



**First Presbyterian Church
Las Cruces, New Mexico
Ordination and Installation of Officers
January 19, 2025 - 10:30 A.M
*Enter to worship – Leave to serve***



PRELUDE

“Arise, Your Light Has Come!” (hymn tune of 1894)

Jacob B. Weber (b. 1988)

“We Are One in the Spirit” (hymn tune of 1966)

David Paxton (1934-2015)

“What God Ordains Is Always Good” (17th-century hymn)

David Schelat (b. 1955)

****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

MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

I have a special concern for you church leaders. I know what it's like to be a leader, in on Christ's sufferings as well as the coming glory. Here's my concern: that you care for God's flock with all the diligence of a shepherd. Not because you have to, but because you want to please God. Not calculating what you can get out of it, but acting spontaneously. Not bossily telling others what to do, but tenderly showing them the way. When God, who is the best shepherd of all, comes out in the open with his rule, he'll see that you've done it right and commend you lavishly. (1 Peter 5:1-4 *The Message*)

CHORAL INTROIT “We All Are One in Mission” ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVOGELEIN

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Bill Akins

(1 Corinthians, *The Message*)

Leader: God's various gifts are handed out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various ministries are carried out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit.

People: **Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits. All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people!**

Leader: You are Christ's body—that's who you are! You must never forget this. Only as you accept your part of that body does your "part" mean anything.

People: **If I speak with human eloquence and angelic ecstasy but don't love, I'm nothing but the creaking of a rusty gate. Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE #644 "Give Thanks, O Christian People" EIN KLEINS WALDVOGELEIN

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

Holy God, we praise you for this beautiful day, and for the abundance of blessings that shower into our lives. Indeed, we thank you for the gift of life itself. We thank you, Lord, for the family in which you placed us, loved us, and called for us to grow. We thank you for our church, this family of faith, where we grow in our faith through worship, through fellowship, and through Christian service. Help us this day to honor you in our worship, to focus upon you, humbling ourselves in adoration. May we worthily celebrate the hope and wonder of that truth, and be open to whatever you have for us this day. Help us hear your voice, recognize your Word for us, and hunger for a deeper relationship with you... **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

"Search Me, O God"
Chancel Choir

KAM-CHHAT

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Merciful God, we give you thanks, for you have created us to live together in love and freedom with you and with one another in this world. You created us in your image, endowed us with gifts and resources that will can reflect your love and glory, but we have fallen short. Our relationships with others are often distorted. Though our neighbors have needs, we do not always respond generously and lovingly. We have not always used our gifts well because our hearts have been set on self – not others, and not upon you. Have mercy O Lord, hear our confession and strengthen us to draw nearer to you that we may live more faithfully hereafter...**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.**

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: Hear the words of Jesus from the Gospel of John and be comforted. "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Abide in me and in my love." Friends, believe the Good News, all our sins are forgiven.

People: By God's grace we are loved and saved. Through God's grace in Christ, our sin is forgiven, thanks be to God. Amen.

Leader: Now cleansed from sin, how would the Lord our 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, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

(Micah 6:8)

HYMN OF ASSURANCE #314 "Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness" Christ Be Our Light
Choral Scholars to sing verses
Congregation to join on refrain

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Amon Taylor
• Children are asked to sit on the carpet squares in the front.

CALL TO PRAYER "O Jesus, I Have Promised" Angel's Story
Chancel Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM "Lord, We Are Your People" Mark Patterson
Handbells: Hannah Dalager, Vicki Kuyper, Mary Maley

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Romans 15:1-7 (The Message) 1 Corinthians 12:1, 4-15, 27
Dr. Janet Loman

Romans 15:1-7 (The Message)

Those of us who are strong and able in the faith need to step in and lend a hand to those who falter, and not just do what is most convenient for us. Strength is for service, not status. Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, "How can I help?" That's exactly what Jesus did. He didn't make it easy for himself by avoiding people's troubles, but waded right in and helped out. "I took on the troubles of the troubled," is the way Scripture puts it. Even if it was written in Scripture long ago, you can be sure it's written for us. God wants the combination of his steady, constant calling and warm, personal counsel in Scripture to come to characterize us, keeping us alert for whatever he will do next. May our dependably steady and warmly personal God develop maturity in you so that you get along with each other as well as Jesus gets along with us all. Then we'll be a choir—not our voices only, but our very lives singing in harmony in a stunning anthem to the God and Father of our Master Jesus! So reach out and welcome one another to God's glory. Jesus did it; now you do it!

