

**First Presbyterian Church  
Las Cruces, New Mexico  
World Communion Sunday – Peacemaking Offering  
October 1, 2023 – 10:30 AM  
*Enter to worship – Leave to serve***



**PRELUDE**

“Come, Let Us Worship” (Russian Orthodox Chant) Boris Ledkovsky (1894-1975)  
“Pastourelle”

Olufela Obafunmilayo Sowande (1905-1987) (Nigerian; studied and worked in Britain and US)  
“Christ, You Are the Fullness” (Korean Tune) Michael Ryan (b. 1952)

“Musings on an Asian Theme” inspired by Allen Vizzutti  
Larry Hill, Trumpet

\*\*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** Deacons’ Hamburger Fry

**MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; ... and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them ... so that they may be one, as we are one. ... that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. (John 17:1, 11, 23 NRSV)

**INTROIT** #528 “Come, Let Us Eat” Liberia

➤ Please join the Chancel Choir in this responsorial introit

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Janet Loman

(Psalm 107, Galatians 3, Revelation 19)

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. For in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

**People: There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all are one in Christ Jesus.**

Leader: The people will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God.

**People: Indeed, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last. Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.**

### \* HYMN OF PRAISE

#1 "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

NICAEA

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
2. *Santo, santo, santo! La inmensa muchedumbre  
de ángeles que cumplen tu santa voluntad,  
ante ti se postra, bañada de tu lumbre,  
ante ti que has sido, que eres y seras.*
3. Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,  
though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,  
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,  
perfect in power, in love and purity.
4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

### PLEASE BE SEATED

PRAYER OF ADORATION (unison) (seated)

God of all nations, we give You thanks that we are all made in Your image, with such rich diversity. On this day we are in solidarity with the faithful around the world. As we break bread together, we remember that we are still one body in You, even though we have different languages, cultures and traditions, different ways of worship, praying and praising. In solidarity we drink together the cup of hope, of new life, knowing that Your will is for Your people to be one body. We are one body, but we are not the same—it is through the gift of diversity that we are able to be Your body. We thank You and praise You for making us all who we are, individually and collectively.<sup>1</sup> Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

“Hashivenu”

ISRAELI

Beth Thomas, Solo  
Amon Taylor, Recorder

Take us back to you, O Lord, and we shall return. Renew our days as in the past.

Alleluia. *Lamentations 5:21*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Forgiving God, as we worship you today, we are aware of our own shortcomings, our failings, 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 out of patience and love. We see how 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 to live life anew by the power and love of Jesus Christ. Forgive us, we pray, and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE AND MERCY

**Leader:** Hear the truth. Neither this world nor our lives are so broken that God cannot restore to wholeness. Trust and believe that reconciliation is possible. God does show us the way home. In the name of Jesus, our sins are forgiven.

**People:** **We rejoice in the Good News that through Jesus Christ, all our sin is forgiven.**

**Leader:** What does Scripture teach us about the Good News?

**People:** **This is the Good News which we received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved: that Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day; and that he appeared to the women at the tomb, to Peter, then to the Twelve and to many faithful witnesses. We believe he is the Christ, the Son of the living God. He is the first and the last, the beginning and the end. He is our Lord, our Savior, and our God. Amen.**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

“Sheaves of Wheat”

UNA ESPIGA

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<sup>1</sup> Written by Rev. Mindi and posted on her Rev-o-lution blog. <http://rev-o-lution.org/>

Chancel Choir

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Lon Anderson

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Victory”  
African Community

CALL TO PRAYER

“Give Us Light”  
Handbells: Roni Hardin, Mary Maley, and Rebekah West

HINDI

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM “He’s Got the Whole World/This Is My Father’s World” arr. Joel Raney  
Chancel Choir  
Elementary and Youth Salt & Light Singers

**PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD**

In celebration of the unity we share through Jesus Christ, in addition to English, the Scripture lesson will be read in Korean by Rev. Yu, in Igbo by Chibuzo Chilaka, and in Spanish by Karina Paita.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Dr. Janet Loman

Acts 2:1-4, 42-47

Acts 2:1-4, 42-47 (New Revised Standard Version)

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Grace, Diversity and Unity”

Rev. Norm Story

\*COMMUNION HYMN

#538 “Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises” HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA

- Congregation to sing refrain in English and African
- Chancel Choir to sing verses

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

## 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

#269 “Lead On, O King Eternal!”

