

First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

2nd Sunday of Easter

April 24, 2022 - 10:30 A.M

Enter to worship – Leave to serve

Entramos para adorar – Salimos para servir

The word "Rejoice" is written in a large, elegant, black cursive script. The letter 'R' is particularly large and features a long, sweeping tail that curves under the rest of the word. The overall style is classic and artistic.

PRELUDE <i>Preludio</i>	“On the Cross of Calvary”	Richard E. Gerig (1922-2021)
“Christ Is Risen, Alleluia!” (Medley of Resurrection Hymns)		Albin C. Whitworth (b. 1938)
“I Know That My Redeemer Liveth” (From <i>Messiah</i>)		Georg F. Handel (1685-1759)

**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

But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 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. Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. (1 Corinthians 15:57-58, 16:13-14 NRSV)

INTROIT *Introito* “O Lord, You Are My God and King”

JERUSALEM

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Llamada a la adoración*
(from Psalm 40)

Dinah Jentgen

Leader: I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

People: He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord. Blessed are those who make the Lord their trust, who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods.

Leader: You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you. Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted.

People: May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the Lord!" As for me, I am poor and needy, but the Lord takes thought for me. You are my help and my deliverer; do not delay, O my God.

*HYMN OF PRAISE *Himno de Alabanza*

#265 "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"

DUKE STREET

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

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

Lord, we praise you this morning for the love which grants us freedom and for the grace which allows us to dwell in peace. We praise you for the sun that shines upon our endeavors, and for the moon and the stars at night which remind us of your glory. We thank you for the many good things that you have bestowed upon us. Help us, O God, in this time of worship, and beyond, to have hearts that exalts in your grace and goodness, lips unafraid to proclaim your praise, and minds which are focused on living according your glorious and living word. We ask through Christ Jesus our Lord, who 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**

PLEASE BE SEATED *Tomen asiento por favor*

CALL TO CONFESSION *Llamada a la confesión*

"Have Mercy, God, upon My Life"

Choral Scholars

IRISH

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 live out your compassion and light to others. 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 your promises. May we be open to a vision of new possibilities and boldness in a life of faithfulness, integrity, and truthfulness. 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 Dios

(from 2 Corinthians 5:17-18)

Leader: Hear the Good News: "If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, that our sins are forgiven.

People: "All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us a ministry of reconciliation." Let us live new lives of Christian unity, faith, obedience, joy, and peace!

Leader: Let us declare what we believe using the Theological Declaration of Barmen.

People: Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death... Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. We reject as false doctrine that there are areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ.¹

HYMN OF ASSURANCE *Himno de Seguridad*

#250 "In the Bulb There Is a Flower"

PROMISE

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Chibuzo Chilaka

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.

¹ From "The Theological Statement of Barmen 1933", written by a group of church leaders in Germany to help Christians withstand the challenges of the Nazi party and of the so-called "German Christians," a popular movement that saw no conflict between Christianity and the ideals of Hitler's National Socialism.

CALL TO PRAYER *Llamada a La Oración*

“Here I Am, Lord”
Choral Scholars

HERE I AM

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM *Himno*

“Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers”

SUO GAN

➤ To follow text, see #231 in the Hymnal

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PROCLAMACIÓN DE LA PALABRA DE DIÓS

SCRIPTURE LESSONS *Lecturas de la escritura*

Dr. Janet Loman

Acts 5:27-35, 38-41 2 Timothy 4:1-2, 5-8

Acts 5:27-35, 38-41 (New Revised Standard Version)

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.” But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.” When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, respected by all the people, stood up and ordered the men to be put outside for a short time. Then he said to them, “Fellow Israelites, consider carefully what you propose to do to these men. So in the present case, I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone; because if this plan or this undertaking is of human origin, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them—in that case you may even be found fighting against God!” They were convinced by him, and when they had called in the apostles, they had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. As they left the council, they rejoiced that they were considered worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name.

2 Timothy 4:1-2, 5-8 (New Revised Standard Version)

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there

is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Sermón*

“I Have Kept the Faith”

Rev. Norm Story

*CLOSING HYMN *Himno Final*

#232 “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

EASTER HYMN

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

BENEDICTION *Bendición*

*CHORAL BENEDICTION *Bendición Coral*

“You Shall Go Out with Joy”

THE TREES OF THE FIELD

*POSTLUDE *Postludio*

Hymn Tune Improvisation

Howard A. Smolleck

Liturgist – Dinah Jentgen Deacon Captain – Gracia Class

Sound System – Rusty Smith Video – Brent Brewer



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 Regmi family.

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:

Patricia Adu-Mensah – E Adwoa Serwaa Amankwaa – W Linda Seaton – S

Greeting after Worship Service:

Rev. Norm Story – E Dinah Jentgen – W Chibuzo Chilaka – S

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

Please turn off all cell phones

Please remember in your prayers: John and Joyce Curry on the loss of their daughter; Donalee Bartholomew; A.B. and Millie Conrad; Johanna Miller, Dorris Hamilton, Genevieve Ariege, and Norma Klein at the Heritage; Dave Schreuder; Mary Olberg; Jay M. Allen; Carol Bott; Rev. Marcus Burr; all who feel isolated in these troubled times; Presbyterian Church (USA); Deacons' Ministries; Tent City; La Casa; St. Luke's Health Care Clinic; 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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- 4/25 – Greg Temple, Dot Otto
4/26 – Will Mattiace, Rebekah West
4/28 – Dominic Candusso
4/29 – Diana Howard

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

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, April 24, 2022

- 9:00-10:15 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library. We are viewing and discussing "Discovering Deuteronomy" by Robert Godfrey.
- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School led by Larry Hicks in Branigan Hall. Last class for this series 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

Monday, April 25, 2022

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

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

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

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

Thursday, April 28, 2022

Friday, April 29, 2022

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

Saturday, April 30, 2022

Sunday, May 1, 2022 Communion Sunday

- 9:00-10:15 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library. We are viewing and discussing "Discovering Deuteronomy" by Robert Godfrey.
- 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

CCLI License No. 540727



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

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Covid19 precautions:

- **Seating in West and South sections of the Sanctuary are unrestricted. The East section is reserved to those wishing to wear masks and social-distance.**
- 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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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!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 6-10

9am – noon for ages K-12

Contact info saltandlight@fpc.lc



