

First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico
10th Sunday after Pentecost – Communion Sunday
Director of Family Ministries Commissioning

August 6, 2023 - 10:30 A.M
Enter to worship – Leave to serve



PRELUDE “Thy Holy Wings” (Communion Hymn) John Ferguson (b. 1941)
“O Glorious Love” John W. Peterson (1921-2006)
“Let Us Rejoice in Like Manner” (16th-Century Hymn Tune) Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

**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

MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

“For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.” Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.” (John 6:33-35 NRSV)

CHORAL INTROIT “Eat This Bread” BERTHIER

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

*CALL TO WORSHIP Dr. Janet Loman

(Luke and 1 Corinthians)

Leader: Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God. Indeed, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”

People: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is anyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!

Leader: So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.

People: For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

*HYMN OF PRAISE #366 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” HYFRYDOL

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

God of grace, you pour out your blessings upon us, and your faithfulness has no ending. We praise you for the mysteries of life and the goodness that surrounds us. We praise you for the order and wonder of nature, for the beauty and bounty of the earth, for day and night, summer and winter, seedtime and harvest, for the varied gifts of loveliness that every season brings. We give you thanks for all the comfort and joy of life, for our homes, for our friends, and for love, sympathy, goodwill, and compassion. Help us to worship you in truth and in Spirit this day, we ask in Jesus' name.

PLEASE BE SEATED

CALL TO CONFESSION “Take Us As We Are, O God” ENDLESS FEAST

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of love and tenderness, you call us from the chaos of our lives, just as we are. Embrace each of us now as we confess our sins. Forgive us for the opportunities we miss, for squandering our gifts, for wasting our time, and for simply being too busy and preoccupied to keep our focus on the things that really matter. Where we have fallen short of doing your will, forgive us. Where we have neglected those in need, forgive us. Where we have been selfish and hurt other people, forgive us. By your mercy and grace, lead us to live in ways that more faithfully reflect your steadfast loving kindness.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: If the Lord remembered our sin, who could stand? For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. But the Lord has promised, "For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more." In the name of Jesus Christ, I declare that our sin is forgiven. Thanks be to God.

People: **The Lord’s name be praised. In Jesus Christ all our sin is forgiven. Amen.**

Leader: What do you mean when you say, "we are forgiven"?

People: **Because of Jesus Christ, God no longer holds my sins against me. Christ alone is my righteousness and my life. Grace alone is the basis on which God has forgiven me in him. Faith alone is the means by which I receive Christ into my heart, and with him the forgiveness that makes me whole.**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE #69 “I, the Lord of Sea and Sky” HERE I AM

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Amon Taylor

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

COMMISSION OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF FAMILY MINISTRIES
Rev. Nick Koontz

CALL TO PRAYER “Here I Am Lord” HERE I AM
Chancel Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Dr. Janet Loman

Matthew 14:14-21

Matthew 14:14-21 (New Revised Standard Version)

When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” And he said, “Bring them here to me.” Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“There’s More Than Enough”

Rev. Norm Story

*COMMUNION HYMN

#460 “Break Thou the Bread of Life”

BREAD OF LIFE

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

“Go in Grace and Make Disciples”

WONDROUS LIGHT

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 – Divine Mboh

Sound System – Curtis Benaway

Video – Rusty Smith

We are pleased to welcome **Rev. Nick Koontz** who is our Director of Family Ministries. Nick is an ordained minister in the Disciples of Christ denomination. He will be commissioned during our worship today which will be followed by a church luncheon in Watkins Hall for you to welcome him. (email address: nkoontz@fpc.lc)

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

Greeting before Worship Service:

Linda Pearson – E Sandra Abernathy – W Nancy T. Johnson – S

Greeting after Worship Service:

Amon Taylor – E Kathy Story – W Penelope Printz – S

The Grant family; Mary Olberg; Jean Rhodes and family; Wayne and Marianne Maley; Virginia Haynes and daughter Shannon; Jessica Borchert Stout, daughter of Beth Thomas; Rev. Jay Bishop; Dorris Hamilton and son Rio 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; all the homeless; “La Casa” domestic shelter; Community of Hope; 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

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

HOW
YOU
CAN
HELP

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



8/06 – Judy Hicks, Gerald Carson

8/07 – Scott Burns, Margaret Burr, Prisca Heubo, Gary Brockway

8/10 – Catherine Brewer, Marianne Maley, Dennis Thomas, Elanor West

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

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.

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



Make a difference!

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. Thank you for your support.

CCLI License No. 540727

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, August 6, 2023

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library. This Sunday August 6, we begin a series entitled, "Beginnings of Judaism" (<https://www.thegreatcourses.com/courses/beginnings-of-judaism>) that describes the transition from the nation of Israel of the Old Testament to the different sects of Judaism during Jesus' time to the Jewish faith and peoples today. We will meet most Sundays in the summer in the Library from 9 am - 10:15 am.

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 Luncheon in Watkins Fellowship Hall to get acquainted with Rev. Nick Koontz. (see announcement)

Monday, August 7, 2023

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

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

7:00 PM Ministry team meetings in Jones Hall

Wednesday, August 9, 2023

8:00 AM 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

Thursday, August 10, 2023

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

Friday, August 11, 2023

Saturday, August 12, 2023

2:00 PM Memorial service for Mr. Don Rhodes in the Sanctuary with a reception following in Jones Hall Fellowship area

Sunday, August 13, 2023

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library. Last Sunday we begin a series entitled, "Beginnings of Judaism" (<https://www.thegreatcourses.com/courses/beginnings-of-judaism>) that describes the transition from the nation of Israel of the Old Testament to the different sects of Judaism during Jesus' time to the Jewish faith and peoples today. We will meet most Sundays in the summer in the Library from 9 am - 10:15 am.

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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



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 either Linda Ward, Lon Anderson, or Diana Howard. 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 Linda Ward 619-417-6912, Lon Anderson 575-649-4108, or Diana Howard 575-649-4266 know of your interest.