

First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

February 13, 2022 - 10:30 A.M

6^h Sunday after Epiphany

Enter to worship – Leave to serve

Entramos para adorar – Salimos para servir

PRELUDE *Preludio*

“I Know that My Redeemer Lives”

Marcia L. Nuttall (2000)

Two Settings of “Christ Ist Erstanden” (Christ Is Arisen) (Reformation Hymn of 1533)

– Steven Scott (1934-2015) – Johann K. F. Fischer (1665-1746)

**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

Bienvenida, Saludos & Anuncios

MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Meditación para la preparación para la adoracion

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure.

(2 Corinthians 4:16-17 NRSV)

INTROIT *Introito* “Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken”

LISTEN

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

REÚNIRSE EN EL NOMBRE DE DIÓS

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Llamada a la adoración*

Greg Sherman

(Psalm 36)

Leader: Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

People: **Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.**

Leader: How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

People: **O continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your salvation to the upright of heart!**

*HYMN OF PRAISE *Himno de Alabanza*

#463 “How Firm a Foundation”

FOUNDATION

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

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

Holy God, because of your gracious love in Jesus Christ, we joyously and gratefully come together to worship, realizing we need not summon you into our midst, for you are already here. We need not call you into the secret places of our hearts, for you are already there. We do need our eyes of faith opened, that we may see you; our ears unstopped, that we may hear you; our minds to be made sensitive, that we may recognize and know you. And we need our hearts to be made tender, that we may receive you and live in you. Gracious God, draw us into your life-changing presence through our worship this day. **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*

#647 “Give Thanks”

GIVE THANKS

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

God of light and love, we humble ourselves and ask forgiveness for the wrongs we have done and caused. Sometimes we live in darkness rather than seeing the light of your love for us and for all your children. We have failed to faithfully live your compassion and light. Spiritually, our eyes have been closed, and that blindness has caused hurt and harm. In our moments of doubt, give us strength and courage to believe in you. May we be open to a vision of new possibilities and boldness in a life of faithfulness, integrity, and sacrificial service. Holy Jesus, our living hope, may we become more and more responsive to your grace and to your call.

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 Diós

Leader: Hear the words of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of John and be comforted. "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Abide in me and in my love." Friends, believe the Good News, all our sins are forgiven.

People: By God's grace we are loved and saved. Through the sacrifice of Christ, our sin is forgiven, thanks be to God. Amen.

Leader: What does the resurrection of Jesus mean to us?

People: With the witness of Scripture and the Church through the ages we declare: Jesus Christ is the gracious mission of God to the world and for the world. He is the Emmanuel and Savior, One with the Father, God incarnate in Mary's son, Lord of all, the true human one. His coming transforms everything. His Lordship casts down every idolatrous claim to authority. His life shows what it means to be human. His atoning death reveals the depth of God's love for sinners. His bodily resurrection shatters the powers of sin and death. In the proclamation of the Word, the Spirit calls us to repentance, builds up and renews our life in Christ, strengthens our faith, empowers our service, gladdens our hearts and transforms our lives more fully into the image of Christ.¹

HYMN OF ASSURANCE *Himno de Seguridad*

#852 "When the Lord Redeems the Very Least" I'LL FLY AWAY

- Choral Scholars to sing the verses
- Congregation to join on the refrain

CELEBRATION AND WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS

Celebración y bienvenida de nuevos miembros

Thomas and Cynthia Clement (as affiliate members)
Michael Owusu Sekyere and Cecilia Edna Odoom

(Elders currently serving on Session will greet our new church family members while the congregation sings hymn #306, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds", vs. 1-2)

*Blest Be the Tie That Binds (verses 1-2)

*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
Christian love. The fellowship of
kindred minds is like to that above.*

*Before our Father's throne we pour our
ardent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our
aims are one, our comforts and our cares.*

¹ from Union in Christ: A declaration for the church by Mark Achtemeier and Andrew Purves, PC(USA), 1997.

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Lynne Carver

Momento de buenas noticias para los discípulos jóvenes

- Children are asked to wear masks and to sit on the carpet squares in the front during the Young Disciples' Talk.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM *Sacramento de Bautismo*

Michael Xu Owusu Sekyere

(son of Michael Owusu Sekyere and Cecilia Edna Odoom)

CALL TO PRAYER *Llamada a La Oración*

“Take the Saving Word of God”

DAWK'YAH TOWGYAH

Choral Scholars

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM *Himno*

“Listen, God Is Calling”

NENO LAKE MUNGU

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PROCLAMACIÓN DE LA PALABRA DE DIÓS

SCRIPTURE LESSONS *Lecturas de la escritura*

Dr. Janet Loman

1 Peter 1:3-5, 13, 21 1 Corinthians 15:1-2, 12-20, 58

1 Peter 1:3-5, 13, 21 (New Revised Standard Version)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

1 Corinthians 15:1-2, 12-20, 58 (New Revised Standard Version)

Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then

Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Sermón* “There Really Is Something More” Rev. Norm Story

*CLOSING HYMN *Himno Final*

#233 “The Day of Resurrection!”

