

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Las Cruces, New Mexico**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Communion Sunday**  
**November 6, 2022 - 10:30 A.M**  
*Enter to worship – Leave to serve*

PRELUDE

“Communion” Reginald Wesley Martin (1885-1963)  
“Fairest Lord Jesus” David Hegarty (b. 1945)  
“I Sing a Song of the Saints of God” Lani Smith (1934-2015)

\*\*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

MINUTE FOR MISSION                      Stewardship                      Cindy Clement

MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.  
(2 Corinthians 5:17-18 NRSV)

CHORAL INTROIT              “All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”                      HOLY MANNA

**ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP    Dr. Janet Loman  
(Isaiah 25)

Leader:    O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

**People:    For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.**

Leader:    On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

**People:    Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE                      #326 “For All the Saints”                      SINE NOMINE

## \*PRAYER OF ADORATION (unison)

Holy and Loving God, as the angels and all the saints gather before your throne and proclaim your everlasting praise and glory, so we gather here today in your holy sanctuary to worship and adore you. Stir up, O Lord, your faithful ones to seek more eagerly your living presence. Attend us in this time we have set aside so that we may more worthily magnify your most holy name. Grant us grace to follow those who have gone before us in lives of faith and commitment, that we, with them, may know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you. We ask all of this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever, amen.

## PLEASE BE SEATED

CALL TO CONFESSION

“Lord, Have Mercy”  
Chancel Choir

KYRIE ELEISON

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

(Psalm 51)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

## TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

### ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE AND MERCY

**Leader:** Hear the words of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of John and be comforted. "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Abide in me and in my love." Friends, believe the Good News, all our sins are forgiven.

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

**Leader:** Today we celebrate Communion, but what does that mean?

**People:** **The church confesses its faith when it bears a present witness to God's grace in Jesus Christ. The Lord's Supper is a celebration of the reconciliation of men with God and with one another, in which they joyfully eat and drink together at the table of their Savior. Jesus Christ gave his church this remembrance of his dying for sinful men so that by participation in it they have communion with him and with all who shall be gathered to him. Partaking in him as they eat the bread and drink the wine in accordance with Christ's appointment, they receive from the risen and living Lord the benefits of his death and resurrection. They**

**rejoice in the foretaste of the kingdom which he will bring to consummation at his promised coming, and go out from the Lord's Table with courage and hope for the service to which he has called them.<sup>1</sup>**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE #408 "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit" SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Lon Anderson

- 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

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"  
Chancel Choir

HEAR MY PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

"Come to the Table"

Allen Pote

### **PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Dr. Janet Loman

Isaiah 43:18-21     Luke 5:30-38

Isaiah 43:18-21 (New Revised Standard Version)

Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

Luke 5:30-38 (New Revised Standard Version)

The Pharisees and their scribes were complaining to his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" Jesus answered, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance." Then they said to him, "John's disciples, like the disciples of the Pharisees, frequently fast and pray, but your disciples eat and drink. Jesus said to them, "You cannot make wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them, can you? The days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days." He also told them a parable: "No one tears a piece from a new garment and sews it on an old garment; otherwise the new will be torn, and the piece from the new will not match the old. And no one puts new wine into old

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<sup>1</sup> from The Confession Of 1967, section 9.01 & 9.52. In approving the Confession of 1967, the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America adopted its first new confession of faith in three centuries.

wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins and will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON “Yes, Something Better Is Possible” Rev. Norm Story

\*COMMUNION HYMN

#498 “Loaves Were Broken Words Were Spoken” BEACH SPRING

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Today our Communion service will be a hybrid. We will serve and pass trays on the west and south sides, plus the choir and the childcare workers. The east will continue with masks and distancing, and will continue to use the pre-packaged Communion kits. There will also be kits available at west and south doors for those wishing to continue with the kits.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD’S PRAYER

**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.**

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

**GO IN GOD’S NAME**

BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION “There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit” SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT

**Session has called for a Congregational Meeting today after Worship to receive the report from the Nominating Committee and to elect church officers. It is important for members to attend.**

\*POSTLUDE

Hymn Tune Improvisation  
All Saints Day Celebration

Howard A. Smolleck

The early Christian Church marked the anniversary of a martyr's death as their "birthday" as a saint. On All Saints Day we give thanks for the lives of those who have been a blessing and influence on our lives, and who have passed on into the Kingdom of God.

