

First Presbyterian Church
Las Cruces, New Mexico
21st Sunday after Pentecost – Reformation Sunday
October 30, 2022 - 10:30 A.M
Enter to worship – Leave to serve

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed 95 Theses to the door of the All Saints Church in Wittenberg to raise questions about the teaching of the church in his time and look to the Bible for the answers. He didn't know it, but it was the beginning of a revolution—one that John Calvin and John Knox continued, and many others followed. The Bible proclaims salvation by Grace through Faith in Christ alone to the Glory of God. These are the five main points of the Reformation, or the Five Solas:

Sola Gratia (Grace Alone): God is motivated to save us by His own love and grace, not by our merits. His heart is for us and His unconditional love is what causes Him to extend to us the free gift of salvation.

Solus Christus (Christ Alone): Jesus is the only mediator between God and humankind. We need no priesthood to connect us with God, only Jesus and His own Spirit in us.

Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone): How do we know what is true, especially about the character of God and our relationship with Him? The inspired Word of God reveals it. The Word has authority to correct tradition, churches, church councils and all leaders.

Sola Fide (Faith Alone): We are saved by faith, not by works. Our salvation depends on our faith in Christ and what He has done, not on anything we do. Our only work is to believe.

Soli Deo Gloria (To God's Glory Alone): We live into the great affirmation of the Westminster Catechism, "the chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever." All we do as followers of Jesus—and as His church—is to bring glory to God alone.

PRELUDE

"This Our Song of Praise" William Stickles (1882-1971)

"Faith of Our Fathers" David Hegarty (b. 1945)

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" Arr. Nigel Williams

Larry Hill and Jacob Dalager, Trumpets

**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

For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected, provided it is received with thanksgiving; for it is sanctified by God's word and by prayer. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and struggle, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe. (1 Timothy 4:4-5, 9-10 NRSV)

CHORAL INTROIT "Let Us with a Gladsome Mind"

MONKLAND

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jim Parks

(Psalm 89)

Leader: I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

People: I declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

Leader: Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones. For who in the skies can be compared to the Lord? Who among the heavenly beings is like the Lord?

People: O Lord God of hosts, who is as mighty as you, O Lord? Your faithfulness surrounds you. You rule the raging of the sea; when its waves rise, you still them.

*HYMN OF PRAISE #394 "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

Jeremy Bankson

- Congregation to sing on verses 1 and 4

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

O Lord our God, together we are your people who have come in need today. We worship not because we are good, holy, and faithful, but because you are merciful and loving. By your Holy Spirit, allow us in this time of worship to catch a glimpse of your glory and greatness. Today may our hearts soar in the sure knowledge of your gracious love for us. We are grateful that you do care about our lives and concerns. Help us, we pray, to be a people of diligent faith and service. May this church, this community of grace, be more and more faithful and useful in fulfilling our mission to our world and community. 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

CALL TO CONFESSION #778 "As Pants the Deer for Living Streams" SEACHRIST

- Choir to sing verses 1 and 2
- Congregation to join on verses 3 and 4

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of hope, we confess that we still struggle to live faithful lives that reflect the new life you promised. Too often we allow fear and doubt to stifle our joy. We are slow to trust, and we do not easily welcome change and new possibilities. Forgive our hesitance to grasp the gift of new life and share it with others. Forgive our failure to have empathy for others and offer help to those who are hurting. We thank you for your love that enables us to have a more genuine and hopeful faith, faith that can bear witness to the good news of your gracious mercy and love. Help us to live more and more joyfully each day, in certainty that we are the children of God.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

(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 Apostles Creed.

