

First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

19th Sunday after Pentecost

October 16, 2022 - 10:30 A.M

Enter to worship – Leave to serve



PRELUDE

“His Eye Is on the Sparrow”

Albin C. Whitworth (b. 1938)

“Lay Your Burdens Down”

Donald Lee Moore (1910-2000)

“Festive Trumpet Tune”

David German (b. 1954)

****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

MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!” (Luke 11:11-13 NRSV)

CHORAL INTROIT

“Let Us Rejoice”

John Yarrington

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Kuyper

(Psalm 96)

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

People: **Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised. Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.**

Leader: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.

People: **Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts. Worship the Lord in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE #12 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

ST. DENIO

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

Holy God, the heavens declare your wonder and glory, the earth your abundant riches, and humanity your creative diversity. The universe is your temple, and we, your people, are your dwelling place. You have made us what we are; you have given us all that we have. In you we have our purpose and being. Through our worship, may our praise be authentic and pleasing to you. May we be rooted in your word and Spirit, our affections re-set on following your will, for we desire to draw nearer to your truth. May we live in joyful and faithful fellowship with you. Now, we pray as Jesus 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

CALL TO CONFESSION #422 "Create in Me a Clean Heart" CREATE IN ME

- Choir to sing first time
- Congregation to join second time

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of majesty, you have given us your words of eternal life. Forgive us for taking too lightly this gift; for hearing your Word, but not obeying your will; for treating your Word as just one among many; for choosing that which pleases us and ignoring that which challenges us; for allowing the noise of our busy lives to distract us from your loving voice; for keeping silent instead of shouting aloud the truth of your rule and the wonder of your love. For these and all our sins against your will, forgive us, O God, we pray. From your boundless grace, grant us the power to live new lives, lived according to your will and purpose. May we be more responsive to your living Word in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: Having confessed our sin before God who loves us and who saves us, let us walk anew. God calls us with a holy calling, not because of our good works, but because of God's own gracious love through Christ Jesus. Friends, believe the good news, all our sins are forgiven.

People: **By God's grace we are loved and saved. Through the redeeming blood of Christ, our sin is forgiven, thanks be to God. Amen.**

Leader: And so what do we believe concerning the Good News?

People: **This is the Good News which we received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved: that Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day; and that he**

appeared to the women at the tomb, to Peter, then to the Twelve and to many faithful witnesses. We believe he is the Christ, the Son of the living God. He is the first and the last, the beginning and the end. He is our Lord, our Savior, and our God. Amen.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

“Grace”

Arr. Bill Ingram

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Judith Ames

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Waft Her, Angels, Through the Skies”

G.F. Handel

From the Oratorio Jephtha

Bryan Berard, Tenor

Jeonai Batista, Piano

CALL TO PRAYER

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

CHILDREN PRAYING

Chancel Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

“God’s Mercy”

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Dr. Janet Loman

Deuteronomy 4:31-32, 37-39

Luke 18:1-8

Deuteronomy 4:31-32, 37-39 (New Revised Standard Version)

Because the Lord your God is a merciful God, he will neither abandon you nor destroy you; he will not forget the covenant with your ancestors that he swore to them. ³²For ask now about former ages, long before your own, ever since the day that God created human beings on the earth; ask from one end of heaven to the other: has anything so great as this ever happened or has its like ever been heard of? ³⁷And because he loved your ancestors, he chose their descendants after them. He brought you out of Egypt with his own presence, by his great power, ³⁸driving out before you, nations greater and mightier than yourselves, to bring you in, giving you their land for a possession, as it is still today. ³⁹So acknowledge today and take to heart that the Lord is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other.

Luke 18:1-8 (New Revised Standard Version)

¹Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, ‘In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, “Grant me

justice against my opponent.”⁴For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, “Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone,⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.”⁶And the Lord said, ‘Listen to what the unjust judge says.⁷And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them?’⁸I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?’