Whenever we repeat the Apostles Creed we say, "I believe in the communion of saints." On All Saints Day we are reminded that we are connected to all the people who have loved God and followed Jesus in all times and all places, and that we are part of that community of faith, a family of God.

Remembering members of First Presbyterian Church who have died in 2022

*George Abernathy  
Jay M. Allen  
Virginia Kraner  
Harriet Taylor  
Carol Carson  
Bobby Rankin  
Juanita Treat*

*Liturgist – Dr. Janet Loman      Deacon Captain – Gracia Class*

*Sound System – Curtis Benaway      Video – Rusty Smith*



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 Christian Education 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:*

*Diana Howard – E      Divine Mboh – W      Lucy Eyong – S*

*Greeting after Worship Service:*

*Alice Distlehorst – E      Kathy Story – W      Lon Anderson – S*

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

**Please turn off all cell phones**

**Please remember in your prayers:** Clyde Treat and family on the passing of Juanita; Jean O'Neill; 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; La Casa; "El Caldito" soup kitchen; Missionaries Doug and Sherry Barron.

## 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](mailto: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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11/06 – Molly Schroeder

11/11 – Marjorie Burr

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

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**Change in plans:** The Advent Devotional Booklet will be ordered this year.  
We are sorry for any inconvenience.

Ladies and friends of First Presbyterian Church, you are invited to join the Mary Martha Circle and Bible study on Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 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



**Salt & Light – “Do Unto Others”  
Wednesday, November 9, 2022**

4:00-6:30 PM Grades K-12<sup>th</sup>

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](mailto:saltandlight@fpc.lc) or 575-618-9474
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**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](mailto: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.

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





Call the church office 526-5559 for information on any events, or by the net: [www.fpc.lc](http://www.fpc.lc) or  
by e-mail: [linda@fpc.lc](mailto:linda@fpc.lc) Rev. Norm Story e-mail: [revstory@fpc.lc](mailto:revstory@fpc.lc)  
Facebook: Look up First Presbyterian Church of Las Cruces

**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  
11:45 AM Congregational meeting after Worship

**Monday, November 7, 2022**

**Rev. Story will be out of the office all week**

**Tuesday, November 8, 2022**

- 3:00 PM Listening Prayer in the Jones Hall Parlor  
Call Mary Maley at 269-209-4357 if you have questions  
9:30 AM Mary Martha Circle (see announcement)  
7:00 PM Ministry Team meeting. It is important to be at your meeting

**Wednesday, November 9, 2022**

- 8:00-1:00PM Soup Kitchen (see announcement)  
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, November 10, 2022**

The Good News Newsletter goes out on Saturdays. Please send submissions to:  
[scotty.benaway@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scotty.benaway@sbcglobal.net)

**Friday, November 11, 2022**

**Church office closed**

**Saturday, November 12, 2022**

**Sunday, November 13, 2022 Stewardship Sunday**

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library 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

**CCLI License No. 540727**



## **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.

### **Elders:**

*Paul Deason (Missions) –*

*Bruce Pearson (Missions) –*

*Roni Hardin (M&W) -* Member of First Presbyterian Church since 1965. Choir and bell choir member. Math and science teacher for nineteen years and store owner for sixteen years.

*Steve Loman (Admin) -* My wife Janet and I have attended First Presbyterian Church Las Cruces since 1970, when we moved here to attend NMSU. After receiving a business degree in finance, I entered the world of entrepreneurship in Las Cruces and am still active in several enterprises. My past service to FPC has included the offices of Deacon (Buildings and Grounds) and Elder (two terms on Buildings and Grounds and two terms on Worship and Music). I have also served on the Synod of the Southwest and Presbytery of Sierra Blanca Finance and Administration committees. I am honored and grateful for the opportunity to serve as an Elder once again.

*Patrick Cummings (CE) -* I was born in Syracuse Kansas and grew up in the Presbyterian Church there. I was baptized, belonged to youth group, went through confirmation and became a member in the church. As an adult I served on the Syracuse Church's board of trustees for two terms and was ordained as an Elder on the session. After moving to Schenectady, New York, I served on Trustees, Session and six years as church treasurer at State Street Presbyterian Church. Outside the church I was a classroom teacher working with special needs students in a broad range of academics, including technology studies. I believe in service to all people and our call to spread the word of the gospel.

