

First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

3rd Sunday of Lent

March 20, 2022 - 10:30 A.M

Enter to worship – Leave to serve

PRELUDE *Preludio*

“Day of Sorrow” (From *Requiem*)

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus” John Duro (1911-1992)

“O God of Heaven, Help Us” (Reformation Chorale of 1524)

Johann Nicolaus Hanff (1665-1711)

**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 adoración

The Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it.” Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. (Genesis 4:6-7, 1 Peter 5:8 NRSV)

INTROIT *Introito*

“Be Thou My Vision”

SLANE

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Llamada a la adoración*

Adwoa Amankwaa

(from Psalm 103)

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul, do not forget all his benefits and who forgives
all your iniquity, and who heals all your diseases.

People: **The steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those
who fear him, 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.

*HYMN OF PRAISE *Himno de Alabanza*

#81 “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken” AUSTRIAN HYMN

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

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

Holy God, keeper of promises, you fill the empty aching of our lives with the comfort of your presence. You rejoice in us as your children even when we throw temper tantrums. You re-energize us with your grace even when we become complacent. Jesus Christ, giver of peace, we are not orphans of this world, but claimed as your sisters and brothers. You do not give up on us, but give yourself for our sakes, and you show us the path when we have lost our way. Holy Spirit, gentle Teacher, you go to bat for us when we are in a slump. You whisper the language of faith when we have forgotten the words. By your grace, hear us as we pray as one people, saying, **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*

“Holy God”
Choral Scholars

Suzanne Toolan

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

Almighty God, from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts and minds by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit. Gracious Lord, help us to unmask and bring before you the truth of our lives as honestly as we can. O Lord, may we not waste the opportunity of this precious time before you, with lies, disguises, hypocrisies, or self-deceptions that hinder our chance to be healed. O Lord, bring to our minds the time when we have sinned and failed to follow you, that we may confess and get out from under the burden of our fear and guilt. May we be transformed from our wayward ways by your loving mercy, and so be restored, encouraged and equipped to live out our faith anew into this world so much in need.

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: In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given, and died for us. For his sake God forgives all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ, he gives the power to become the children of God, and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. In the name of Jesus Christ, I declare that our sin is forgiven, and we can live more faithful lives. Thanks be to God.

People: **The Lord's name be praised. In Jesus Christ all our sin is forgiven. Amen.**

Leader: Now cleansed from our sin, how should we live in faithful response?

People: **Jesus said, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE *Himno de Seguridad*

#735 "I Need Thee Every Hour"

NEED

- Congregation to sing verses 1, 2, and 4
- Choral Scholars to sing verse 3

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Erin Taylor

Momento de buenas noticias para los discípulos jóvenes

- Children are asked to sit on the carpet squares in the front, and masks are optional for those who have been vaccinated.

CALL TO PRAYER *Llamada a La Oración*

"Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"

REST

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM *Himno* "You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord" ON EAGLE'S WINGS

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD
PROCLAMACIÓN DE LA PALABRA DE DIÓS

SCRIPTURE LESSONS *Lecturas de la escritura*

Janet Loman

Deuteronomy 31:7-13

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Deuteronomy 31:7-13 (New Revised Standard Version)

Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel: “Be strong and bold, for you are the one who will go with this people into the land that the Lord has sworn to their ancestors to give them; and you will put them in possession of it. It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.” Then Moses wrote down this law, and gave it to the priests, the sons of Levi, who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and to all the elders of Israel. Moses commanded them: “Every seventh year, in the scheduled year of remission, during the festival of booths, when all Israel comes to appear before the Lord your God at the place that he will choose, you shall read this law before all Israel in their hearing. Assemble the people—men, women, and children, as well as the aliens residing in your towns—so that they may hear and learn to fear the Lord your God and to observe diligently all the words of this law, and so that their children, who have not known it, may hear and learn to fear the Lord your God, as long as you live in the land that you are crossing over the Jordan to possess.”

