



First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

21st Sunday after Pentecost

October 13, 2024 - 10:30 AM

Enter to worship – Leave to serve

PRELUDE

“I’d Rather Have Jesus” (Hymn by George Beverly Shea, 1939) Hugh S. Livingston, Jr (1945-2014)

“I Surrender All” Edward Broughton (1934-2015)

“Lovely Appear” (from *The Redemption*) Charles Francois Gounod (1818-1893)

**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

Finance & Administration

Jerry Moser

MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.” (Luke 16:1, 13 NRSV)

CHORAL INTROIT

“Jesus Calls Us”

Galilee

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Eziuche Chilaka

(Psalm 104)

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, you are very great. You are clothed with honor and majesty, wrapped in light as with a garment. You stretch out the heavens like a tent.

People: O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

Leader: When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground. May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works.

People: I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

#267 “Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

Madrid

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

O Lord, you have given us a new beginning, a new morning! What a treat to come and worship, to praise and glorify your name! In wonder, we thank you for the abundance of blessings and gifts in our lives. Were we to make a list of all the ways we are blessed, we would never be able to finish the task. Thank you, and may we be ever more mindful of your benefits, endless blessings, and steadfast loving kindness. In our worship, may we be as exuberant and eager as our children. Help us set aside the concerns of this world and come into your presence with childlike joy and anticipation...**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

"O Lord, Have Mercy"

Ore Poriaju Vereko

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of love and tenderness, You call us from the chaos of our lives, just as we are. Embrace each of us now as we confess our sins. Forgive us for the opportunities we miss, for squandering our gifts, for wasting our time, and for simply being too busy and preoccupied to keep our focus on the things that really matter. Where we have fallen short of doing your will, forgive us. Where we have neglected those in need, forgive us. Where we have been selfish and hurt other people, forgive us. By your mercy and grace, lead us to live in ways that more faithfully reflect your steadfast loving kindness.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: If the Lord remembered our sin, who could stand? For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. But the Lord has promised, "For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more." In the name of Jesus Christ, I declare that our sin is forgiven. Thanks be to God.

People: **The Lord's name be praised. In Jesus Christ all our sin is forgiven. Amen.**

Leader: What does Scripture teach about the nature of our God?

People: **There is but one only living and true God, who is infinite in being and perfection, a most pure spirit, invisible, without body, parts, or passions, immutable, immense, eternal, incomprehensible, almighty; most wise, most holy, most free, most absolute, working all things according to the counsel of his own immutable and most righteous will, for his own glory; most loving, gracious, merciful, long-suffering, abundant in goodness and truth, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin; the rewarder of them that diligently seek him. ¹**

¹ THE WESTMINSTER CONFESSION OF FAITH, 1646

HYMN OF ASSURANCE #20 "All Things Bright And Beautiful" Royal Oak

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Brooke Montgomery

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

CALL TO PRAYER "I Have Promised" Angel's Story

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM "Give Me Jesus" Arr. Kurt Kaiser

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSONS 2 Corinthians 8:1-4, 9:6-11 Mark 10:17-22 Dr. Janet Loman

2 Corinthians 8:1-4, 9:6-11 (New Revised Standard Version)

We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints—

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us

Mark 10:17-22 (New Revised Standard Version)

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON	“Fullness of Life as God Intends”	Rev. Norm Story
*CLOSING HYMN	#697 “Take My Life”	Hendon
<u>GO IN GOD’S NAME</u>		
*BENEDICTION		
*CHORAL BENEDICTION	“Jesus Calls Us”	Galilee
*POSTLUDE	Hymn Tune Improvisation	Howard A. Smolleck

*Liturgist-Eziuche Chilaka Deacon Captain-Divine Mboh
Sound System-Jonathon West Video-Will Schroeder*

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

*Greeting after Worship Service:
Brook Montgomery-E Rev. Norm Story & Eziuche Chilaka-W Jerry Moser-S*

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 Michael Owusu Sekyere in honor of Michaela E. Owusu Sekyere’s 4th Birthday.

<i>10/13 Blaine Goss</i>	<i>10/13 Michaela E. Owusu Sekyere</i>	<i>10/15 Jorge Inocencio</i>
<i>10/15 Karma Bromell</i>	<i>10/17 Curtis Benaway</i>	<i>10/17 Kathy Story</i>
<i>10/17 Lauren Mattiace</i>		<i>10/19 Donna Farmer</i>
<i>10/19 Claudia Chavez</i>		<i>10/19 Laura Conniff</i>



Please Remember in your Prayers

- *Amber Nolan*
- *Donna Marconi as she is recovering from surgery.*
- *The Hurricane victims.*
- *Donna Curtiss, who is traveling.*
- *Verna Green's sister-in-law as she undergoes surgery.*
- *Prayers for civility, peace, mutual understanding, and an abiding trust in God's sovereignty as we walk through a divisive election season.*

Continued Prayer List

Sara Kay; Jack and Joyce Curry, who are at home; Jerry and Rayma Claessen at Grace Village; Arnold McMillan; Nancy Cowan's sister in-law; Mary Olberg; Millie Conrad; Rev. Marcus Burr, at the Village of Northrise; 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 88001
575.526.5559
Church Office Hours:
Monday – Friday 9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.



In the Life of the Church

Salt & Light

On Wednesday, October 16th, our theme is *God's Peaceful Kingdom*. We will be studying “A Shepherd King”. Dinner will be chicken tenders, green beans, tater tots, and ice cream sandwiches for dessert.





Trunk or Treat is upon us! See how you can help make this year's event successful by signing up on the insert in your Bulletin.

In-Betweeners Coming Up!

On Friday evening, October 25th, we'll be getting together for a planned potluck dinner at 6 PM in Watkins Fellowship Hall. After dinner, local author and historian David Thomas will present the program. Please let us know by Monday, October 21st, that you plan to be there and what category of dish (main dish, salad, veg/side, or dessert) you'd like to bring.

Contact: the Ames, 575-636-0210 or jkames@q.com.



Annual Hamburger Fry



The Deacons would like to invite you all to our Annual Hamburger Fry on October 27, 2024, after services. It will be held in Watkins Hall. We will be serving hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, beans, chips, coleslaw, and dessert. This is our only source of funding for our ministries that support our community and church projects. Please join us and help us!





Sunday, October 13th

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School with Catie Brewer is viewing and discussing the video series “The Chosen: Season Four” 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 Sermon Discussion with Rev. Norm Story

Monday, October 14th

Office Closed in Observance of Indigenous People’s Day

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

Tuesday, October 15th

- 7:00 PM Session Meeting in Jones Hall Library

Wednesday, October 16th

- 8:00 AM Serve with us at the Soup Kitchen, call the office for more information
- 9:30 AM Staff Meeting, office will be closed during this time
- 12:00 PM Deadline for submissions for the Sunday Bulletin
- 4:00 PM Salt & Light (see announcement)
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 17th

- 1:30 PM Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor

Friday, October 18th

Saturday, October 19th

Sunday, October 20th

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School with Catie Brewer will begin viewing and discussing the video series “The Gospel of Matthew” 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
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