

# First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Communion Sunday

July 2, 2023 - 10:30 A.M.  
*Enter to worship – Leave to serve*



## PRELUDE

“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”	Wilbur Held (1914-2015)
“Come, Let Us Eat” (See Hymnal #528)	Frank Ferko (b. 1950)
Fantasy on “Battle Hymn of the Republic”	Alice Jordan (1916-2012)

\*\*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

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. (Hebrews 4:12-13) NRSV)

CHORAL INTROIT “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

LINSTEAD

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Janet Loman

Leader: Guide us, O God, by your word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace.

People: **Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth. Make us hungry for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE #338 “O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

MATERNA

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Great God, in public and private, in sanctuary and home, may my life be steeped in prayer, filled with the spirit of grace and gratitude that calls and equips me to live in faithfulness and joy. Help us, defend us, until from this life we pass to the realm of unceasing praise in your presence. Urged by our need, invited by your promises, called by your Spirit, we enter your presence in worship, awed by your majesty, greatness, and glory, but encouraged by your great love. Help us, we pray, to follow you as you lead us into the life and place you have created for us. Through our worship, fellowship, and service, restore and renew our troubled spirits with the assurance of your love and mercy. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

## PLEASE BE SEATED

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#625 “O Lord My God” (verses 1 & 2) HOW GREAT THOU ART

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Forgiving God, as we worship you today, we are aware of our own shortcomings, our failings, and our sins. We remember how we have failed to love you fully, or to show your love to others. We recall times when we have spoken out of hurt or anger, instead of expressing grace, patience, and love. We see that we have treated others unfairly, and we long to make things right. Have mercy on us, O God. Release us from our sin and guilt by the power and love of Jesus the Christ. Help us Lord, by your power and Spirit to live more faithful lives that reflect your truth and grace. O Lord, grant that we may hear you in the silence as we listen for your voice.

### TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

### ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE AND MERCY

**Leader:** The proof of God's amazing love is this, that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. And Christ rose for us and takes away all our sin. I therefore declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, all our sin is forgiven.

**People:** **In Jesus Christ all our sins are forgiven, thanks be to God, amen.**

**Leader:** What does Scripture teach and declare about God?

**People:** **We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible; one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE #337 “My Country, ‘Tis of Thee”

AMERICA

### STELLAR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SINGERS

led by Rebekah West and Leah Mathe

### GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Erin Taylor

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

CALL TO PRAYER #625 “O Lord My God” (verses 3 & 4) HOW GREAT THOU ART

### PASTORAL PRAYER

### ANTHEM

“Seed, Scattered and Sown”

SEED SCATTERED

- To follow text see Hymn # 531

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Dr. Janet Loman

Deuteronomy 8:12-19

Deuteronomy 8:12-19 (New Revised Standard Version)

When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth." But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today. If you do forget the Lord your God and follow other gods to serve and worship them, I solemnly warn you today that you shall surely perish.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"Christ and Citizenship"

Rev. Norm Story

\*COMMUNION HYMN

#525 "Let Us Break Bread Together" LET US BREAK BREAD

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

\*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION

#591 "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!"

HALLE, HALLE

- Congregation join and sing 2 times

*Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!*  
*Halle, halle halle-lu-jah!*  
*Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!*  
*Halle, halle halle-lu-jah!*

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

\*POSTLUDE                                      Hymn Tune Improvisation                                      Howard A. Smolleck

**\*Those who are able, please stand                                      Please turn off all cell phones**

*Liturgist – Dr. Janet Loman                                      Deacon Captain – Patricia Adu-Mensah*

*Sound System – Curtis Benaway                                      Video – Will Schroeder*



Join us for a time of fellowship and some delicious Ice Cream Sundaes immediately following Worship this morning in the courtyard 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 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      Thomas Korang – S*

*Greeting after Worship Service:*

*Erin Taylor – E      Kathy Story – W      Penelope Printz – S*

**Please remember in your prayers:** Mary Olberg; Florence Hamilton; 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 and son 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; Gospel Rescue Mission; Missionary Cesar Carhuachin, 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](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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- 7/03 – Samantha Armendariz, Stephen Jack Loman, Bryson Ludwig
- 7/04 – Melissa Sherman
- 7/06 – Karen Candusso, Kendall Montgomery
- 7/08 – Ken Osborne, Shawn & Shawna Chilaka

(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.

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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 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 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, July 2, 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 Ice Cream social
- 12:00 PM      Sermon discussion in the Jones Hall Library with Rev. Story

### Monday, July 3, 2023

### Tuesday, July 4, 2023

#### OFFICE CLOSED

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

### Wednesday, July 5, 2023

- 9:30 AM      Staff meeting, office will be closed during meeting.
- 12:00 PM      DEADLINE for submissions for the Sunday bulletin

### Thursday, July 6, 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)*

- 6:30 PM      Jennie Curry Bible Study in the Library.

### Friday, July 7, 2023

### Saturday, July 8, 2023

### Sunday, July 9, 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
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CCLI License No. 540727

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

## New Backpacks & School Supplies Needed



The Deacons of First Presbyterian Church are requesting donations of **New** backpacks and school supplies for children in need this school year.

Monetary donations will also be accepted.

Plastic bins will be located at each entrance of the Sanctuary or they can be dropped off in the office no later than **July 13<sup>th</sup>**.

### Here are some suggestions for school supplies:

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- Wide-ruled paper
- 70-page wide-ruled spirals
- #2 pencils
- Pens with blue or black ink
- Scissors (Pref. Fiskars)
- Large erasers
- Colored Pencils
- Large boxes of tissues
- Glue sticks
- Composition notebooks
- New Backpacks
- Folders with pockets and prongs
- Crayons
- Watercolor markers
- White school glue
- Rulers

Blessing of the Backpacks will be on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup>.

If you know of a child that is in need of a backpack and school supplies for this year please email the Church office at [Linda@fpc.lc](mailto:Linda@fpc.lc) with name of child, grade in school, boy/girl, and parents name and phone number so we

can call them at a later date.

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## Socks and Undies

For many of you New underwear and socks are something that you normally aren't concerned about having and can easily be gotten; but to some their financial reality doesn't allow them to purchase underwear and socks at all, even if they are needed. The Deacons' mission is to collect New socks and undies for the underprivileged children. Plastic bins are located at each door of the Sanctuary to collect donations. So, next time you are shopping make sure to toss an extra package of underwear or socks into your cart, *all sizes are needed*, to help clothe a child.

This donation of NEW socks and undies will be given to the Gospel Rescue Mission for their back-to-school program. In the past years we have collected a bountiful harvest. Your support is greatly appreciated and God bless.