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON “On Speaking Terms with God” Rev. Norm Story

*CLOSING HYMN #697 “Take My Life” HENDON

GO IN GOD’S NAME

BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION “Go In Peace” Arr. J.A. Shafferman
Mary Maley and Rebekah West, Handbells

*POSTLUDE Hymn Tune Improvisation Howard A. Smolleck

Liturgist – Bill Kuyper Deacon Captain – Divine Mboh

Sound System – Rusty Smith Video – Brent & Alonzo 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 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:

Cecilia Mboh – E Patricia Adu-Mensah – W Dennis Thomas - S

Greeting after Worship Service:

Rev. Norm Story – E Bill Kuyper – W Judith Ames – S

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

Please turn off all cell phones

Please remember in your prayers: Jean O'Neill; Chris and Helen Rogers and family; 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; "El Caldito" soup kitchen; Salvation Army; Community of Hope; 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

Covid19 precautions:

- **Seating in West and South sections of the Sanctuary is 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.



10/16 – Gena Breck

10/17 – Kathy Story, Curtis Benaway, Lauren Mattiace

10/19 – Donna Farmer, Claudia Sanchez, Laura Conniff

10/20 – Larry Felhauer

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



**Salt & Light – “Hats Off to all Our Volunteers! Thank You”
Wednesday, October 19, 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
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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



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, October 16, 2022

- 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
- 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, October 17, 2022

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

- 3:00 PM Listening Prayer in the Jones Hall Parlor.
Call Mary Maley at 269-209-4357 if you have questions.
- 7:00 PM Session meeting in the Library

Wednesday, October 19, 2022

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

Thursday, October 20, 2022

- The Good News Newsletter goes out on Saturdays. Please send submissions to:
scotty.benaway@sbcglobal.net
- 6:30 PM Deacons meeting in the Library

Friday, October 21, 2022

Saturday, October 22, 2022

Sunday, October 23, 2022

- 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
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IN-BETWEENERS SAVE THE DATE!

On our regular fourth Friday, October 28th, we plan to get together in Watkins Fellowship Hall at 6:00 PM. Dinner this time will be catered. After dinner, the Burrs will be taking us to count albatrosses on Sand Island in the Midway Atoll.

For planning purposes, please be sure to let us know that you plan to come by Monday, October 23rd. Contact: the Ames, 575-526-3247, or jkames@g.com, or just catch us on Sunday.

Bryan Berard, tenor Choral Scholar will be performing his senior voice recital on Friday evening, October 21. The recital will be at Atkinson Recital Hall on NMSU campus at 7:30 p.m. All are invited to attend. Bryan will be accompanied by Jeonai Batista, also a tenor Choral Scholar.

College and Young Adult Bible Study

continues on

Monday evenings, at 7:00PM

on Zoom

If you need the link

please call Janet @ 575.202.4379 or

E-mail @ drjml@me.com

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

Join in all the fun!



If you would like to donate bags of individually wrapped candy for Trunk or Treat please bring it by the church office. **Monday-Friday, 9am to 2pm.**





Trunk or Treat Is Coming! Monday, October 31 (6 to 8 pm)

What is It? Trunk or Treat is an important congregational outreach to our community, sponsored by the Congregational Life and Outreach ministry team. It is a great chance to serve our neighborhood. The essence of Trunk or Treat is serving kids candy from the trunks of our cars in a safe, fun environment. But there is much more, including music, food, crafts, and games.

We need your help! **This event is totally dependent on our congregation to be successful.**

Further information: Contact Lon Anderson, lonandenise@q.com Or, call the church office at 526-5559 and leave your information with Linda.

Yes! I want to participate in one or more of the following ways:

	<i>Give out candy from my car trunk with optional car decoration</i>
	<i>Run a booth for a pre-planned game (ducks, bowling, bean bags, etc.)</i>
	<i>Devise my own game or craft booth</i>
	<i>Kitchen duty and serving food (hot cocoa, nachos, popcorn, etc.)</i>
	<i>Donate extra candy (individually wrapped)</i>
	<i>Table setup (planning to set up 4 pm on the 31st)</i>
	<i>Take-down</i>
	<i>Clean up kitchen</i>
	<i>Lighting, power strips, extension cords</i>
	<i>Bring a pre-carved pumpkin for pumpkin contest</i>
	<i>Baking undecorated sugar cookies (deliver to church office by Sunday, Oct 30)</i>
	<i>Other (fill in the blank):</i>

My name is _____ My phone is _____

My email is _____

Donations of candy, small toys/trinkets, fruit snacks, granola bars, any non-perishable individually wrapped snacks/goodies can be dropped at the entrances of the Sanctuary and at the office.

