

First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

14th Sunday after Pentecost

September 11, 2022 - 10:30 A.M

Enter to worship – Leave to serve



PRELUDE *Preludio* “The Ninety and Nine” Ira D. Sankey (1840-1908)
“The Lord Is My Shepherd” (Hymn Tune of 1846) Gordon Young (1919-1998)
Variations on “Lord Jesus, Think on Me” (Hymnal #417) Don Freudenburg (b. 1939)

**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

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy..., and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. (1 Timothy 1:12-14 NRSV)

INTROIT *Introito* “Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy” RESTORATION

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Llamada a la adoración* Linda Ward
(from Psalm 23)

Leader: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.

People: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.

Leader: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

People: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

*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, may we never forget the infinite blessing of your willingness to hear our prayers, and that you are always present with us. Thank you for bringing us through life's storms and through the dry, questioning seasons of our lives. This day, may we hear your grace and feel your mercy as we come before you in worship, and in response, may we bend and bow to your will and purpose for us. Help us, Holy Spirit, to worship in truthful and joyful expectation. Lord, we know that we are here today because you brought us and have something special for us, some message of grace and hope. May we receive, and not reject or deny, your gift of love, as we pray the prayer Jesus taught His disciples...**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*

#415 “Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy” (verses 2, 3, & 4) RESTORATION

- Choir to sing verses 2,3, & 4
- Congregation to sing refrain

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

God of justice, through your servants and prophets you have made known your desire for peace and harmony to include the whole human family. Through Jesus, you have shared your vision of a caring community where every person is honored and valued. We confess that we often blur that vision by our attitude toward others. Sometimes we devalue the talents and work of other people, neglecting to see them as an intentional part of your precious creation and purpose. Have mercy on us, O gracious Savior. Help us to live more faithfully as your stewards, by treating others and all of your creation with more care.

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: Friends, hear the Good News. Jesus died and rose again, overthrowing the powers of sin and death, and he did it for the sake of the world. We are enslaved no longer by the powers of darkness. We are set free to follow Jesus. Friends, believe the Good News, in Jesus Christ all our sins are forgiven.

People: Believing and trusting the Good News, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven and set free to follow Jesus. Thanks be to God.

Leader: Now cleansed from sin, what would God have us to do?

People: The Lord has told us what is good; and what does the Lord require of us, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE *Himno de Seguridad*

#649 “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound” AMAZING GRACE

- Congregation to sing verses 1, 2, & 5
- Choir to sing verses 3 & 4

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Judith Ames

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*

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” RESIGNATION

PASTORAL PRAYER *Oración Pastoral*

ANTHEM *Himno*

“A Woman and a Coin”

LIFE RESTORED

- To follow text see hymn # 173 in the Hymnal

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PROCLAMACIÓN DE LA PALABRA DE DIÓS

SCRIPTURE LESSONS *Lecturas de la escritura*

Dr. Janet Loman

Matthew 18:1-5, 12-14 Luke 15:1-10

Matthew 18:1-5, 12-14 (New Revised Standard Version)

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” He called a child, whom he put among them, and said, “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. What do you think? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost.

Luke 15:1-10 (New Revised Standard Version)

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So he told them this parable: “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Sermón*

“Still Restoring the Beloved Lost”

Rev. Norm Story

*CLOSING HYMN *Himno Final*

#223 “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

HAMBURG

GO IN GOD’S NAME

VAYAN EN EL NOMBRE DE DIÓS

BENEDICTION *Bendición*

*CHORAL BENEDICTION *Bendición Coral*

“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

RESTORATION

*POSTLUDE *Postludio*

Hymn Tune Improvisation

Howard A. Smolleck

Liturgist – Linda Ward

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.

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:

Linda Ward – E Judith Ames – W Rev. Norm Story – S

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

Please turn off all cell phones

Please remember in your prayers: Gerald and Carol Carson; Bill and JoAnn Kersting on the passing of their son Michael Kersting; Clyde and Juanita Treat; 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; 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.

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



**Salt & Light – “Welcome Back!”
Wednesday, September 14, 2022**

4:00-6:30 PM Grades K-12th

5:50 PM - Salt & Light Dinner,
\$5.00 suggested donation, but any amount is appreciated

Please call the church office with a reservation by Monday at 526-5559 between 9am-2pm to let us know that you will be joining us for dinner.