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (New Revised Standard Version)

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.” We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Sermón*

“Easy and Comfortable Compromise”

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*

“May the Love of the Lord”

SOON TI

*POSTLUDE *Postludio*

Hymn Tune Improvisation

Howard A. Smolleck

Liturgist – Adwoa Amankwaa

Deacon Captain – Divine Mboh

Sound System – Max Schroeder

Video – Dina Schroeder



Join Us!

Annual Luncheon today in Watkins Hall following our Worship Service.

All are invited.

It will be a time to celebrate this past year and share some exciting ideas

for 2022 for First Presbyterian Church.

Donations will be accepted for the Youth and Children’s Ministry

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 Cecilia Mboh - S

Greeting after Worship Service:

Adwoa Amankwaa – E Erin Taylor – W Rev. Norm Story – S

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

Please turn off all cell phones

Please remember in your prayers: Don and Jean Rhodes; Cheri and Arnold McMillan; A.B. and Millie Conrad; Johanna Miller, Dorris Hamilton, Genevieve Ariege, and Norma Klein at the Heritage; Dave Schreuder; Mary Olberg; Carol Bott; Rev. Marcus Burr; all who feel isolated in these troubled times; Presbyterian Church (USA); Deacons' Ministries; Gospel Rescue Mission; Casa de Peregrinos food bank; Salvation Army; 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! 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.

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
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

3/24 – Michelle Nganou, Helen Rogers

3/25 – Olivia Heubo

3/26 – Rayma Claessen

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

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Buildings & Grounds spring work day is Saturday, April 9th from 8am-12:00pm.

Mark your calendars.

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, March 20, 2022 Congregational Luncheon

- 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 AM Adult Sunday School led by Larry Hicks in Branigan Hall. A six Sunday seminar on the “purpose and unity of the Bible.”
- 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 Congregational Luncheon in Watkins Hall

Monday, March 21, 2022

- 6:00 PM Bells rehearsal with Beth Thomas
- 7:00 PM Bells rehearsal with Beth Thomas

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

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

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

- 12:00 PM **DEADLINE for submissions for the Sunday bulletin**
No Salt & Light/Spring Break
- 7:00 PM Choir practice in the Sanctuary

Thursday, March 24, 2022

Friday, March 25, 2022

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

- 6:00 PM InBetweeners in Watkins Hall (see announcement)

Saturday, March 26, 2022

Sunday, March 27, 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 AM Adult Sunday School led by Larry Hicks in Branigan Hall. A six Sunday seminar on the “purpose and unity of the Bible.”
- 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
- 12:00 PM Sermon discussion in the Jones Hall Library with Rev. Story



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

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In-Betweeners for March

March 25th, InBetweeners will meet in Watkins Fellowship Hall at 6:00 PM for a planned potluck dinner. Following that, we'll hear a talk by local author Carlos Melendez. He will speak on his book "I Know Where the Bodies are Buried...Tales of the Founding Family of Las Cruces," which is about his own family. Please contact Lyn and Judith Ames, 575-526-3247 or jkames@q.com, by tomorrow, Monday, March 21st, to let us know you'll be coming.

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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.

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**No Salt & Light on March 23, 2022
for Spring Break**

The Mesilla Valley Concert Band is performing on March 20 at 3pm in Atkinson Hall. Alice Distlehorst and Vicki Kuyper are both members.



Easter Necessities...

Congregational Life & Outreach Support requests your help as we prepare for the Easter Egg Hunt for our children of FPC. We are now accepting donations of candy, small toys/trinkets, fruit snacks, granola bars, any non-perishable individually wrapped snacks/goodies. We are also in need of large plastic eggs. Donations can be left at the entrances of the Sanctuary or at the church office, from now through 4/10. Please

| contact Samantha for any questions at 575-373-

| 5606 or Samantha.co09@gmail.com. |