: «luz que ilumina a las naciones y gloria de tu pueblo Israel».* ³³ *El padre y la madre del niño se quedaron maravillados por lo que se decía de él.* ³⁴ *Simeón les dio su bendición y le dijo a María, la madre de Jesús: «Este niño está destinado a causar la caída y el levantamiento de muchos en Israel, y a crear mucha oposición,* ³⁵ *a fin de que se manifiesten las intenciones de muchos corazones. En cuanto a ti, una espada te atravesará el alma».* ³⁶ *Había también una profetisa, Ana, hija de Penuel, de la tribu de Aser. Era muy anciana; casada de joven, había vivido con su esposo siete años,* ³⁷ *y luego permaneció viuda hasta la edad de ochenta y cuatro. Nunca salía del templo, sino que día y noche adoraba a Dios con ayunos y oraciones.* ³⁸ *Llegando en ese mismo momento, Ana dio gracias a Dios y comenzó a hablar del niño a todos los que esperaban la redención de Jerusalén.* ³⁹ *Después de haber cumplido con todo lo que exigía la ley del Señor, José y María regresaron a Galilea, a su propio pueblo de Nazaret.*

⁴⁰ *El niño crecía y se fortalecía; progresaba en sabiduría, y la gracia de Dios lo acompañaba.*

*Lider: Esta es la palabra del Señor.
Gente: Gracias a Dios.*

SERMON *Sermón* “God With Us” Dr. Janet Loman
The message today begins with a sermon by Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor; a Christmas gift to us all.

*CLOSING HYMN *Himno Final*

#110 “Love Has Come”

BRING A TORCH

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

*BENEDICTION *Bendición*

*CHORAL BENEDICTION *Bendición Coral*

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

GO TELL IT

*POSTLUDE *Postludio*

Hymn Tune Improvisation

Howard A. Smolleck

*Liturgist – Greg Sherman Deacon Captain – Dale Cook
Sound System – Max Schroeder Video – Dina Schroeder*

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 Divine Mboh - W Linda Seaton - S

Greeting after Worship Service:

Dr. Janet Loman – E Greg Sherman – W Elizabeth Loman – S

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

Please turn off all cell phones

Please remember in your prayers: Sandra Valencia and Anastasia Owens; Frances and Joyce Nolan; our shut-ins; David Bridges; 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; Missionaries Bob and Donna Waguespack, Mexico City.

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

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.

Happy Birthday to:

12/28 – Johanna Miller, Diana Davidson

12/29 – Joy Miller-Bell

12/30 – Pam Briggs, Janet Green

12/31 – Marti Whaley

1/01 – Stephanie Benaway, Cecilia Mboh

1/02 – Esther Smolleck

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

Today, Sunday, December 27, 2020

Domingo, 20 de diciembre de 2020

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

Sunday, January 3, 2021

Domingo 3 de January de 2021

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

CLI License No. 540727

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.

Online Giving on the Rise

In these unprecedented times, we have been very blessed to have the option of online giving. We have seen a major increase with our faithful congregation giving in this manner. This has been instrumental in keeping our Mission in place and our budget in line. Cash and checks are still welcome, but we are glad to offer a more convenient, safe, and easy way to give. Many options are available and listed below. Thank you for your continued generosity and faithful giving.

Go to the church website: fpc.lc click on the “heart” icon and set up your giving today.

Or go directly to: fpc.lc/giving

Smartphone users can download the Planning Center App: Find First Presbyterian Church, select and start your giving in under a minute.

You can also Text 84321, enter any dollar amount, follow the steps listed and you are set for future giving. One simple step to giving with the convenience of one text from then on.

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!



Greetings!

Our worship services are now available **1)** in-person with Covid precautions,

2) live-stream on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CWhzafAawfw&feature=youtu.be>

3) by FM radio from the East parking lot,

4) by video on the church website, our Facebook site or YouTube.vick



Contribution Envelopes for 2021

If you use contribution envelopes, please pick them up in the Narthex.

Monthly or weekly envelopes are available.

Or, you can call the office and setup an appointment to pick them up.

- 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.*

