

First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

1st Sunday in Advent

November 28, 2021 - 10:30 A.M

Enter to worship – Leave to serve

Entramos para adorar – Salimos para servir



PRELUDE *Preludio*

“Lo, How A Rose E’er Blooming”
“On Christmas Night All Christians Sing”
Jeonai Batista, Piano

Arr. Mark Hayes
Arr. Lloyd Larsen

**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

WELCOME, GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Meditación para la preparación para la adoración

"A voice cries out: In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." (Isaiah 40 NRSV)

INTROIT *Introito*

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
Handbell Ensemble

Arr. Jason Krug

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Llamada a la adoración*

Judith Ames

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.

*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**

PLEASE BE SEATED *Tomen asiento por favor*

CALL TO CONFESSION *Llamada a la confesión*

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"
Leah Rasmussen, Solo

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

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.

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: Even now, God approaches us, mercy over anger, hope over despair, and life triumphant over death. This is good news; this is news of great joy for each of us, that in Jesus Christ all our sins are forgiven.

People: Enriched in every grace, blessed with joy and hope, transformed by love, we can now live as people of Advent. Thanks be to God. Amen.

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.

INVITATION TO ADVENT *Invitación al Adviento*

Please sing to the tune of "Breathe 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

Armendariz Family

Encendido de la vela de Adviento

Congregational Response

Please sing to the tune of "Breathe 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 Seguridad*

#145 "What Child Is This"

GREENSLEEVES

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Lon Anderson

Momento de buenas noticias para los discípulos jóvenes

- Since children under 12 are not vaccinated, they are asked to wear masks and to sit on the carpet squares in the front during the Young Disciples Talk.

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, see #100 in the Hymnal

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PROCLAMACIÓN DE LA PALABRA DE DIÓS

SCRIPTURES LESSONS *Lecturas de la escritura*

Jeremiah 33:14-16 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Jeremiah 33:14-16 (New Revised Standard Version)

^{14}The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ^{15} In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ^{16} In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 (New Revised Standard Version)

^{9}How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ^{10} Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. ^{11} Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ^{12} And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ^{13} And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Sermón* “Waiting With Hope and Fervency” 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 – Judith Ames

Deacon Captain – Ernie Armendariz

Sound System – Rusty Smith

Video – Brent Brewer



Join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments immediately following Worship this morning. Rev. Story will make an announcement if it is outside the front doors of the Sanctuary or in Jones Hall Fellowship area. This is a time to welcome and greet new friends and old friends alike. Fellowship this morning is hosted by the Congregational Life & Outreach Support Ministry team.

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:

Adwoa Serwaa Amankwaa – E Wanda Mattiace – W Divine Mboh - S

Greeting after Worship Service:

Rev. Norm Story – E Lon Anderson – W Judith Ames – S

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

Please turn off all cell phones

Please remember in your prayers: Josie Frieze; Janet Loman; Don and Jean Rhodes; Dave Schreuder; George and Sandy Abernathy; Bill and Virginia Haynes; Mary Olberg; Carol Bott; Rev. Marcus Burr; all who feel isolated in these troubled times; Presbyterian Church (USA); Deacons' Ministries; Missionary Cesar Caruchin, Presbyterian Minister Columbia, South America.

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! 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.

You are THE SALT of the earth

Matthew 5:13

Salt & Light – “Believe and Receive”

Children & Youth Ministry at First Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

4:00 – 6:30 PM

5:50 PM – Dinner

Menu: Sub-sandwich with ham, turkey, & cheese, potato salad, chips, and ice cream cups

If you plan to join your child for dinner, please RSVP with the church office.
\$4.00 suggested donation

Please call the church office by Monday 11/29/21 at 526-5559 between 9am-2pm to let us know that you will be joining us for dinner.

