

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**and**  
**Comunidad de Esperanza (Community of Hope)**  
**Las Cruces, New Mexico**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent**  
**February 28, 2021 – 10:30 AM**  
*Enter to worship – Leave to serve*  
*Entrar para adorar – Salir para servir*

PRELUDE *Preludio*

“What God Ordains Is Good Indeed”

Robert J. Powell (b. 1932)

“O Love, How Deep”

Stephen Gabrielsen (b. 1939)

“I Am Coming to the Cross” (Hymn of 1870)

Tom Birchwood (1934-2015)

**\*\*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*

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:8-11 NRSV)

*Porque mis pensamientos no son vuestros pensamientos, ni vuestros caminos mis caminos, dice el Señor. Porque como los cielos son más altos que la tierra, así mis*

*caminos son más altos que tus caminos y mis pensamientos más que tus pensamientos. Porque como la lluvia y la nieve descienden del cielo y no vuelven allí hasta que hayan regado la tierra, haciéndola brotar y brotando, dando semilla al sembrador y pan al que come, así será mi palabra que sale de mi boca; no volverá a mí vacía, sino que cumplirá lo que me propongo y tendrá éxito en lo que la envié. (Isaías 55: 8-11 NRSV)*

CHORAL INTROIT *Coral Introito*

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!”

MARION

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

\*CALL TO WORSHIP *Llamada a la adoración*

Marsha Topley

(from Psalm 147)

**Leader:** Praise the LORD! How good it is to sing praises to our God; for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting. The LORD gathers the outcasts. He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.

**People:** **Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure. The LORD lifts up the downtrodden; he casts the wicked to the ground. The Lord takes pleasure in those who hope in his steadfast love.**

**Leader:** Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre.

**People:** **Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness! Let everything that breathes praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!**

*(del salmo 147)*

**Líder:** *¡Alabado sea el SEÑOR! Qué bueno es cantar alabanzas a nuestro Dios; porque él es amable, y una canción de alabanza es apropiada. El SEÑOR recoge a los desterrados. Él sana a los que tienen el corazón roto y venda sus heridas.*

**Gente:** *Grande es nuestro Señor, y abundante en poder; Su comprensión está más allá de toda medida. El SEÑOR levanta a los oprimidos; Él arroja al impío al suelo. El Señor se complace en aquellos que esperan en su amor constante.*

**Líder:** *canta al SEÑOR con acción de gracias; Haz melodía a nuestro dios sobre la lira.*

**Gente:** *Alabadle por sus obras poderosas; ¡Alabadle de acuerdo a su grandeza superadora! ¡Que todo lo que respira alabe al SEÑOR! ¡Alabado sea el Señor!*

HYMN OF PRAISE *Himno de Alabanza*

#826 “Lift High the Cross”

CRUCIFER

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

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

Gracious Lord, we come this day as your own beloved people. Your children in need trust that we will hear a word of hope and joy, that you will touch us with your healing comfort, and give us the courage and strength we need. Eternal Father, send your Spirit to speak your Word, your Wisdom, and Truth to us. You know, O Merciful Savior, the burdens we bear, the troubles we fear, the mistakes and crises of our lives that make us anxious and doubtful. You know the secrets, our needs and hurts that brought us here, and even those we dare not mention to anyone else. By your love and grace, speak to us and let your compassion so fill our lives so that we walk and live in your power to make all things new. As Jesus taught his disciples 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**

*Señor, venimos este día como tu propia gente amada. Sus hijos en necesidad, esperando que de alguna manera hoy escuchemos una palabra de esperanza y alegría, que nos toque con su consuelo sanador y nos den el valor y la fuerza que necesitamos. Padre Eterno, envía tu Espíritu, para hablarnos tu Palabra, tu Sabiduría y tu Verdad. Ya sabes, oh Misericordioso Salvador, las cargas que llevamos, los problemas que tememos, los errores y las crisis que hacen que estemos ansiosos y dudosos. Conoces los secretos, nuestras necesidades y heridas que nos trajeron aquí, e incluso aquellos que no nos atrevemos a mencionar a nadie más. Por tu amor y gracia, háblame y deja que tu compasión llene nuestras vidas para que podamos caminar y vivir en tu poder para hacer que todas las cosas sean nuevas. Como Jesús enseñó a sus discípulos 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*

#431 “Forgive Us, Lord”

CONFESIÓN

- Choral Scholars to sing verses
- Congregation join “Forgive Us, Lord”

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

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 heart. 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.