- We are also accepting donations if you would like to sponsor a child. Contact information: Karen Candusso saltandlight@fpc.lc or 575-618-9474

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 contact tracing later, we can contact those who were present.



**Deacon’s Hamburger Fry Sunday, October 9th.
Mark your calendar!**

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, September 11, 2022

- 9:00-10:15 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library. The class will begin to view and discuss a video Bible study series on the Book of Ruth.
- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School, "A Mere Christian: the Life and Writings of C.S. Lewis" in Branigan Hall with Larry Hicks.
- 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 12, 2022

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

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

- 9:45 AM Mary Martha Circle Bible study in the Library (see announcement)
- 3:00 PM Listening Prayer in the Jones Hall Parlor.
Call Mary Maley at 269-209-4357 if you have questions.
- 7:00 PM Committee meetings in Jones Hall.

Wednesday, September 14, 2022

- 9:30 AM Staff meeting, office will be closed during meeting.
- 8:00-1:00PM Soup Kitchen (see announcement)
- 12:00 PM **DEADLINE for submissions for the Sunday bulletin**
- 4:00 PM Salt & Light (see announcement)

Thursday, September 15, 2022

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

- 6:30 PM Deacons meeting in Jones Hall Library

Friday, September 16, 2022

Saturday, September 17, 2022

Sunday, September 18, 2022 Bible Sunday

- 9:00-10:15 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library. The class is viewing and discussing a video Bible study series on the Book of Ruth.
- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School, "A Mere Christian: the Life and Writings of C.S. Lewis" in Branigan Hall with Larry Hicks.
- 9:00 – 11:45 AM Childcare in Branigan Hall
- 9:00 AM Sunday School for grades K-5 in Branigan Hall
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9/11 – Rev. Jay Bishop
 9/12 – Bea Connor
 9/15 – Heather Spencer,
 Penelope Printz
 9/16 – Will Schroeder, Brian Otto

(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



September is here. Time for the **Mary Martha Circle** Bible study to meet. All ladies are invited to join us on Tuesday, September 13, at 9:45 AM in the church library for a social time. Then at 10:00, we will begin our exploration of the OT book of Jeremiah. Our new Bible study leader is Ada Castle, who has a wealth of knowledge of the Bible. If you have questions please call Helen Moser at 575.647.3365 or Cheri McMillan at 575.526.2395.



In-Betweeners Coming Up

In-Betweeners will be getting together in Watkins Fellowship Hall at 6:00 on Friday evening, September 23rd. Watch for more details.

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



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.



INTERNATIONAL POTLUCK LUNCHEON

Sunday, September 25th in Watkins Hall following Worship

Please join us with a dish to share in
fellowship with families from around the world.

Please drop off your dish prior to worship (10:15 AM)

Please contact Rosalyn Stolle and let her know that you will be bringing a dish at
stoleerosalyn4@gmail.com or 575-915-5743



El Caldito Soup Kitchen

For more than 20 years, the First Presbyterian Church has supported the soup kitchen known as “El Caldito” by providing volunteers to prepare and serve food. Volunteers are urgently needed. Please prayerfully consider how often you can help then contact Rusty Smith. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

The mission of El Caldito is to provide a healthy meal in a safe and clean environment for any hungry person.

A hot nutritious meal is served daily, Sunday through Friday, to everyone who comes to their dining room for lunch. A take-out sack lunch is offered on Saturdays.

There is no charge to guests and the only qualification to receive food is hunger. All food preparation is done by volunteers, using donated foodstuffs from various sources in the community.

Volunteer information and requirements:

Our church prepares and serves on the second Wednesday of each month from about 8:00AM to 1:00PM. A minimum of 8 volunteers are needed to complete a “crew”. The day’s crew leader will assign duties.

New volunteers are given an on-site orientation to kitchen procedures by experienced workers. There is no formal training program. Volunteers are expected to “sign in and out” to indicate the number of hours worked each day.

Ages under 15: Must be accompanied by a responsible adult

Attire: Kitchen volunteers wear clean clothes and closed-toe shoes. Shoulders and midriff are covered and pants or jeans are worn around the waist. Longer shorts are acceptable.

Hair is covered, using a hairnet, baseball cap, bandana, or other head covering, and long hair is tied back. Hairnet is provided.

An apron is worn in the kitchen, and disposable gloves are worn when handling food. Gloves are changed between tasks. Apron and disposable gloves are provided.

If you haven’t volunteered for a while or would like to volunteer, please let Rusty Smith (575-642-5069) know of your interest.