

First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 28, 2022 - 10:30 A.M

Enter to worship – Leave to serve



PRELUDE *Preludio*

“Reverence”

Bertha R. Frick (1918-2019)

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

Robert J. Hughes (1916-1999)

Variations on “How Firm a Foundation”

Austin C. Lovelace (1919-2010)

**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 you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. (1 Peter 2:9-11 NRSV)

INTROIT *Introito*

“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

LOBE DEN HERREN

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Llamada a la adoración*

Rebekah West

(from Psalm 119)

Leader: I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous ordinances.

People: I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you. Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

Leader: Let my supplication come before you; deliver me according to your promise. My lips will pour forth praise, because you teach me your statutes.

People: I long for your salvation, O Lord, and your law is my delight. Let me live that I may praise you, and let your ordinances help me.

*HYMN OF PRAISE *Himno de Alabanza*

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (unison)Oración de adoración y la oración del Señor (al unísono)*

O Lord, you are the great “I Am,” you are our Creator and Sustainer, you have shown us in the Person of Christ Jesus how to live in faith. We know that you ARE, that you are good, and that you hear our prayers. This certainty gives us deep joy and stability when the world around us seems anything but joyful or stable. To you, we offer our praise this day and every day that we breathe, until someday we praise you with the multitude of saints and angels. **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*

#791 “For You, My God, I Wait”

SPRINGTIME

- Choir to sing verses 1-3
- Congregation to sing verses 4-6

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 in you. 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*

Leader: There is no brokenness that God cannot heal, no sin too terrible for God to forgive. The proof is this: Christ’s death and resurrection have made us a new

creation set free from brokenness and the hopelessness of sin. Friends, believe the Good News, all our sin is forgiven. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

People: Alleluia! We are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.

Leader: What does Scripture teach and declare about God?

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. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (from The Brief Statement of Faith, 1993)

HYMN OF ASSURANCE *Himno de Seguridad*

#462 "I Love to Tell the Story"

HANKEY

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Chi 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*

#467 "Give Us Light"

JYOTHI DHO

PASTORAL PRAYER *Oración Pastoral*

ANTHEM *Himno*

"When the Poor Ones"

EL CAMINO

➤ To follow text see hymn #762 in Hymnal

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD
PROCLAMACIÓN DE LA PALABRA DE DIÓS

Titus 2:11-14, 3:1-7

Hebrews 12:28-29, 13:1-5, 16, 20-21, 25

Titus 2:11-14, 3:1-7 (New Revised Standard Version)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarrelling, to be gentle, and to show every courtesy to everyone. For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, despicable, hating one another. But when the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Hebrews 12:28-29, 13:1-5, 16, 20-21, 25 (New Revised Standard Version)

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire. Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do his will, working among us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen. Grace be with all of you.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Sermón*

"How Can We Know For Sure?"

Rev. Norm Story

*CLOSING HYMN #722 "Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak"

CANONBURY

GO IN GOD'S NAME

VAYAN EN EL NOMBRE DE DIÓS

BENEDICTION *Bendición*

*CHORAL BENEDICTION *Bendición Coral*

“I Love to Tell the Story”

HANKEY

*POSTLUDE *Postludio*

Hymn Tune Improvisation

Howard A. Smolleck

Liturgist – Rebekah West

Deacon Captain – Gracia Class

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 Deacons.

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 Patricia Adu-Mensah – W Dennis Thomas- S

Greeting after Worship Service:

Rev. Norm Story – E Rebekah West – W Chi Chilaka – S

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

Please turn off all cell phones

Please remember in your prayers: Clyde and Juanita Treat; Ben and Vanessa Medina and family on the passing of Ben’s mother; Nancy Tasker Johnson on the passing of her brother; Kaaren Morehart; Joyce Hill; Rev. Jay Bishop; Johanna Miller, Dorris Hamilton, Genevieve Ariege, and Norma Klein at the Heritage; Rev. Marcus Burr; all who feel isolated in these troubled times; Presbyterian Church (USA); Deacons’ Ministries; “El Caldito” soup kitchen; Gospel Rescue Mission; 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.

