



First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

Easter Resurrection Sunday

March 31, 2024 - 10:30 AM

Enter to worship – Leave to serve

PRELUDE

“Christ Is Alive!”

“Toccata: “Deo Gratias”

“A Schein Suite”

Michael Burkhardt (b.1957)

Richard Keys Biggs (1886-1962)

Johann Hermann Schein

Brass Quartet

Jacob Dalager, Trumpet; Paul McLaughin, Trumpet

Bill Kuyper, Horn; Scott McLaughlin, Trombone

**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

EASTER SALUTATION

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Leader: Lift up your hearts and rejoice in God’s victory over sin and death.

People: Glory to you, O God! On this day you won victory over death, raising Jesus from the grave and giving us eternal life. Christ is risen, and Christ will come again!

WELCOME, GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

I know that my Redeemer lives; what comfort this sweet sentence gives! He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living Head. He lives triumphant from the grave, He lives eternally to save, He lives all-glorious in the sky, He lives exalted there on high. He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same. Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives, "I know that my Redeemer lives!" (by Samuel Medley, 1738-1799)



INTROIT

“Let

the King Come In!”

Lloyd Larson

Mary Maley and Meg Goehring, Handbells

Jacob Dalager, Trumpet

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lon Anderson

(from A Brief Statement of Faith)

Leader: We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

People: **Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

Leader: With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

People: **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Arr. Bruce Greer

- Crown Him with many crowns, the lamb upon his throne.
Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee.
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

- Chancel Choir

- Crown Him the Lord of life, who triumphed o’er the grave.
Who rose victorious to the strife for those He came to save.

His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high.

Who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die.

- Crown Him the Lord of heaven, one with the Father known.
One with the spirit through Him given from yonder glorious throne.

To Thee be endless praise, for Thou for us hast died;

Be Thou, O Lord, through endless days adored and magnified.

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

Most gracious and loving God, you who overcame death with the resurrection of Christ Jesus, we lift our hearts to you in praise this blessed morning. We celebrate the Good News revealed by the stone that was rolled away and the tomb that was empty. We thank you, Lord, for the miracle of this day, for it gives sure and eternal hope to your people. May your resurrection give us grace that leads to faith. May the promise of resurrection dwell deeply in our hearts, giving us the willingness to share such a wonderful thing with others. We ask this through your Son, Christ Jesus our Lord, who conquered the grave, and who by your grace rules over both the living and the dead. **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 #240 "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks" Alleluia, No. 1

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of power and might, we stand before the empty tomb with awe, pondering a love that is stronger even than death. We come before you asking forgiveness for those times when we have failed to believe and follow you. Your love is constant and sure, yet we confess that we have failed in our confidence and trust in you, O Loving God. On this day of new beginnings and hope, we pray that by your Spirit, we can make a fresh start. We pray in the name of Jesus, who is raised from the dead, that we may be cleansed and released from the power of sin, O Holy God. Open our eyes and lives to the truth of the resurrection, that we will live in true freedom and blessed abundance eternally, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: God is gracious and loving. Hear the Good News of the gospel: that nothing in all of creation can separate us from the love of God through Christ Jesus. In Jesus Christ, all our sins are forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God; all our sins are forgiven and gone. Amen.**

Leader: Now cleansed from sin, how would God have us live?

People: **The Lord has told us what is good; and what does the Lord require of us, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

"Lift High the Cross"