*Stephen Taylor (CL&OS) -* Stephen Taylor is from Garland, Texas, and has lived in Las Cruces for a little over a decade. He has been an active member of Baptist, Methodist, and Presbyterian churches for most of his life. He is the husband of Erin, and father of Rosa, Amon, and Caleb. Stephen currently works at NMSU.

### **Deacons:**

*Karma Bromwell (one year youth deacon) –* Hi, I'm Karma Bromwell. I'm 16 and a sophomore in HS. I have been coming to FPC since the age of 6. I have a younger sister, Kenzley, who has been coming with me since practically birth. I swim competitively with LCAT (Las Cruces Aquatic Team) as a gold level swimmer and I train 6 days a week. My family and I travel pretty often, especially during the summer. I have been to a majority of the United States and hope to expand and start visiting and experiencing other countries and their cultures first hand. When I graduate HS, I would like to go to school to eventually become a psychiatric nurse.

*Chibuzo Chilaka -* I grew up in Nigeria. I became obsessed with development and how poverty can be eliminated overnight. My unrealistic dream of a world without people going to bed hungry, inspired me to study economics. I'm married to a genuinely godly woman who is superintending the training and upbringing of our four energetic children. I am a lover of anything outdoors and cherishes God's creations-small and great.

*Charlotte Brockway* - I lived in Claremont, on the eastern edge of Los Angeles County in Southern California for 40 years and was a member of the United Church of Christ Congregational. I served the church as both Senior Deacon and as an Elder. When the church celebrated its 100th anniversary I wrote and directed weekly vignettes on the history of the congregation. After 40 years of teaching, we retired and moved to La Grande in eastern Oregon and joined the First Presbyterian church, where I also served as Senior Deacon and as an Elder. In both churches I also sang in the church choir and played handbells. When we moved to Las Cruces, we searched for a warm church family and finally found out new home at First Presbyterian church.

*Linda Pearson* - I grew up in a Presbyterian home in Delaware and attended a Presbyterian college in Pennsylvania. After overseas careers when we attended whatever English-speaking Protestant church was located near us, Bruce and I moved to Las Cruces in 2004 and joined First Presbyterian shortly thereafter, primarily because of the warm welcome we received here. I am a Salt & Light kitchen crew volunteer and was coordinator of Mary-Martha Circle for three years.

*Thomas Korang* - Thomas Korang is from Ghana, and is attending NMSU. He joined First Presbyterian Church in July of 2019.

*Sharon Rooney* - I was baptized as a child at Montview Presbyterian Church, Denver Colorado, and attended church and Sunday school there until I entered high school. At that time, our family moved to Dodge City, Kansas, where my friends and I attended services and youth group at First Presbyterian Church. Later I served as an Elder. I met my husband of 66 years, Noel, who lived "next door". We were both members of the church and were married there. We raised four sons in the small town of Minneola, Kansas.

*Linda Seaton* - I have lived in New Mexico for almost 26 years. I have been a member of First Presbyterian Church for 24 years and a Deacon for the last 3 years. My husband Robert Seaton and I have been married for over 35 years. We both retired from the medical field in 2021. Our son Wesley and his wife Jessica blessed us with a granddaughter on October 26, 2022.

*Lucy Eyong* - Lucy Eyong is a second-year student of Rhetoric and Professional Communication at the New Mexico State University of Las Cruces. She hails from Cameroon in West Africa, where she has lived most of her life. She is a mother of one. She is born to a Presbyterian Christian family on December 16, 1987. She is passionate about Serving God, reaching out, and spreading love.

*Sandy Abernathy* - I grew up in my mother's church, Good Shephard Presbyterian Church, East Los Angeles, California. I was baptized and confirmed there. When I attended UCD, I went to the community church there since there was no Presbyterian church in town. The assistant minister married George and I in my father's patio, Desert Hot Springs, CA in 1955. We moved to Las Cruces in 1957, that's when I transferred my membership to this church. Our four children were baptized here. We moved away for a bit, and in 2015 we moved back to LC and returned to FPC, reaffirmed, became members again. I will try to complete my duties as Deacon to my best ability.

*Nancy Johnson* – God puts me where he wants me, always. In 2017 I had an accident at Woodhaven Presbyterian Church. Because of this accident in 2019 I had to retire after 28 years of work and moved to Las Cruces at my sister's invitation. My sister died a year later from unexpected cancer and I then moved to Lubbock in 2020 at my brother's invitation. A year later my brother died from unexpected cancer. My comment is once again, God puts me where he needs me and I moved back to Las Cruces to be a part of First Presbyterian Church again.