



First Presbyterian Church
Las Cruces, New Mexico
Christ the King Sunday
November 26, 2023 - 10:30 A.M
Enter to worship – Leave to serve

PRELUDE

Opus 75, Duet #6: Allegro and Allegretto
Vicki Kuyper, flute; Holly Dalager, Oboe

W.A. Mozart

**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

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:20-22 NRSV)

CHORAL INTROIT

“Rejoice, The Lord is King!

Darwall's 148th

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jimmy O'Neal

(Psalm 100)

Leader: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

People: **Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

People: **For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

#263 “All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!”

Coronation

***PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Holy and Loving God, as the angels and all the saints gather before your throne and proclaim your everlasting praise and glory, so we gather here today in your holy sanctuary to worship and

adore you. Stir up, O Lord, your faithful ones to seek more eagerly your living presence and attend us in this time we have set aside so that we may more worthily magnify your most holy name. Grant us grace to follow those who have gone before us in lives of faith and commitment, that we, with them, may know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you. We ask these things through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **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 #274 “You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepard” Picardy
Congregation to sing verses 1 and 4
Choral Scholars to sing verses 2 and 3

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Sovereign God, we confess that although we willingly say “Jesus is Lord and King,” yet we often fail to bow our knees and lives before him. Instead, we grant our allegiances and loyalties to material goods and successes of this world. In your mercy, hear our prayer of confession. Grant us the humility to bow before you, the Ruler of all nations, so that our hearts may be turned and we choose to live as loyal servants of your kingdom. Bring to our conscience the sins we need to acknowledge and confess, through your son, the King of kings and Lord of lords. By your grace and infinite power, open our hearts to new possibilities, to hope, and to living more faithful lives.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: Hear the words of Jesus from the Gospel of John. "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Abide in me and in my love." Friends, believe the Good News: all our sins are forgiven.

People: **By God's grace we are loved and saved. Through the blood of Christ, our sin is forgiven, thanks be to God. Amen.**

Leader: How shall we, the Church, respond to Christ’s grace and forgiveness?

People: **Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death. As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so, in the same way and with the same seriousness he is also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to his creatures. The Christian Church is the congregation of the brethren in which Jesus Christ acts presently as the Lord in Word and sacrament through the Holy Spirit. As the Church of pardoned sinners, it has to testify in the midst of a sinful world, with its faith as with its obedience.**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE #452 “Open the Eyes of My Heart” Open The Eyes

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

CALL TO PRAYER #452 “Open the Eyes of My Heart” Open The Eyes

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM “In Thanksgiving, Let us Praise Him” Arr. Lloyd Larson
Vicki Kuyper, Flute; Holly Dalager, Oboe

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Dr. Janet Loman

Psalm 8 Ephesians 1:15-23

Psalm 8, *New Revised Standard Version*

O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger. When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas. O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Ephesians 1:15-23, *New Revised Standard Version*

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON We Hope Because God Reigns Rev. Norm Story

*CLOSING HYMN #451 “Open My Eyes, That I May See” Open My Eyes

GO IN GOD’S NAME

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION “Rejoice, The Lord Is King!” Darwall’s 148th

*POSTLUDE Hymn Tune Improvisation Howard A. Smolleck

*Lithurgist-Jimmy O’Neal Deacon Captain-Divine Mboh
Sound System-Max Schroeder Video-Dina Schroeder*

Greeting Before Worship Service:

Diana Howard-E Sandy Abernathy-W Linda Pearson-S

Greeting after Worship Service:

Divine Mboh-E Rev. Norm Story-W Rev. Nick Koontz-S

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

Prayers

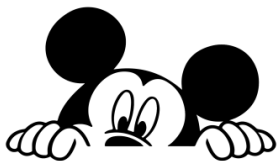


Please remember in your

- *Prayers for all those traveling, all those visiting loved ones and all those missing their family this week.*
- *Prayers for Clyde Treat who passed away peacefully on Sunday November 19th, his services will be held in January, prayers for his family.*
- *Prayers for Bill and Ruth Akins as they recover from illness and Katrina Parks.*

Continued Prayer List:

Roger Jones; Jessica Stout, daughter of Beth Thomas; June Briggs; Dinus Briggs; Wayne & Marianne Maley; Rev. Jay Bishop; John & Melanie Grant; Linda



Seaton’s father; Shannon, Daughter of Bill & Virginia Haynes; Rev. Marcus Burr; Mary Olberg; Jean Rhodes; Rev. Dave Schreuder; Dale Cook and First Presbyterian Church of Deming; Jonathon West’s mother; Fred Davis; Esther Smolleck’s sister; Jeanine Krenzer; and Dorris Hamilton, Norma Klein, Ann Miller all at The

Heritage, 854 Lettuce Lane, 88001.

