

# First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Father’s Day

June 18, 2023 - 10:30 A.M  
*Enter to worship – Leave to serve*



## PRELUDE

“Adoration”	Charles Sergisson (1905-1988)
“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”	Larry Harris (b. 1945)
“God of Our Fathers”	Robert J. Hughes (1916-1999)

\*\*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

Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

(Galatians 6:2, 9-10 NRSV)

## CHORAL INTROIT

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

ITALIAN HYMN

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Marsha Topley

(Psalm 104)

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

People: **Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits — who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases.**

Leader: As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

People: **For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust.**

Leader: But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children.

People: **Bless the Lord, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.**

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE

#367 "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

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

God of heaven and earth, you who are revealed most perfectly in Christ Jesus our Lord, we thank you this day for calling us to be your people and for watching over us and guiding us in the way we should go. We come before you now, O God, aware of our need for you. We come before you to worship you and to seek your will for our lives. Bless us in this holy time. May we find words and thoughts of hope; may our feelings, as well as our minds, be engaged in your message and in your living presence. Help us to find the living Christ not only in Scripture, but in song and in praise, in prayer, and in one another. And with what we find, may we reach out to others in his most holy name, **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 #426 "Search Me, O God"

KÀM-CHHAT

### 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

#192 “Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining” SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

## GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Chibuzo Chilaka

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

## CALL TO PRAYER

#623 “I’ve Got Peace Like a River”

PEACE LIKE A RIVER

## PASTORAL PRAYER

## ANTHEM

“Come To Me, All Who Labor”

John Purifoy

## PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Dr. Janet Loman

Numbers 27:15-23

Matthew 9:35-38, 10:16 & 40

Numbers 27:15-23 (New Revised Standard Version)

Moses spoke to the Lord, saying, “Let the Lord, the God of the spirits of all flesh, appoint someone over the congregation who shall go out before them and come in before them, who shall lead them out and bring them in, so that the congregation of the Lord may not be like sheep without a shepherd.” So the Lord said to Moses, “Take Joshua son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay your hand upon him; have him stand before Eleazar the priest and all the congregation, and commission him in their sight. You shall give him some of your authority, so that all the congregation of the Israelites may obey. But he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall inquire for him by the decision of the Urim before the Lord; at his word they shall go out, and at his word they shall come in, both he and all the Israelites with him, the whole congregation.” So Moses did as the Lord commanded him. He took Joshua and had him stand before Eleazar the priest and the whole congregation; he laid his hands on him and commissioned him—as the Lord had directed through Moses.

Matthew 9:35-38, 10:16 & 40 (New Revised Standard Version)

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest

to send out laborers into his harvest.”

“See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON “Equipped To Serve God’s Gracious Truth” Rev. Norm Story

\*CLOSING HYMN #838 “Standing on the Promises” PROMISES

**GO IN GOD’S NAME**

BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

“God Be with You till We Meet Again” GOD BE WITH YOU

\*POSTLUDE Hymn Tune Improvisation Howard A. Smolleck

*Liturgist – Marsha Topley Deacon Captain – Patricia Adu-Mensah*

*Sound System – Rusty Smith Video – Brent 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 Congregational Life & Outreach Support Ministry team.

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:*

*Diana Howard – E Sandy Abernathy – W Sharon Rooney – S*

*Greeting after Worship Service:*

*Marsha Topley – 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:** Josie Fietze; Jean Rhodes and family on the passing of 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; "El Caldito Soup Kitchen"; Missionary Donna Evans, Wycliffe Bible Translators.

## 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.

### 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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## BELATED HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

6/15 – Trish Carter-Anderson



6/22 – Alonzo Brewer

6/23 – Josephine Frieze, Ryan Fellman, Sophia Chilaka

6/24 – Jasey Loman

6/25 – Norma Klein

(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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**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](http://fpc.lc) and click on the "heart" icon or [fpc.lc/giving](http://fpc.lc/giving) or scan QR code
- Smartphone App: Church Center
- Text 84321



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HOW  
YOU  
CAN  
HELP

**After Worship Fellowship:** The sign-up board is in Jones Hall Fellowship area.

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**Food Baskets:**

Please bring a nonperishable food item every Sunday for Casa de Peregrinos, the emergency food bank. Baskets are located at each of the entrances to the Sanctuary.

**CHURCH CALENDAR**

Call the church office 575-526-5559 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, June 18, 2023 Father's Day**

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library. We are viewing and discussing "The Chosen" season 3.

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, June 19, 2023**

11:00 AM Watkins Hall in use

**Tuesday, June 20, 2023**

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

7:00 PM Session meeting in Jones Hall Library

**Wednesday, June 21, 2023**

12:00 PM DEADLINE for submissions for the Sunday bulletin

**Thursday, June 22, 2023**

*The Good News Newsletter will be published on Fridays. Please send submissions by Thursday evenings to: [scotty.benaway@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scotty.benaway@sbcglobal.net)*

**Friday, June 23, 2023**

**Saturday, June 24, 2023**

**Sunday, June 25, 2023**

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library. We are viewing and discussing "The Chosen" season 3.

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  
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CCLI License No. 540727

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

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.

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### **In-Betweeners on Friday, June 30th**

The 30th is a fifth Friday, not our usual fourth, but on that date our friend David Thomas has obtained a very special program for us! Dan Crow and Karla Steen, professional Western singer/songwriters have agreed to present music based on their album “Sidekicks and Saddle Pals” for us. These are original compositions based on the legends of iconic Old West figures.

Dinner at 6 pm in Watkins Fellowship Hall will be catered this time (\$10/person). Please let us know that you plan to come, and invite guests! Contact the Ames, 575-526-3247 or [jkames@q.com](mailto:jkames@q.com).

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**Celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> a little early this year**

**Sundaes on Sunday, July 2**

The Congregational Life team invites you to join us and eat a nice, cool bowl of ice cream! Top it off with *almost* every topping you can imagine.

**When and Where:** After worship on Sunday, July 2 at the fellowship area in the courtyard.