LANCASHIRE

Lead on, O King eternal! The day of march has come;  
hence-forth in fields of conquest your tents shall be our home.  
Through days of preparation your grace has made us strong,  
and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.

*After the benediction, you are welcome to come to the front for prayer with a pastor.*

\*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*



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 Fellowship Committee.

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
Dr. 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:*

*Dennis Thomas – E    Sandy Abernathy – W    Nancy T. Johnson – S*

*Greeting after Worship Service:*

*Penelope Printz – E    Kathy Story – W    Bill and Ruth Akins – S*

**Please remember in your prayers:** Prayers for Thomas and Janet Korang on the birth of new baby girl Adiepena; Josie Frieze; Jessica Borchert Stout, daughter of Beth Thomas; Rev. Jay Bishop; The Grant family; Mary Olberg; Wayne and Marianne Maley; Dorris Hamilton; Clyde Treat, and Norma Klein at the Heritage; Rev. Marcus Burr; all who feel isolated in these troubled times; Salt & Light Ministry; Presbyterian Church (USA); Deacons' Ministries; Gospel Rescue Mission; St. Luke's Health Care Clinic; Casa de Peregrinos, emergency food pantry; 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](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

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.



10/01 – Sarah Loman  
 10/02 – Pat Felhauer  
 10/03 – Izak Armendariz  
 10/06 – Rachel Breck, Mary Jean Hall, Alice Distlehorst  
 10/07 – Alejandra Cisneros

(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.

- 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



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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.

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

**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](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, October 1, 2023 World Communion Sunday**

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library. We are viewing a series entitled, "Beginnings of Judaism"  
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  
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, October 2, 2023**

- 7:00 PM College & Young Adult Bible Study on zoom (see announcement)  
7:00 PM Bells rehearsal with Beth Thomas

**Tuesday, October 3, 2023**

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

**Wednesday, October 4, 2023**

- 9:30 AM Staff meeting, office will be closed during meeting  
12:00 PM DEADLINE for submissions for the Sunday bulletin  
No Salt & Light this week.  
7:00 PM Choir rehearsal in the Sanctuary

**Thursday, October 5, 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, October 6, 2023**

**Saturday, October 7, 2023**

**Sunday, October 8, 2023 Deacons Hamburger Fry**

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library. We are viewing a series entitled, "Beginnings of Judaism"  
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  
10:30 AM Worship Service  
11:45 AM Deacons' Hamburger Fry (see announcement)

CCLI License No. 540727

Today is World Communion Sunday.  
We will be collecting the Peace & Global Witness offering.  
An envelope is provided in the bulletin for those who wish to donate.



## Instant Church Directory

In addition to our always-available paper directory, we now have our church directory available online and in a phone app, "Instant Church Directory."

The website ([instantchurchdirectory.com](http://instantchurchdirectory.com)) can be found on the church website homepage and the app can be found on both the Google Play Store and the Apple App Store for free. Once accessed, please sign in using your email as listed in the directory. Note that this service is accessible to those listed in the directory, but locked from prying eyes outside the church. Also note that it allows you to upload a picture of yourself, and that the application serves as a great contact list for getting in touch with your church family. Reach out to Nick at [nkoontz@fpc.lc](mailto:nkoontz@fpc.lc) with any questions or technical difficulties.