Karen Candusso, Salt & Light Director



Christmas Baskets

Now that Thanksgiving has passed, the Deacons are working on the list for Christmas Basket recipients. If you know of a person or a family who could benefit from a Christmas Basket, please call Linda at the church office, 575-526-5559, with the name and phone number of the intended recipient. Let's help make this a Merry Christmas for as many as we can! Thank you for your thoughtfulness! -From your Deacons

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) video archive on the church website, our Facebook site or YouTube



11/28 – Ed Green
 12/01 – Carol Bott
 12/02 – Eric Loman,
 Jean Bernard Nganou

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

Jennie Curry Bible Study will meet on Thursday, December 3, at 6:30pm, in Jones Hall Library. We will continue our study on “Living Beyond Yourself,” exploring the Fruit of the Spirit. All are invite to join us. For question call or email Kathy Story 575 202 2667 or storyk@comcast.net

Online Giving

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!



Covid19 precautions:

- Hand-sanitizer and wipes are located at each door.
- A purple box is located in each aisle with slots where you can deposit your offering.
- Please register your presence with contact information or prayer requests on the small slip of paper in your bulletin and place it in the purple offering box in the aisle, so that if we need to do contact tracing later, we can contact those who were present.

Want To Get Involved?

You're thinking that you want to participate more in the life of our church but just aren't quite sure how to get started? Well, here's a couple of ideas – folks you can talk to. There are lots of ways to get involved in the life of our church – these are just some of them, but hopefully this gives you some insight on how to get started. There are directories in the church office with these folks' names and emails.

Administration - Marsha Topley

Buildings & Grounds - Rusty Smith

Music & Worship - Vicki Kuyper or Winnie Quinzi

Christian Education - Yolanda Koontz

Mary Martha Circle- Cheri McMillan or Helen Moser

Congregational Life & Outreach Support - Samantha Armendariz

Missions - Brad Class

Deacons - Dale Cook

Salt and Light - Karen Candusso

Music Programs – Beth Thomas

In-Betweeners – Judith or Lyn Ames

CHURCH CALENDAR

Call the church office 526-5559 for information on any events, or by the net: www.fpc.lc or
by e-mail: linda@fpc.lc

Rev. Norm Story e-mail: revstory@fpc.lc

Facebook: Look up First Presbyterian Church of Las Cruces

Sunday, November 28, 2021 1st Sunday in Advent

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School class led by Larry Hicks in Branigan Hall. The subject is
"19th Century Literature's Use of the Bible and Application for Us Today."

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library. We are viewing
and discussing Season 2 of "The Chosen" video series.

9:00 – 11:45 AM Childcare in Branigan Hall

9:00 AM Sunday School for grades K-5 in Branigan Hall

9:00 AM Sunday School for grades 6-12 in Reeves Hall

10:30 AM Worship Service

11:45 AM After-Worship Fellowship

12:00 PM Sermon discussion in the Jones Hall Library with Rev. Story

Monday, November 29, 2021

6:00 PM Bells rehearsal with Beth Thomas

7:00 PM Bells rehearsal with Beth Thomas

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

3:00 PM Listening Prayer in the Jones Hall Parlor (see announcement)

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

9:30 AM Staff meeting, office will be closed during meeting.

4:00 PM Salt & Light (see announcement)

Thursday, December 2, 2021

6:30 PM Jennie Curry Bible Study in the Jones Hall Library. (see announcement)

Friday, December 3, 2021

New Deadline ⇨ Midnight on Fridays is the deadline for submission to the Good News.

Editor: scotty.benaway@sbcglobal.net

Saturday, December 4, 2021

Sunday, December 5, 2021 2nd Sunday in Advent – Communion Sunday

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School class led by Larry Hicks in Branigan Hall. The subject is
"19th Century Literature's Use of the Bible and Application for Us Today."

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library. We are viewing
and discussing Season 2 of "The Chosen" video series.

9:00 – 11:45 AM Childcare in Branigan Hall

9:00 AM Sunday School for grades K-5 in Branigan Hall

9:00 AM Sunday School for grades 6-12 in Reeves Hall

10:30 AM Worship Service

11:45 AM After-Worship Fellowship

12:00 PM Sermon discussion in the Jones Hall Library with Rev. Story

CCLI License No. 540727

****Listening prayer** on the calendar: a reflection on the scripture for the upcoming sermon. We are asking people to join us at 3:00 pm on Tuesdays. If you have questions, please contact Mary Maley at marymaley@netzero.com.

Notes:
