



First Presbyterian Church
Las Cruces, New Mexico
7th Sunday after Pentecost
Communion Sunday
July 7, 2024 - 10:30 A.M
Enter to worship – Leave to serve



PRELUDE

“Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine”
“Communion”
“I know Whom I Have Believed”

Edward L. Good (b. 1961)
George Blake (1912-1986)
David Lasky (b. 1959)

**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

Soup Kitchen

Diana Howard

MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will. (Ephesians 1:3-5 NRSV)

CHORAL INTROIT

“The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing”

The Feast Is Ready

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Janet Loman

(from Psalm 139)

Leader: O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

People: **Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?**

Leader: I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

People: Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

#275 "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

Ein' Feste Burg

*PRAYER OF ADORATION (unison)

We praise you, O God, and rejoice in the covenant whereby you have written your word on our hearts. We have come here because we wish to see Jesus. Eternal One, by faith we believe that you brought us here today. By faith we believe that you sent Jesus because you love us and that you desire to bless all of your creation. We believe that you know everything about us, and that through our worship, you will speak truth and grace to us. Let us hear your grace and feel your mercy as we come before you in worship. May we bend and bow to your will and purpose for us. In Jesus' name, may our worship be truthful and pleasing to you, amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of justice, through your servants and prophets you have made known your desire for peace and harmony to include the whole human family. Through Jesus, you have shared your vision of a caring community where every person is honored and valued. We confess that we often blur that vision by our attitude toward others. Sometimes we have devalued the talents and work of other people, neglecting to see them as an intentional part of your precious creation and purpose. Have mercy on us, O gracious Savior. Help us to live more faithfully as your stewards by treating others and all of your creation with more care.

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: What do we mean when we speak of "the forgiveness of sins"?

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.¹

HYMN OF ASSURANCE #192 “Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining” Shine, Jesus, Shine

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Debra Smith

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

CALL TO PRAYER #835 “Just a Closer Walk with Thee” Closer Walk

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM “The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing” The Feast Is Ready

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON 2 Corinthians 13:5-14 Dr. Janet Loman

2 Corinthians 13:5-14 (New Revised Standard Version)

Examine yourselves to see whether you are living in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not realize that Jesus Christ is in you? —unless, indeed, you fail to meet the test! I hope you will find out that we have not failed. But we pray to God that you may not do anything wrong—not that we may appear to have met the test, but that you may do what is right, though we may seem to have failed. For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. For we rejoice when we are weak and you are strong. This is what we pray for, that you may become perfect. So I write these things while I am away from you, so that when I come, I may not have to be severe in using the authority that the Lord has given me for building up and not for tearing down. Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON “Faith Is Meant to Be Lived” Rev. Norm Story

¹ Question #62, The Study Catechism: Confirmation Version, Approved by the 210th General Assembly (1998) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

*COMMUNION HYMN #300 "We Are One in the Spirit" They'll Know We Are Christians

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 "Feed Us, Lord" Feed Us

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

*POSTLUDE Hymn Tune Improvisation Howard A. Smolleck

*Liturgist-Dr. Janet Loman Deacon Captain-Diana Howard
Sound System-Curtis Beneway Video-Rusty Smith*

*Greeting before Worship Service:
Rev. Nick Koontz-E Diana Howard-W Linda Pearson-S*

*Greeting after Worship Service:
Diana Howard-E Debra Smith-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	Veronica Giron	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

Ice Cream Social

CCOS will be hosting an ice cream social following Worship this morning in the Jones Hall Fellowship area. Following the CCOS Ice Cream Social Beth will lead us in a patriotic sing-along. Please plan to stay and join us!



7/8 Ken Osborne
 7/8 Shawn & Shawna Chilaka
 7/13 Joseph Higginbotham
 7/14 Ed Mathis



Please Remember in your Prayers

- The town of Ruidoso, as they begin to rebuild after the aftermath.
- Everyone traveling this summer.
- Charlotte Brockway, who is recovering from a sprained shoulder.
- Mark Jenkins and Velma Harbaugh, who are currently hospitalized.
- Nolan, Nancy Cowan's sister-in-law's grandson, who has to continue radiation therapy for a year.
- Jonathon Francisco, Anya's father who is facing some health concerns.

Continued Prayer List

Cat Munoz; Linda Ramirez; Jack and Joyce Curry, who have returned home; Jerry and Rayma Claessen at Grace Village; Arnold McMillan; Jessica Borchert-Stout; Jeremy Borchert; Millie Conrad; Dorris Hamilton, Mel Parish, and Ann Miller at The Heritage.



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

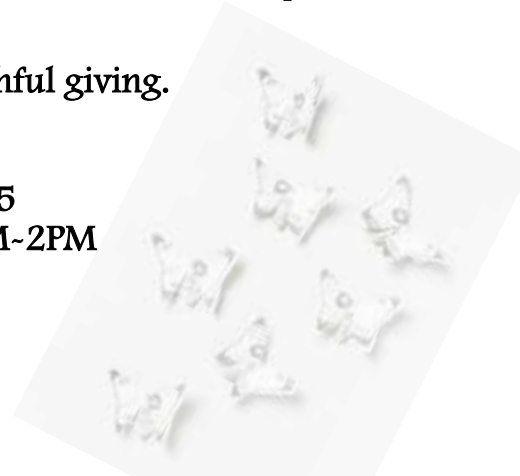


CCLI License No. 540727

More information can be found on our website fpc.lc

Thank you for your continued generosity and faithful giving.

First Presbyterian Church
200 E. Boutz Rd, Las Cruces, NM 88005
Church office hours are Monday-Friday 9AM-2PM



In the Life of the Church

The Time Has Come!

Vacation Bible School will be

“Scuba Diving into

Friendship with God”

TOMORROW!!

July 8th through Friday, July 12th.

We hope to “SEA” you all there!

School Is Almost in Session!

With the school year about to begin, we have many students and schools in need of school supplies. The Deacons will be collecting donations of needed supplies now through mid-July. If you would like to donate you can find a list of items that are needed in the Bulletin. Supplies can be dropped off at the church office. If you have any questions, please reach out to

Rev. Nick Koontz, 575.526.5559, or Linda Ward, 619.417.6912

We Still Need Backpacks!

We are once again going to provide backpacks and school supplies for kids. We also need names from you of those kids that you would like to see get new backpacks. They can be from our church, the community, or others you know who could use a little help. We hope you will continue your generosity and assist us by purchasing a backpack or two to donate to the cause. This year

school starts on July 15th, so we need to get on the move! If you have any questions, please contact Linda Ward at 619.417.6912, or one of our Deacons.



July



Sunday, July 7th

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School with Catie Brewer is viewing 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
- 9:30 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)
- 12:10 PM Patriotic Sing-along with Beth Thomas (see announcement)

Monday, July 8th

- 12:00 PM Deadline for The Good News
- 7:00 PM Bells Rehearsal

Tuesday, July 9th

Wednesday, July 10th

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

Thursday, July 11th

- 1:30 PM Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor

Friday, July 12th

Saturday, July 13th

Sunday, July 14th

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School with Catie Brewer is viewing 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
- 9:30 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 After-Worship sermon Discussion with Rev. Norm Story