## Ways to Help – Fellowship

We all enjoy fellowship time after church on Sunday, a time to mingle with friends and meet new ones. The Congregational Life and Outreach Support team is looking for people willing to host the following dates:

- October 29
- November 5, 12, and 26
- December 10, 24, and 31

Families, friends, and Session committees are all wonderful hosts, and the sign-up chart is in Jones Hall. There is a page of instructions in the kitchen area to help with set-up. Thank you for helping out with this important and fun part of our church life.



## DEACONS' HAMBURGER FRY OCTOBER 8

On behalf of all the Deacons, we would like to thank our congregation for your generous support of our missions. We are able to carry out our mission only by your donations.

Our only annual revenue-making event is the **BURGER FRY**. This year it will be **inside** after the worship service, on Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. We will be grilling delicious hamburgers and hot dogs, and have all the trimmings.

Please consider making a donation to the Deacons and *absolutely* plan on joining us for this fun event.



### **COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

“The Promises of God”

Trace with us salvation history and the amazing ways in which God chooses individuals and groups to be part of the divine plan. From Abraham to Jesus and on to the early church -- and still today -- God is choosing the unexpected so that we can better see the divine love and power in action. We too are called by God and given the promise of blessing and new life.

Join us each Monday at 7:00PM on Zoom!  
Please email Janet for the link at [drjml@me.com](mailto:drjml@me.com)

(NO PREPARATION REQUIRED)  
WE ARE HOPING TO SEE YOU!

### **FALL BREAK ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH**

**(6<sup>TH</sup> – 12<sup>TH</sup> grade)**

**Wednesday, Oct 4<sup>th</sup> – 8:30am to 2pm**

Meet at the church at 8:30am as we head out to the El Paso Zoo. Any youth that participated in the yard sale will have their ticket covered, otherwise it will be \$12.

We will return to the church and have lunch and freeplay time, concluding at 2pm.



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LAS CRUCES**

**COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULT**

**DINNER NIGHT MINISTRY**

Join us for a home-cooked meal

in the home of Steve and Janet Loman

on

Friday, October 13, at 6:00PM

1622 West Union Avenue, 88005

**FRIENDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!**

If you need a ride or are bringing a friend, please let Janet know: 575.202.4379



**Mary Martha Circle**

Welcome ladies of First Presbyterian Church. Please join us Tuesday, October 10, at 9:30 AM to socialize with our friends and guests. The Bible study will begin at 10:00 AM. We will be studying the Book of Nehemiah, chapter 2. We look forward to seeing you in the Jones hall library.



Need a ride to and from church on Sunday mornings?

- Our church offers free rides to and from the Worship service
- We will pick you up and drop you off at your doorstep
- Church vans are designed for easy access

Please call Linda Ward at 619-417-6912



## Trunk or Treat Is Coming!

**Tuesday, October 31**

What is It? Trunk or Treat is an important congregational outreach to our community, sponsored by the Congregational Life and Outreach ministry team. It is a great chance to serve our neighborhood. The essence of Trunk or Treat is serving kids candy from the trunks of our cars in a safe, fun environment. But there is much more, including music, food, crafts, and games.

It's on Tuesday, Oct 31, from 6 to 8 pm, with setup beginning one to two hours prior.

We need your help! **This event is totally dependent on our congregation to be successful.**

Further information: Contact Lon Anderson, 575-649-4108 or lonandenise@q.com

Want to help? Please complete the form below and drop it in the offering box.

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Yes! I want to participate in one or more of the following ways:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<b><i>Give out candy from my car trunk with optional car decoration</i></b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Run a booth for a pre-planned game (ducks, bowling, bean bags, etc.)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Devise and run my own game booth</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Kitchen duty and serving food (hot cocoa, hotdogs, popcorn, etc.)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Donate extra candy (individually wrapped)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Table setup (planning to set up 4 pm on the 31<sup>st</sup>)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Take-down</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Clean up kitchen</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Lighting, power strips, extension cords</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Other (fill in the blank):</i>

**Please fill out the information below:**

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ My phone is \_\_\_\_\_

My email is \_\_\_\_\_