Arr. Sondra Tucker

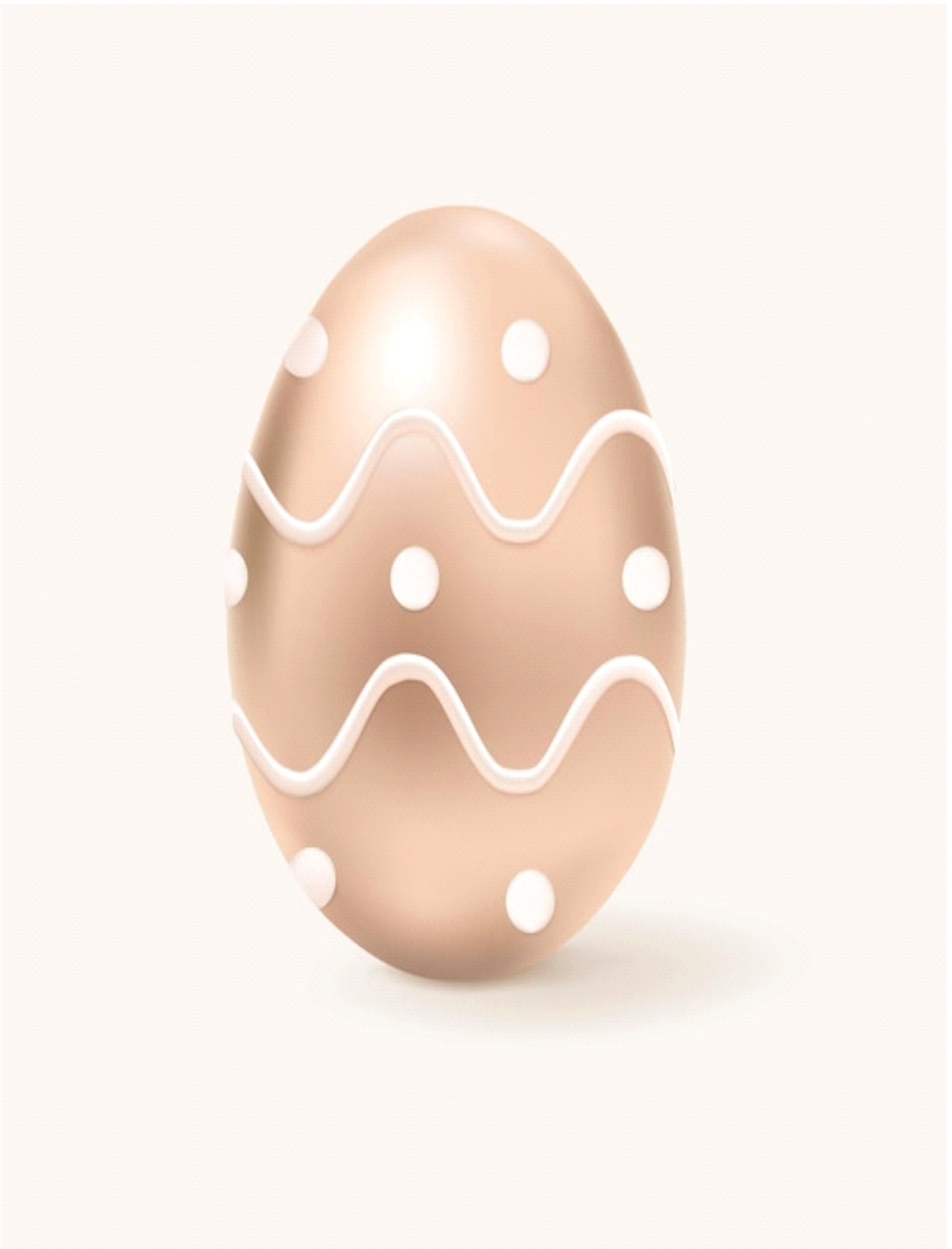


Bells of Praise

Brass Quartet

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Erin Taylor



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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Amoriz and Lukas Loya Cisneros
(children of Kevin and Mayra Loya Cisneros)

Sponsors: Lynn Loya, Xavier Hernandez, Taylor Solomon, and Eric Solomon

CALL TO PRAYER

“Be Not Afraid”
Chancel Choir

Be Not Afraid

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”
Chancel Choir
Brass Quartet

Vaclav Nelhybel

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSONS *1 Corinthians 15:1-4,12,16-22 1 Peter 1:3-5,13,21* Dr. Janet Loman

1 Corinthians 15:1-4, 12, 16-22 (New Revised Standard Version)

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures,

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

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.



Peter 1:3-5, 13, 21 (New Revised Standard Version)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an

inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Being made Alive in Christ”

Rev. Norm Story

*CLOSING HYMN

#238 “Thine is the Glory”
Congregation sings verses 1 and 3
Handbell Ensemble
Brass Quartet

Judas Maccabeus

GO IN GOD’S NAME

BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

Vaclav Nelhybel

Soar we now where Christ has led. Alleluia.
Foll’wing our exalted head. Alleluia.
Made like Him, like Him we rise. Alleluia.
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Alleluia

*POSTLUDE

Hymn Tune Improvisation

Howard A. Smolleck



*Liturgist-Lon Anderson Deacon Captain-Divine Mboh
Sound System-Max Shroeder Video-Dina Shroeder*

*Greeting Before Worship Service:
Donna Phillips-E Sandy Abernathy-W Rev. Nick Koontz-S*

*Greeting after Worship Service:
Erin Taylor-E Rev. Norm Story-W Lon Anderson-S*

Rev. Dr. Norm Story Dr. Janet Loman, CP	Pastor College Ministry	Rev. Pyong San Yu Dr. Howard A. Smolleck	Korean Congregation 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

Please remember in your Prayers

Jack Curry, Arnold McMillan, Kenneth, a friend of Divine, Mark Krohn, and Michael Shultz as they are all recovering or facing some health concerns.

Continued Prayer List:

Millie Conrad; Jessica Stout; Jeremy Borchert; David Bridges; Cindy Medina; Sherry Lindsey, friend of Amber Nolan; Dorris Hamilton, Norma Klein, and Ann Miller, at The Heritage; Jerry and Rayma Claessen at Grace Village; and Joyce Curry at Solstice.



Happy Birthday!

**4/1 Donna Curtis
4/2 Cindy Tafoya
4/2 Eziuche Chilaka**



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 Mary Martha Circle.

Our Worship services are now available:

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

CORONAVIRUS

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.**



- Cash or check in the purple offering box.
- Check sent by mail.
- Online at fpc.lc/giving or via the QR code on the right.
- Using the app “Church Center”.
- Text 84321

CCLI License No. 540727

More information can be found on our website fpc.lc

Thank you for your continued generosity and faithful giving.

Church office hours: Monday-Friday 9AM-2PM, Phone 575.526.5559
200 E. Boutz Rd., Las Cruces, NM 88005



HAPPY
Easter

In the life of the Church

Salt & Light

This Wednesday, April 3rd, we will be studying *Jesus heals the Blind man*. Dinner will be breakfast! Pancakes, lil smokies, and fruit cups for dessert.

Mary Martha Cirle

Welcome ladies of First Presbyterian Church. Please join us Tuesday, April 9th, at 9:30 AM, in Jones Hall Library to socialize with friends and guests. We will be studying the Book of Colossians, and we will begin Bible Study at 10:00 AM. We look forward to seeing you all there!

***REMINDER THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, APRIL 1ST IN OBSERVANCE OF EASTER.**

Get your baskets and your running shoes ready! Our Easter Egg Hunt will be held after Worship this morning. See you there!

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

Fellowship is still in need of volunteers for April 7th, and April 28th. The sign-up board can be found in the Jones Hall Fellowship area.



silly
♥ RABBIT
EASTER
♥ IS FOR...
Jesus