*Santo Refugio de nuestros corazones, debemos admitir que con demasiada frecuencia no eres el centro de nuestras vidas. Encontramos refugio en todas las falsas seguridades que ofrece el mundo, en lugar de basarnos en tus promesas. Nuestras emociones impulsan nuestros miedos, por lo que terminamos tomando decisiones tontas, en lugar de dejarnos guiar por su palabra y su corazón. Señor Dios, no nos ocultes tu rostro, vuélvete a nosotros con perdón y esperanza. Ten piedad de nosotros para que podamos compartir esa gracia con los que nos rodean. Llena nuestro vacío con tu amor, para que podamos ser más amorosos y vivir vidas que honren y glorifiquen tu nombre.*

## 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:** God is gracious and loving. Hear the Good News of the gospel; that nothing in all of creation can separate us from the love of God through Christ Jesus. In Jesus Christ, all our sins are forgiven.

**People:** **Through Jesus we are loved and forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Leader:** Now cleansed from sin, how would the Lord our God have us live?

**People:** **The Lord has told us what is good; and what does the Lord require of us, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.**

*Líder: Dios es misericordioso y amoroso. Escuche las buenas nuevas del evangelio; que nada en toda la creación puede separarnos del amor de Dios por medio de Cristo Jesús. En Jesucristo, todos nuestros pecados son perdonados.*

*Gente: Ahora limpios del pecado, ¿cómo quiere el Señor nuestro Dios que vivamos?*

*Líder: Ahora limpio del pecado, ¿cómo el Señor nuestro Dios nos quiere vivir?*

*Gente: El Señor nos ha dicho lo que es bueno; y qué exige el Señor de nosotros, sino hacer justicia, amar la bondad y caminar humildemente con nuestro Dios.*

HYMN OF ASSURANCE *Himno de Aseuramiento*

#726 “Will You Come and Follow Me”

KELVINGROVE

- Choral Scholars to sing verses 1 & 2
- Congregation to join verses 3-5

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*

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

WONDROUS LOVE

Choral Scholars

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM *Himno* “Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said”

BOURBON

- For text see #718 in the hymnal

**PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD**

PROCLAMACIÓN DE LA PALABRA DE DIÓS

SCRIPTURE LESSONS *Lecturas de la escritura*

Dr. Janet Loman

Joshua 24:1, 14-21

Mark 8:27-37

Joshua 24:1, 14-21 (New Revised Standard Version)

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. “Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.” But Joshua said to the people, “You cannot serve the Lord, for he is

a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.” And the people said to Joshua, “No, we will serve the Lord!”

Mark 8:27-37 (New Revised Standard Version)

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?”

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

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

*Josué 24:1, 14-21 (Nueva Versión Internacional)*

24 Josué reunió a todas las tribus de Israel en Siquén. Allí convocó a todos los jefes, líderes, jueces y oficiales del pueblo. Todos se reunieron en presencia de Dios.<sup>14</sup> »Por lo tanto, ahora ustedes entréguense al SEÑOR y sírvanle fielmente. Desháganse de los dioses que sus antepasados adoraron al otro lado del río Éufrates y en Egipto, y sirvan solo al SEÑOR.<sup>15</sup> Pero, si a ustedes les parece mal servir al SEÑOR, elijan ustedes mismos a quiénes van a servir: a los dioses que sirvieron sus antepasados al otro lado del río Éufrates, o a los dioses de los amorreos, en cuya tierra ustedes ahora habitan. Por mi parte, mi familia y yo serviremos al SEÑOR». <sup>16</sup> El pueblo respondió: —¡Eso no pasará jamás! ¡Nosotros no abandonaremos al SEÑOR por servir a otros dioses! <sup>17</sup> El SEÑOR nuestro Dios es quien nos sacó a nosotros y a nuestros antepasados del país de Egipto, aquella tierra de servidumbre. Él fue quien hizo aquellas grandes señales ante nuestros ojos. Nos protegió durante todo nuestro peregrinaje por el desierto y cuando pasamos entre tantas naciones. <sup>18</sup> El SEÑOR expulsó a todas las que vivían en este país, incluso a los amorreos. Por esa razón, nosotros también serviremos al SEÑOR, porque él es nuestro Dios. <sup>19</sup> Entonces Josué les dijo: —Ustedes son incapaces de servir al SEÑOR, porque él es Dios santo y Dios celoso. No les tolerará sus rebeliones y pecados. <sup>20</sup> Si ustedes lo abandonan y sirven a dioses ajenos, él se les echará encima y les traerá desastre; los

destruirá completamente, a pesar de haber sido bueno con ustedes. <sup>21</sup> Pero el pueblo insistió: —¡Eso no pasará jamás! Nosotros solo serviremos al SEÑOR.