**For prayer requests, call the church office, leave a written request in the purple boxes, or email newsletter@fpc.lc to get your request on the Church-wide prayer chain.*



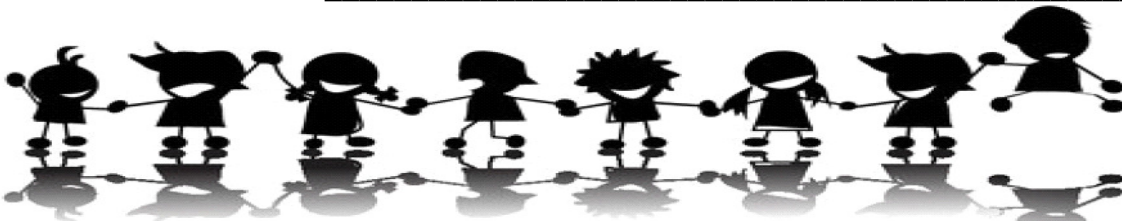
~ Happy Birthday! ~

11/28 – Ed Green

11/30 – Rev. Nick Koontz

12/01 – Carol Bott

12/02 – Jean Bernard N ganou



Fellowship

***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 Valencia-Owens Family.**

Hello & welcome!

Our Worship services are now available:

- In-person, with Covid19 precautions
 - Live-stream on YouTube, First Presbyterian Church Las Cruces, NM
 - Video archive on the church website, our Facebook site or YouTube
-

Covid19 Precautions:

- Seating in the 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 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.

Contributions to support your church can be done in a variety of ways. Thank you for your continued generosity and faithful giving.



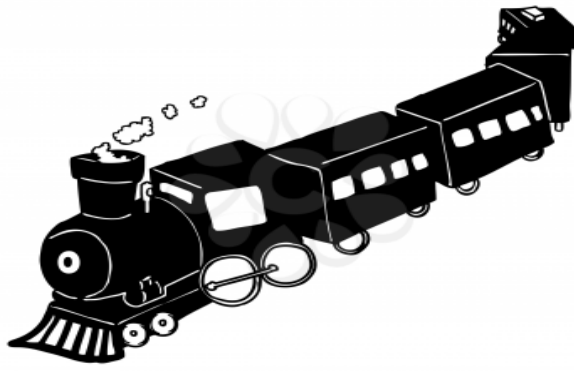
Tithes, gifts and offerings can be done in a variety of ways. Thank You for your continued generosity and faithful giving.

1. Cash or check in the purple offering box.
2. Check sent by mail.
- Online at fpc.lc/giving or via the QR code to the right.
4. Using the app "Church Center."
5. Text 84321

More information can be found on our website:

fpc.lc
CCLI License No. 5407

Church Office Hours are: Monday-Friday 11:00 AM-2:00 PM



In The Life of The Church



~ Salt & Light ~

ALL ABOARD!

Wednesday November 29th the menu
To be determined



The season of giving is upon us. The Deacons will once again be distributing out food baskets. If you know a family or anyone who would like to receive a basket this holiday season please email Linda Ward at lrwardps@gmail.com or contact the church office with the name of the family and contact information. We thank all of you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.



IN-BETWEENERS COMING UP



Our annual Carol Sing will be on Friday, Dec. 15th at 6 pm. We'll have a planned potluck, then Christmas music with Leah Mathe and Howard Smolleck. Please contact the Ames at 575-526-3247, or jkames@q.com to let us know you'll be coming and what category of dish you'd like to bring (main dish, vegetable/side, salad, or dessert) by Monday, December 11th.



CHURCH
Calendar
& SERVICE TIMES

Sunday, November 26, 2023

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School led by Larry Hicks in the Jones Hall Library, a series entitled "Dietrich Bonhoeffer; Pastor, Theologian and Martyr"
- 9-11:45 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 together in the Sanctuary, In-Gathering
- 11:45 AM After-Worship Fellowship in Jones Hall
- 12:00 PM Sermon discussion in the Jones Hall Library with Rev. Story

Monday, November 27, 2023

7:00 PM Bells of Praise rehearsal with Beth Thomas
7:00 PM Young Adults Zoom Bible study with Dr. Janet Loman.

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

9:30 AM Staff Meeting, office will be closed during meeting
12:00 PM DEADLINE for submissions for the Sunday Bulletin
4:00 PM Salt & Light
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Thursday, November 30, 2023

Friday, December 1, 2023

Saturday, December 2, 2023

Sunday, December 3, 2023

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School led by Larry Hicks in the Jones Hall Library, a series entitled "Dietrich Bonhoeffer; Pastor, The Theologian, and Martyr"
9-11:45 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
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