

First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

8th Sunday after Pentecost

July 31, 2022 - 10:30 A.M

Enter to worship – Leave to serve

PRELUDE *Preludio*

“O Worship the King”

Roger C. Wilson (1912-1988)

“O Word of God Incarnate”

Keith Kolander (b. 1955)

“Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord”

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

**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

When Jesus is asked who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven, he reaches into the crowd and pulls out a child with a cheek full of bubble gum and eyes full of whatever a child’s eyes are full of, and says unless you can become like that, don’t bother to ask.

Frederick Buechner in “Telling the Truth”

INTROIT *Introito*

“Come Thou, Almighty King”

ITALIAN HYMN

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Llamada a la adoración*

Adwoa Serwaa Amankwaa

(from John 1)

Leader: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

People: **He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.**

Leader: And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth. From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

People: **The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE *Himno de Alabanza*

#363 “Rejoice, the Lord Is King!”

DARWALL’S 148TH

*PRAYER OF ADORATION (unison) *Oración de adoración (al unísono)*

Lord of All, your love and your faithfulness are unending, and sustain us in ways beyond our understanding. You care for us and hear our prayers, even when we are selfish, foolish, or muddle our words. You make things come out right even when we have given up in despair. How awesome and wise are your ways, O Lord! We thank you. Allow us to see you with the eyes of faith, and to hear with understanding what you say to us. Awaken in us a longing to do what is right. O may our focus be upon you, that we may find faith and life, healing and hope. **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*

#274 “You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd”

PICARDY

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

Our God of mercy and gracious goodness, you have asked us to serve you in sincerity and faithfulness. We confess that sometimes we go through the motions without really meaning what we have said and done. You have asked us to serve you, but so often we worship lesser and false gods instead. You are a holy God who loves us, and so you sent Jesus to forgive our sins. Forgive us for neglecting you and following foolish and worldly distractions. Forgive us for not being ready and willing when you have called us. Help us awaken to your mercy and pardon, to your call and challenge to our complacency, and hereafter may we walk in sincerity and faithfulness with you, as guided by your Holy Spirit.

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: Thanks be to God; all our sins are forgiven and gone. Amen.

Leader: What is the foundation upon which we can trust and live in hope?

People: In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we

worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.¹

HYMN OF ASSURANCE *Himno de Seguridad*

#192 “Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining” SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

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.

CALL TO PRAYER *Llamada a La Oración*

“Holy Spirit, Come to Us”
Chancel Choir

TUI AMORIS IGNEM

PASTORAL PRAYER *Oración Pastoral*

ANTHEM *Himno*

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

ST. COLUMBA

➤ To follow text, see Hymn #802 in Hymnal (verses 1, 2, 3, and 6)

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PROCLAMACIÓN DE LA PALABRA DE DIÓS

SCRIPTURE LESSONS *Lecturas de la escritura*

Dr. Janet Loman

John 16:12-15

John 18:28-38

John 16:12-15 (New Revised Standard Version)

‘I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

John 18:28-38 (New Revised Standard Version)

Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate’s headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said, ‘What accusation

¹ Lines 1-18, “The Brief Statement of Faith”, adopted by PC(USA) in 1993.

do you bring against this man?’ They answered, ‘If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.’ Pilate said to them, ‘Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.’ The Jews replied, ‘We are not permitted to put anyone to death.’ (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.) Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’ Jesus answered, ‘Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?’ Pilate replied, ‘I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?’ Jesus answered, ‘My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.’ Pilate asked him, ‘So you are a king?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.’ Pilate asked him, ‘What is truth?’

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Sermón*

“Discerning the Truth”

Dr. Janet Loman

*CLOSING HYMN *Himno Final*

#268 “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

DIADEMATA

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 – Adwoa Serwaa Amankwaa Deacon Captain – Divine Mboh

Sound System – Max Schroeder Video – Dina 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 Montgomery 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 Diana Howard – W Wanda Mattiace - S

Greeting after Worship Service:

Adwoa Serwaa Amankwaa – E Dr. Janet Loman – W Chibuzo Chilaka – S

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

Please turn off all cell phones

Please remember in your prayers: Susan Trumble and family on the passing of her mother Virginia Kraner; Charlotte Brockway; Joyce Hill; Rev. Jay Bishop; Nancy Cowan; Johanna Miller, Dorris Hamilton, Genevieve Ariege, and Norma Klein at the Heritage; Jay M. Allen; Rev. Marcus Burr; all who feel isolated in these troubled times; Presbyterian Church (USA); Deacons’ Ministries; “El Caldito” soup kitchen; Salvation Army; Missionaries Joel and Barbara Trudell, Cape Town, South Africa.

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.

Covid19 precautions:

- **Seating in West and South sections of the Sanctuary are unrestricted. The East section is reserved for 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.

Donations to support your church can be done in a variety of ways. Thank you for your continued generosity and faithful giving.

- 1) Cash or check in the offering (purple boxes in the Sanctuary)
- 2) Check sent by mail
- 3) Church website: fpc.lc and click on the "heart" icon or fpc.lc/giving or scan QR code
- 4) Smartphone App: Church Center
- 5) Text 84321



7/31 – Brent Brewer, Ainslie Boswell

8/01 – Cheri McMillan

8/02 – Jeremy Borchert, Arnold McMillan

8/04 – Nancy Cox, Kaaren Morehart

8/06 – Judy Hicks, Gerald Carson

8/07 – Scott Burns, Margaret Burr, Prisca Heubo, Gary Brockway

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

Take our church shopping with you!