*Marcos 8:27-37 (Nueva Versión Internacional)*

<sup>27</sup> Jesús y sus discípulos salieron hacia las aldeas de Cesarea de Filipo. En el camino les preguntó: —¿Quién dice la gente que soy yo? <sup>28</sup> —Unos dicen que Juan el Bautista, otros que Elías, y otros que uno de los profetas —contestaron. <sup>29</sup> —Y ustedes, ¿quién dicen que soy yo? —Tú eres el Cristo —afirmó Pedro. <sup>30</sup> Jesús les ordenó que no hablaran a nadie acerca de él. <sup>31</sup> Luego comenzó a enseñarles: —El Hijo del hombre tiene que sufrir muchas cosas y ser rechazado por los ancianos, por los jefes de los sacerdotes y por los maestros de la ley. Es necesario que lo maten y que a los tres días resucite. <sup>32</sup> Habló de esto con toda claridad. Pedro lo llevó aparte y comenzó a reprenderlo. <sup>33</sup> Pero Jesús se dio la vuelta, miró a sus discípulos, y reprendió a Pedro. —¡Aléjate de mí, Satanás! —le dijo—. Tú no piensas en las cosas de Dios, sino en las de los hombres. <sup>34</sup> Entonces llamó a la multitud y a sus discípulos. —Si alguien quiere ser mi discípulo —les dijo—, que se niegue a sí mismo, lleve su cruz y me siga. <sup>35</sup> Porque el que quiera salvar su vida la perderá; pero el que pierda su vida por mi causa y por el evangelio la salvará. <sup>36</sup> ¿De qué sirve ganar el mundo entero si se pierde la vida? <sup>37</sup> ¿O qué se puede dar a cambio de la vida?

*Lider:* Esta es la palabra del Señor.

*Gente:* **Gracias a Dios.**

SERMON *Sermón* “Human Things and Divine Things” Rev. Norm Story

\*CLOSING HYMN *Himno Final*

#720 “Jesus Calls Us”

GALILEE

**GO IN GOD’S NAME**

VAYAN EN EL NOMBRE DE DIÓS

\*BENEDICTION *Bendición*

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION *Bendición Coral*

“Jesus, Remember Me”

REMEMBER ME

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

*Liturgist – Marsha Topley 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    Adwoa Serwaa Amankwaa - S*

*Greeting after Worship Service:*

*Marsha Topley – E    Rev. Norm Story – W    Erin Taylor – S*

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

**Please turn off all cell phones**

**Please remember in your prayers:** The Rawson family on the death of Joan Rawson; Laura Conniff; Robert Watkins; Fred Yanker; Dorris Hamilton; Rev. Marcus Burr; all who feel isolated in these troubled times; Presbyterian Church (USA); Deacons' Ministries; Gospel Rescue Mission; St. Luke's Health Care Clinic; Missionary Donna Evans, Indonesia and the Philippines.

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.

**CLI License No. 540727**



## Happy Birthday to:

2/28 – Diana Davidson

3/02 – Johnnie Aldrich, Ebenezer Tumban

3/03 – Millie Conrad, Robert Distlehorst, Orlando Sanchez

3/04 – Elizabeth Loman

3/07 – Dorris Hamilton, Janette Williams

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

**A Special Reminder:** Every week the Deacons deliver the non-perishable food items that are collected to the local food bank at the Community of Hope. On Sunday mornings the food donations for Casa de Peregrinos can be left in the containers that are located at the doors to the Sanctuary. During this time of food insecurity for many of our neighbors, please consider purchasing an extra can or box of food to donate. It would be most appreciated. Special needs are instant coffee, cocoa, individual fruit drinks, and all protein items.

Greetings!

Our worship services are now available

- 1) in-person, with Covid19 precautions
- 2) live-stream on YouTube (search for: First Presbyterian Church Las Cruces, NM)
- 3) by FM radio from the East parking lot, station 106.3
- 4) by video on the church website, our Facebook site or YouTube

[www.fpc.lc](http://www.fpc.lc) or e-mail: [linda@fpc.lc](mailto:linda@fpc.lc)  
Rev. Norm Story e-mail: [revstory@fpc.lc](mailto: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](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)

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!



- 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.*