

People: so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*HYMN OF PRAISE #394 "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" Westminster Abbey

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

Gracious God, you who surprise us with new experiences of love and blessings, we come with grateful reverence to praise and adore you. Help us to be open to your appearance among us and within us. Pour out, we pray, your Spirit upon us. As we your people gather, make us attentive to your Word and ready to do your bidding. O holy eternal Trinity, we praise you for ever and ever. We ask in the name of Christ Jesus, he who lives and reigns with the Father and Holy Spirit, one God, both now and forevermore, and who taught his disciples to pray, **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 #422 Create In Me A Clean Heart Create In Me

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious and generous God, we confess that we live lives that are far less wonderful than you intend and desire for us. We have been blessed with far more than we need to live well, yet too often, fear of scarcity makes us hesitant and stingy in sharing our abundance with those in need or with the mission of your Church. You first loved us, and call us to respond, letting nothing get in the way of a deep and meaningful walk with you. But sometimes we let things that do not truly matter distract us. Help us, Lord, to use our lives and resources well, according to your will and purpose, and may we live useful lives, growing more and more like Jesus day by day. In your great compassion, forgive our sins, renew us, help us to live more faithfully, and serve as led by your Holy Spirit.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

(1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 NRSV)

Leader: May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The

one who calls us is faithful, and he will do this. Friends, believe the good news, in Jesus Christ all our sins are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God, for all our sin is forgiven and gone. May that grace move us closer to Christ and His intended purpose for our lives.

Leader: Now cleansed from our sin, how should we live in faithful response?

People: Jesus said, 'I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

"As the Deer"

As the Deer

Harmony optional

1. As the deer pant-eth for the wa-ter, So my soul long-eth af - ter Thee.
2. You're my friend and You are my broth-er, E-ven though You are a King.
3. I want You more than gold or sil-ver, On-ly You can sat - is - fy.

You a - lone are my heart's de - sire, And I long to wor - ship Thee.
I love You more than an - y oth-er, So much more than an - y - thing.
You a - lone are the real joy giv-er, And the ap - ple of my eye.

Refrain

You a - lone are my strength, my shield; To You a - lone may my
spir - it yield. You a - lone are my
heart's de - sire, And I long to wor - ship Thee.

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Debra Smith

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

CALL TO PRAYER

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”
Chancel Choir

Trentham

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

“God So Loved the World”

John Stainer

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Numbers 21:4-9 John 3:1-17

Dr. Janet Loman

Numbers 21:4-9 (New Revised Standard Version)

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

John 3:1-17 (New Revised Standard Version)

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven

except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON	"Under New Management"	Rev. Norm Story
*CLOSING HYMN	#634 "To God Be the Glory"	To God Be the Glory

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION	"You Shall Go Out with Joy"	The Trees of the Field
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*POSTLUDE	Hymn Tune Improvisation	Howard A. Smolleck
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*Liturgist-Bill Akins Deacon Captain-Patricia Adu-Mensah
Sound System-Max Schroeder Video-Dina Schroeder*

*Greeting before Worship Service:
Patricia Adu-Mensah-E Sandy Abernathy-W Linda Pearson-S*

*Greeting after Worship Service:
Rev. Norm Story-E Bill Akins-W Debra Smith-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		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	Cat Munoz	Bookkeeper

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 CLOS.

Please Remember in your Prayers

- The family of Stephen Reese, friends of Tom and Donna Marconi.
- Nancy Cowan's 14 year old great nephew who is battling cancer.
- Jessica Moiser's baby girl Aaliyah, who was born prematurely.
- Johnathan Jackson, Ada's grandson-in-law, who was deployed with the Navy.
- Laura, a friend of Dinah, who is facing a difficult week with her cancer journey.
- Jose, Alora Nevarez's husband; and Liliana Pena, who are facing health concerns.

Continued Prayer List

Jack and Joyce Curry at Solstice; Jerry and Rayma Claessen at Grace Village; Arnold McMillan; Kathy Story; Jessica Borchert-Stout; Jeremy Borchert; Cindy Medina; Dorris Hamilton, Mel Parish and Ann Miller at The Heritage.

5/26 *Bill Haynes*

5/27 *Erin Taylor*

5/27 *Claire McFerrin*

5/28 *Rusty Smith*

5/28 *Mikki Albright*

5/29 *Evan Schroeder*

5/28 *John Curry*

5/30 *Rosemary Maddox*

5/30 *Patricia Adu-Mensah*

5/31 *Yolanda Koontz*

6/1 *Dorothy Klement*



Our Worship services are 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.**

1. Cash or check in the purple offering box.
2. Check sent by mail.
3. Online at fpc.lc/giving or via the QR code on the right.
4. Using the app “Church Center”.
5. 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 88001

In the life of the Church



FUZE YOUTH GROUP IS MEETING ON WEDNESDAYS FROM 5 PM-7 PM. WE LOOK FORWARDING TO HAVING YOU JOIN US!



The Youth Mission trip to the Navajo Nation will be Sunday, June 9th through Friday, June 14th.

Vacation Bible School will be “Scuba Diving into Friendship with God” on Monday, July 8th through Friday, July 12th. We hope to see you all there!





May

Sunday, May 26th

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School with Catie Brewer is watching and discussing the video series "Epic of Eden: Psalms" by Sandra Richter in Jones Hall Library
- 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
- 11:45 AM After-Worship Fellowship in Jones Hall (see announcement)
- 12:00 PM Sermon discussion with Rev. Norm Story in Jones Hall
- 3:00 PM Camerata Del Sol Chamber Concert in the Sanctuary

Monday, May 27th

Office closed in observance of Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 28th

- 12:00PM Deadline for The Good News
- 3:30 PM Storytellers of Las Cruces Potluck in Jones Hall Fellowship Area

Wednesday, May 29th

- 9:30 AM Staff Meeting Church Office will be closed during this time
- 12:00 PM Deadline for submissions for the Sunday Bulletin
- 5:00 PM FUZE Youth Group
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 30th

- 1:30 PM Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor
- 6:00 PM Dr. Hyerim Mapp Cello Studio Recital in the Sanctuary

Friday, May 31st

Saturday, June 1st

Sunday, June 2nd

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School with Catie Brewer is watching and discussing the video series "Epic of Eden: Psalms" by Sandra Richter in Jones Hall Library
- 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
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