LANCASHIRE

GO IN GOD’S NAME

VAYAN EN EL NOMBRE DE DIÓS

BENEDICTION *Bendición*

*CHORAL BENEDICTION *Bendición Coral*

“Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise”

THANKFUL HEARTS

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

Liturgist – Greg Sherman Deacon Captain – Gracia Class

Sound System – Jonathan West Video – Will Schroeder



Join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments immediately following Worship this morning in the 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:

Wanda Mattiace – E Diana Howard – W Adwoa Serwaa Amankwaa - S

Greeting after Worship Service:

Greg Sherman – E Rev. Norm Story – W Lynne Carver – S

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

Please turn off all cell phones

Please remember in your prayers: Arnold and Cheri McMillan; Brian Otto; A.B. and Millie Conrad; Johanna Miller at the Heritage; Dorris Hamilton; Josie Fietze; Dave Schreuder; Bill and Virginia Haynes; Mary Olberg; Carol Bott; Rev. Marcus Burr; all who feel isolated in these troubled times; Presbyterian Church (USA); Deacons' Ministries; Tent City; Gospel Rescue Mission; 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.

Per Capita Apportionment

Every Presbyterian (USA) congregation is apportioned a share of the expenses of the Presbytery, the Synod, and the General Assembly. The apportionment is based on church membership. The amount to be paid by our congregation for the year 2022 is \$29.11 per member. Members may choose to contribute this amount, if they wish, thus freeing church funds for our ministries.

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

Covid19 precautions:

- Hand-sanitizer and wipes are located at each door.
- A purple box with slots for depositing your offering is located in each aisle.
- 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.

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, February 13, 2022

9:00-10:15 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library. We are
viewing and discussing "The Attributes of God" by Steven Lawson.

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, February 14, 2022

Rev. Story will be out of the office till March 1, 2022.

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

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

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

12:00 PM **DEADLINE for submissions for the Sunday bulletin**

4:00 PM Salt & Light (see announcement)

Thursday, February 17, 2022

6:30 PM Deacons meeting

Friday, February 18, 2022

The Good News Newsletter goes out on Saturdays. Please send submission to:
scotty.benaway@sbcglobal.net

Saturday, February 19, 2022

Sunday, February 20, 2022

9:00-10:15 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library. We are
viewing and discussing "The Attributes of God" by Steven Lawson.

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

CCLI License No. 540727



After Worship Fellowship: The sign-up board is in Jones Hall Fellowship area.

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.



Salt & Light – “Welcome Back! Winter Wonderland”

Children & Youth Ministry at First Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

4:00 – 6:30 PM

Dinner is at 5:50 PM

- If you plan to join us for dinner, please RSVP with the church office at 575-526-5559 by Monday 2/14/2022 between 9am-2pm. \$4.00 suggested donation.

Karen Candusso, Salt & Light Director

COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY UPDATES

Please join us as we continue to host small groups in our back yard when the weather permits. It will soon be Spring in New Mexico!

Please call Janet @ 575.202.4379 if you would like to join us!

Friends are always welcome.

ALSO

College and Young Adult Bible Study

will begin via Zoom on

Monday evenings @ 7:00PM beginning February 21, 2022

Please email Janet @ drjml@me.com for the link

and mark your calendars!

WE HAVE MISSED YOU AND ARE HOPING TO SEE YOU!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

2/18 – Caleb Taylor, Greg Sherman

2/19 – Dutch Matkin

2/20 – Don Rhodes

(If we missed your birthday, please call the office at 575-526-5559 or email Linda at linda@fpc.lc)

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!



IN-BETWEENERS for February

We plan to get together on the fourth Friday, February 25th at 6:30 pm in Watkins Fellowship Hall. Dinner will be catered Mexican food (\$10/person). Anyone who prefers to bring your own dinner is welcome to do that. More details will be coming later. Contact: Lyn and Judith Ames, 575-526-3247 or jkames@q.com.

An Invitation to Camerata Del Sol

Camerata Del Sol, Chamber Ensemble

Concert at First Presbyterian Church on Saturday, February 27, 2022

2:00 PM – Pre concert talk

3:00 PM – Concert

Donations at the door