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



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

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, August 28, 2022

- 9:00-10:15 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library.
We are viewing and discussing "The Book of Ruth: A Journey of Faith."
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
11:45 AM After-Worship Fellowship in Jones Hall
12:00 PM Sermon discussion in the Jones Hall Library with Rev. Story

Monday, August 29, 2022

Rusty Smith on vacation

Tuesday, August 30, 2022

- 3:00 PM Listening Prayer in the Jones Hall Parlor.
Call Mary Maley at 269-209-4357 if you have questions.

Wednesday, August 31, 2022

- 9:30 AM Staff meeting, office will be closed during meeting.
12:00 PM **DEADLINE for submissions for the Sunday bulletin**

Thursday, September 1, 2022

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

- 6:30 PM Jennie Curry in the Jones Hall Library (see announcement)

Friday, September 2, 2022

Saturday, September 3, 2022

Sunday, September 4, 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 "The Book of Ruth: A Journey of Faith."
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
11:45 AM After-Worship Fellowship in Jones Hall
12:00 PM Sermon discussion in the Jones Hall Library with Rev. Story

Monday, September 5, 2022

Office will be closed

CCLI License No. 540727



- 8/28 – Henrica Misquez
8/31 – Roger Sellers
9/01 – Corina Armendariz
9/02 – Ebenezer Tumban
9/03 – Kate Puckett, Richard Myers

9/04 – Juanita Treat

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



Nominating Committee needs your help!

The Nominating Committee has been working very hard to find new Deacons and Elders for the coming years. For a variety of reasons, we need to replace several of each. We are seeking those members of our church to help serve in different capacities on the church’s committees that keep our church and community going. We are also looking for help for the various committees that the church has set up. If asked to serve, please say yes. If you’d like to help a committee, let one of us know by phone call, email or in person. We need your help! We need you!

Brent Brewer	206-819-7717	Paul Deason	575-644-8427
Karen Candusso	575-618-9474	Jim Parks	575-640-8180
Carl Connor	575-524-4706	Linda Ward	575-541-7470

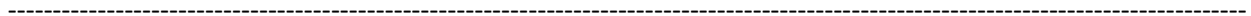


Hosting Fellowship after Worship

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 at sdroses4u@aol.com or Lon Anderson at lonandenise@q.com



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.

A Sunday School Seminar by Larry Hicks

Beginning Sunday, September 11 at 9:00 am, Larry Hicks will offer a 10 week seminar in Branigan Hall: "A Mere Christian: the Life and Writings of C.S. Lewis." Please email Larry at pttptt45@gmail.com if you will be attending.

Jennie Curry Bible Study



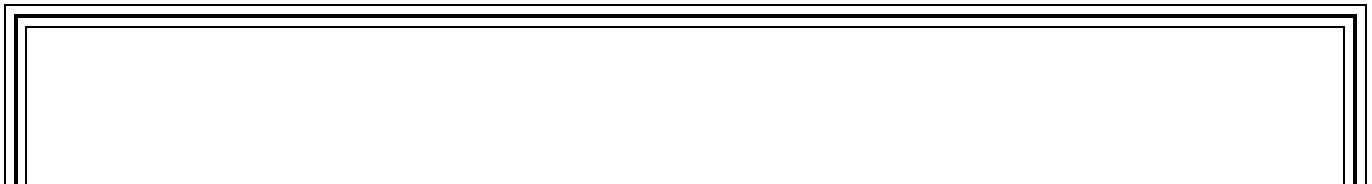
The Jennie Curry Bible Study invites all women who share a love of God and Scripture to join our Bible Study. We meet on the first Thursday of the month in Jones Hall at 6:30 PM. **We plan to begin our new study on 1 September.**

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.





**COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULT
DINNER NIGHT MINISTRY**

at

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LAS CRUCES

We will be celebrating Fall Semester 2022
with an outdoor picnic in the back yard of Steve and Janet Loman

on

Friday, September 9, at 6:00PM

1622 West Union Avenue

88005

College and Young Adult Bible Study

begins on

Monday evening, September 12, @ 7:00PM

on Zoom

Please call Janet @ 575.202.4379 or

E-mail @ drjml@me.com

WE ARE HOPING TO SEE YOU! - FRIENDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

If you need a ride, please let us know.

---Flyers are at each door of the Sanctuary if you would like to pick one up.