We have First Presbyterian tote bags, for your shopping forays in Las Cruces. If you wish, you can make a donation to offset our cost, but if you can't afford a donation, please take a tote anyway. The main idea is to use it frequently and share the Good News!

How do you get one? Just go to the fellowship area in Jones Hall and pick one up it's – self – serve.

Thanks,

On behalf of the Congregational Life & Outreach Support team.

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, July 31, 2022

9:00-10:15 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library. We are viewing and discussing the "Lord's Prayer" video series by Albert Mohler, which will run through July.

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

9:15 AM Choir rehearsal with Beth Thomas in the Sanctuary

10:30 AM Worship Service

Monday, August 1, 2022

Tuesday, August 2, 2022

3:00 PM Listening Prayer in the Jones Hall Parlor.

Call Mary Maley at 269-209-4357 if you have questions.

6-8:00PM Watkins Hall in use

Wednesday, August 3, 2022

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

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

Thursday, August 4, 2022

The Good News Newsletter goes out on Saturdays. Please send submissions to:

scotty.benaway@sbcglobal.net

Friday, August 5, 2022

Saturday, August 6, 2022

Sunday, August 7, 2022 Communion Sunday

9:00-10:15 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library.

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

9:15 AM Choir rehearsal with Beth Thomas in the Sanctuary

10:30 AM Worship Service

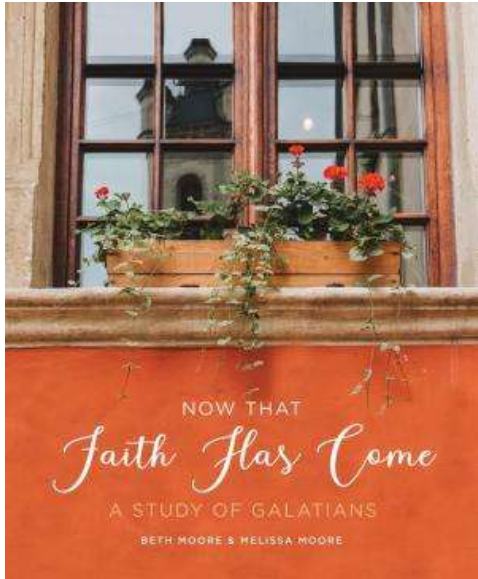
12:00 PM Sermon discussion in the Jones Hall Library with Rev. Story

CCLI License No. 540727

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

Jennie Curry Bible Study



The Jennie Curry Bible Study invites all women who share a love of God and Scripture to join our Bible Study. We meet on the first Thursday of the month in Jones Hall at 6:30 PM. We plan to begin our new study on 1 September.

Now That Faith Has Come, A Study of Galatians won the 2022 ECPA (Evangelical Christian Publishers Association) Award. Bestselling authors Beth Moore and Melissa Moore present a 6-week deep dive into Paul's captivating letter to the Galatians, which is wildly interesting and astonishingly relevant to our world today.

Join us as we get to know the letter's original recipients, study its original context, and embrace its timeless relevance. The historical background will expand our understanding of times and customs. We will rediscover what made the Gospel of Jesus Christ revolutionary to those who chose to believe. We'll explore how Jesus changed everything - now that faith has come.

The eternal words God entrusted to Paul for the churches of Galatia are as needed today as they were when the ink was still wet on the ancient pages.

Please call Kathy Story at 575.202.2667 or email storyk@comcast.net for more information and to place an order for your class workbook.

A Note Concerning the Children's Activity Bags

Activity bags are provided for the enjoyment and edification of children during the Sunday Worship service, and we welcome their use. The contents of the bags are checked and renewed each week in an attempt to reflect current worship or seasonal themes.

We have observed that several of the bags have been missing recently. If your child took one home by mistake, please return it as soon as convenient.

Please keep the bags in the Sanctuary. Leave them on a pew or hang them on one of the hooks near the doors after the service.

Thank you,

Esther Smolleck



Columbarium: To reserve a place or to obtain further information regarding the Columbarium come by the church office and pick up a *Columbarium Information Packet*. It describes the policies governing the Columbarium, a contract and a description of purchase options, it also includes answers to frequently asked questions.

Drivers Needed! With the lifting of COVID restrictions, First Presbyterian once again needs bus drivers to pick-up and drop-off parishioners for Sunday services. Please contact Wanda Mattiace, Deacon Moderator at wmm2812@gmail.com if you are willing and able to help. Requirement: An ordinary, valid New Mexico driver's license.



Hosting Fellowship after Worship

Let's get together! After the Worship service each Sunday, we gather in Jones Hall across from the church office. There are snacks and cold beverages, but most importantly, there are friends new and old to meet and greet. Please come! If you'd like to host a Fellowship Time some Sunday, that would be much appreciated. Hosting fellowship time is easy and the Congregational Life Committee is happy to train you (takes about 5 minutes). The snacks are provided or you can bring your own. See the signup board in the fellowship area for more information, or contact Rosalyn Stolee or Lon Anderson.

Food Baskets: Please bring a nonperishable food item every Sunday for Casa de Peregrinos, the emergency food bank. Baskets are located at each of the entrances to the Sanctuary.

Church office hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm