

First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

Trinity Sunday – Communion

June 4, 2023 - 10:30 A.M

Enter to worship – Leave to serve



PRELUDE

Communion Meditation on “Humbly I Adore Thee”

John Barr (b. 1938)

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Douglas E. Wagner (b. 1952)

“Soul, Bedeck Thyself with Gladness” Elizabeth Krouse (b. 1943)

**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

Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong. (2 Corinthians 12:8-10 NRSV)

CHORAL INTROIT “We Gather Here in Jesus’ Name” COME SHARE THE LORD
Molly Schroeder and Beth Thomas

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Larry Hicks

(from Philippians 2)

Leader: Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

People: **who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.**

Leader: And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,

People: **so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under**

the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*HYMN OF PRAISE #260 "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

HYFRYDOL

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Gracious God, you who surprise us with new experiences of love and blessings, we come with grateful reverence to praise and adore you. Help us to be open to your appearance among us and within us. Pour out, we pray, your Spirit upon us. As we your people gather; make us attentive to your Word and ready to do your bidding. O holy eternal Trinity, we praise you for ever and ever. We ask in the name of Christ Jesus, he who lives and reigns with the Father and Holy Spirit, one God, both now and forevermore, Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

CALL TO CONFESSION #702 "Christ Be Beside Me"

BUNESSAN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious and generous God, we confess that we live lives that are far less wonderful than you intend and desire for us. We have been blessed with far more than we need to live well, yet too often, fear of scarcity makes us hesitant and stingy in sharing our abundance with those in need or with the mission of your Church. You first loved us, and call us to respond, letting nothing get in the way of a deep and meaningful walk with you. But sometimes we let things that do not truly matter distract us. Help us, Lord, to use our lives and resources well, according to your will and purpose, and may we live useful lives, growing more and more like Jesus day by day. In your great compassion, forgive our sins, renew us, help us to live more faithfully, and serve as led by your Holy Spirit.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

(1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 NRSV)

Leader: May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls us is faithful, and he will do this. Friends, believe the good news, in Jesus Christ all our sins are forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God, for all our sin is forgiven and gone. May that grace move us closer to Christ and His intended purpose for our lives.**

Leader: Now cleansed from our sin, how should we live in faithful response?

People: **Jesus said, 'I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

#716 "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

BEACH SPRING

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Erin Taylor

- Children are asked to sit on the carpet squares in the front.

CALL TO PRAYER

“I Need Thee Every Hour”

NEED

Chancel Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

“Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness”

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

- To follow text see hymn # 314 in the hymnal

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 28:16-20

Matthew 28:16-20 (New Revised Standard Version)

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Matthew 5:13-16 (This passage will be read during the sermon)

Matthew 5:13-16 (The Message)

“Let me tell you why you are here. You’re here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You’ve lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage. Here’s another way to put it: You’re here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We’re going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don’t think I’m going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I’m putting you on a light stand. Now that I’ve put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you’ll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven.”

SERMON

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Lon Anderson

*COMMUNION HYMN

#298 “Lord, You Give the Great Commission”

ABBOT’S LEIGH

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

“The Lord Now Sends Us Forth”

ENVIADO

After the choral benediction, you are welcome to come to the front for prayer.

*POSTLUDE

Hymn Tune Improvisation

Howard A. Smolleck

Liturgist – Larry Hicks Deacon Captain – Divine Mboh

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 In-Betweeners.

Rev. Dr. Norm Story	Pastor	Rev. Pyong San Yu	Korean Congregation
Dr. Janet Loman, CP	College Ministry	Dr. Howard A. Smolleck	Organist
Karen Candusso	Youth Group Sponsor	Karen Candusso	Salt & Light Coord.
Beth Borchert-Thomas	Dir. of Music & Bells		

Greeting before Worship Service:

Dennis Thomas – E Lucy Eyong – W Linda Pearson – S

Greeting after Worship Service:

Judy Hicks – E Lon Anderson – W Erin Taylor – S

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

Please turn off all cell phones

Please remember in your prayers: Don Rhodes; Marcia Westfall; Wayne Maley; Virginia Haynes and daughter Shannon; Jessica Borchert Stout, daughter of Beth Thomas; Rev. Jay Bishop; Dorris Hamilton, Clyde Treat, and Norma Klein at the Heritage; Rev. Marcus Burr; all who feel isolated in these troubled times; Presbyterian Church (USA); Deacons' Ministries; Community of Hope; Missionaries Doug and Sherry Barron, CRU headquarters, 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



- 6/05 – Mary Olberg, Jim Parks
- 6/06 – Amon Taylor
- 6/07 – Gracia Class
- 6/09 – Dr. Don Niewold, Adwoa S. Amankwaa
- 6/11 – Austin Breck, Lynn Loya

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

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





**First Presbyterian Church
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JUNE 26 – 30
9 AM – 12 PM
Register online at: www.fpc.lc**

CHURCH CALENDAR

Call the church office 575-526-5559 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, June 4, 2023 Communion Sunday

- 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

Monday, June 5, 2023

Rev. Story will be out of the office until Tuesday, June 13.

Tuesday, June 6, 2023

- 3:00 PM Listening Prayer, a reflection on Scripture in Jones Hall. Contact Marsha Topley with questions

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

- 12:00 PM DEADLINE for submissions for the Sunday bulletin

Thursday, June 8, 2023

The Good News Newsletter will be published on Fridays. Please send submissions by Thursday evenings to: scotty.benaway@sbcglobal.net

Friday, June 9, 2023

Saturday, June 10, 2023

Sunday, June 11, 2023

- 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

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 and any 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.

Church Office Hours are: Monday – Friday **9:00 AM – 2:00 PM**