People: **I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

#626 “As the Deer”

AS THE DEER

CELEBRATION AND WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS

Celebración y bienvenida de nuevos miembros

Eric and Brooke Montgomery

Leah Mathe

(Elders currently serving on Session will greet our new church family members while the congregation sings hymn # 306, “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”, vs. 1-2)

*Blest Be the Tie That Binds (verses 1-2)

*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
Christian love. The fellowship of
kindred minds is like to that above.*

*Before our Father's throne we pour our
ardent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our
aims are one, our comforts and our cares.*

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Chibuzo Chilaka

- 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

“Seek Ye First”

LAFFERTY

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

“God Is Our Refuge”

Allen Pote

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Dr. Janet Loman

Luke 18:18-23

Luke 19:1-10

Luke 18:18-23 (New Revised Standard Version)

A certain ruler asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; Honor your father and mother.’” He replied, “I have kept all these since my youth.” When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “There is still one thing lacking. Sell all that you own and distribute the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” But when he heard this, he became sad; for he was very rich.

Luke 19:1-10 (New Revised Standard Version)

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.” So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, “He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.” Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.” Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Grace Alone by Faith Alone”

Rev. Norm Story

CLOSING HYMN #643 “Now Thank We All Our God”

NUN DANKET GOTT

Handbell Ensemble

- Congregation is to remain seated
- There will be a handbell interlude after the first verse

GO IN GOD’S NAME

BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION “God Is Our Refuge”

Allen Pote

*POSTLUDE

Hymn Tune Improvisation

Howard A. Smolleck

Liturgist – Jim Parks

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 Congregational Life & Outreach Support Ministry team.

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

Lucy Eyong - S

Greeting after Worship Service:

Jim Parks – E

Rev. Norm Story – W

Chibuzo Chilaka – S

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

Please turn off all cell phones

Please remember in your prayers: Jean O’Neill; 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; Gospel Rescue Mission; 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.
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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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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.
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10/30 – Bruce Pearson

11/01 – Iain Christopher Deason

11/06 – Molly Schroeder

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



Change in plans: **The Advent Devotional will be ordered this year.
Sorry for any inconvenience.**

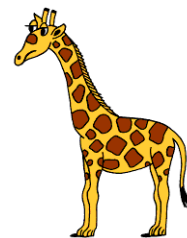
Jennie Curry Bible Study will meet on Thursday, November 3rd, for our next study on *Faith Has Come*, a study of Galatians. We meet in the Jones Hall Library at 6:30 PM for refreshments, then do our study. All

women are invited. Any questions, contact Kathy Story 575-202-2667 storyk@comcast.net.

Ladies and friends of First Presbyterian Church, you are invited to join the Mary Martha Circle and Bible study on Tuesday, November 8th, at 9:30 AM in the Jones Hall Library. We are continuing our study of Jeremiah. Ada Castle, our study leader, is giving us so much insight into his life and times. We will also be planning our Christmas luncheon. Hoping to seeing you there.

Cheri McMillan and Helen Moser
Co-Chairs of MMC

The NMSU and UNM Choirs will be performing a joint concert in our Sanctuary on Wednesday, November 2, at 7:30 PM. All are invited to attend.



Salt & Light – “Reach for the Sky!”
Wednesday, November 2, 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

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!

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

- Cash or check in the offering (purple boxes in the Sanctuary)
- Check sent by mail
- Church website: fpc.lc and click on the “heart” icon or fpc.lc/giving or scan QR code
- Smartphone App: Church Center
- 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 30, 2022

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School, “Shadowlands” in the Jones Hall Library with Larry Hicks and Catie Brewer.

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 31, 2022

6:00-8:00 PM Happy Halloween, Trunk or Treat festival at FPC

Tuesday, November 1, 2022

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

Wednesday, November 2, 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)
7:30 PM NMSU & UNM Combined Choir Concert (see announcement)

Thursday, November 3, 2022

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

6:30 PM Jennie Curry (see announcement)

Friday, November 4, 2022

Saturday, November 5, 2022

Sunday, November 6, 2022

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School, "Shadowlands" in the Jones Hall Library with Larry Hicks and Catie Brewer.
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

CCLI License No. 540727

The Session called for a Congregational Meeting after Worship on Nov. 6, to receive the Nominating Committee report and elect church officers.

Daylight Saving Time ends – Sunday November 6