



# First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Communion Sunday

November 3, 2024 - 10:30 AM

*Enter to worship – Leave to serve*

## PRELUDE

“Do This in Remembrance of Me” (Lk. 22:19)

Dale Wood (1934-2003)

“I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table” (chorale of 1756)

Benjamin M. Culli (b.1975)

“To God on High Alone Be Glory”

Samuel Scheidt (1587-1654)

\*\*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

STEWARSHIP

Missions

Dr. Paul Deason

## MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (Ephesians 3:20-21 NRSV)

CHORAL INTROIT

“Your Only Son”

Lamb of God

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Janet Loman

(Isaiah 55)

Leader: Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

**People: For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.**

Leader: For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

**People: For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE #504 We Come As Guests Invited” Wie Lieblich ist der Maien

**\*PRAYER OF ADORATION**

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. 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 all of this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever, amen.

**PLEASE BE SEATED**

CALL TO CONFESSION #444 “Forgive Our Sins as we Forgive” Detroit

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

(Psalm 51)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

**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:** Let us declare what we believe using the Apostles Creed.

**People: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**



SERMON

“The Capernaum Skylight Company”

Rev. Norm Story

\*COMMUNION HYMN

#498 “Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken”

Beach Spring

### 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

“Bread of Life From Heaven”

Break Now the Bread

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

\*POSTLUDE

Hymn Tune Improvisation

Howard A. Smolleck

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

*Greeting before Worship Service:*

*Kathleen Gardner-E    Linda Pearson-W    Dawn Griffin-O’Neal-S*

*Greeting after Worship Service:*

*Erin Taylor-E    Rev. Nick Koontz-W    Kathleen Gardner-S*

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## **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 Congregational Life and Outreach Support Committee.

11/5 David  
Klement

11/6 Molly  
Schroeder



### ***Please Remember in your Prayers***

- *Kathy Story's sister, Carolyn, and her family.*
- *Melissa Sherman, Norm Serrano and Heidi Harbaugh.*
- *Prayers for Marly, sister-in-law to Paul and Verna Green, as she navigates health concerns.*
- *Prayers for comfort and peace for Barb Wolflick,*
- *Karen and Barry Sullivan.*
- *Arnold & Cheri McMillan.*
- *Prayers for the ministries of FPC, and especially Salt and Light, that they would be as successful quantitatively as they are qualitatively in the lives of those involved! May God enable us to reach out to others and include them in Christian community.*

### ***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.*

# Welcome!

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](http://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](http://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.



*The Deacons are so very grateful that yet again, you all have been so generous to donate to the Deacons. We enjoyed having you as our guests for the Hamburger Fry and we hope you enjoyed yourselves. You have our thanks and appreciation. May God bless us all and keep us safe so that we may continue to serve Him, our church and community.*

# *In the Life of the Church*

## Salt & Light

On Wednesday, November 6th, our theme is *Ask, Seek, Knock*. Dinner will be chicken flautas, rice, queso, salad and cake for dessert.

## Mary Martha Circle

*Mary Martha Circle will be meeting in the library Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM. We are continuing our study of the bible book of Matthew with Leader Gracia Class. All the ladies and friends are invited to join us for a morning of exploration and conversation. Questions, please call Helen Moser at 575.647.336.*

## Join Jennie Curry Bible Study and Discover the Heart of Jesus



At 6:30 PM, Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, the women of Jennie Curry Bible Study will delve into the lessons of John's first, second, and third letters. Kelly Minter's relational approach to the study enhances *What Love Is*. A study that promises to not only to reveal the heart of John, but also deepen our understanding of the heart of Jesus.

We invite all women who share a love of God and Scripture to join us. If you would like more information, or have any questions, please contact Kathy Story at 575.202.2667, or [storyk@comcast.net](mailto:storyk@comcast.net).

## Advent Devotionals

We are collecting daily devotionals for our advent booklet. Please consider writing one to three short paragraphs on an Advent/Christmas-related Scripture and submitting it to [nkoontz@fpc.lc](mailto:nkoontz@fpc.lc) for inclusion. A list of suggested Scriptures is available upon request.





### Sunday, November 3rd

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School with Catie Brewer will be 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 Jones Hall (see announcement)
- 9:00 AM Sunday School for grades 6-12 in Jones Hall (see announcement)
- 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, November 4th

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

### Tuesday, November 5th

### Wednesday, November 6th

- 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, November 7th

- 1:30 PM Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor
- 6:30 PM Jennie Curry in Jones Hall Library (see announcement)

### Friday, November 8th

### Saturday, November 9th

### Sunday, November 10th

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School with Catie Brewer will be 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 Jones Hall (see announcement)
- 9:00 AM Sunday School for grades 6-12 in Jones Hall (see announcement)
- 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)
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