1 Corinthians 12:1, 4-15, 27 (New Revised Standard Version)

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON “More of an Organism Than an Organization” Rev. Norm Story

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF NEW CHURCH OFFICERS
Dinah Jentgen, Clerk of Session

Elders: *Jerry Moser, *Linda Ward, Diana Howard, Yolanda Koontz, Jim O’Neal, Jim Parks

Deacons: Donna Marconi, Tom Marconi, Leah Mathe, Karen Candusso, Scott Burns

Youth Deacons:

*previously ordained

A special thank you to the Elders and Deacons rotating off of the Session and the Board of Deacons

Elders: Lon Anderson, Brent Brewer, Ada Castle, Janet Green, Mary Maley, Jerry Moser

Deacons: Patricia Adu-Mensah, Divine Mboh, Linda Ward

*CLOSING HYMN #296 “Go in Grace and Make Disciples” Wondrous Light

GO IN GOD'S NAME

BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

"I, the Lord of Sea and Sky"

Here I Am

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

*POSTLUDE

Hymn Tune Improvisation

Howard A. Smolleck

Liturgist-Bill Akins

Sound System-Brent Brewer Video-Rusty Smith

Greeting Before Worship Service:

Linda Pearson-E Karen Candusso-W Rev. Nick Koontz-S

Greeting after Worship Service:

Bill Akins-E Amon Taylor-W Rev. Norm Story-S

Rev. Dr. Norm Story	Pastor	Rev. Pyong San Yu	Korean Congregation
Dr. Janet Loman	Com. Pastor, College Ministry	Dr. Howard A. Smolleck	Organist
Ada Castle	Commissioned Pastor	Veronica Giron	Salt & Light Coord.
Dr. Paul Deason	Commissioned Pastor	Shernel Berteau	Youth Group Sponsor
Beth Borchert-Thomas	Dir. of Music & Bells	Veronica Giron	Secretary
Rev. Nick Koontz	Dir. of Family Ministries	Pang Baker	Bookkeeper

After-Worship 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.

Please remember in Your Prayers

- *Those enduring the fires in Southern California.*
- *The NMSU and faculty as they return to class.*
- *Barbara Trudell as she travels to Banjul for consulting work.*
- *Pat Kruhn (Cindy Clement's mother) as she navigates health concerns, and considers moving into a nursing home.*
- *Katie Schmied*
- *The brother of Francis Aidoo.*
- *Jerry Moser, who is recovering from shoulder surgery.*
- *Catie Brewer's uncle, Alan, as he navigates lung cancer.*
- *Susie Trumble's husband, who has some health concerns.*
- *Barb Wolflick and Sherry Lindsey.*
- *Dale Cook, who is recovering at home from shoulder surgery.*
- *Susie Trumble's husband.*
- *Brad Class who is back in the hospital.*

Continued Prayer List

Mel Parish; Sara Kay; Jack Curry; Jerry Claessen at Grace Village; Arnold McMillan; 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

In the Life of the Church



Salt & Light

Wednesday, January 22nd, come *Reach for the Sky* with us! Dinner will be tacos, beans, chips & salsa, and chocolate pudding for dessert.



In-Betweeners Coming Up!

On Friday, January 24th, we'll be getting together at 6 PM in Watkins Fellowship Hall for a planned potluck dinner. After our meal, we'll welcome back local historian and author David Thomas presenting an illustrated talk about the history of the town of Dona Ana. For more information, and to let us know you're coming, please contact the Ames at 575-636-0210, or jkames@q.com.



Sunday, January 19th

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School with Rev. Larry Hicks leading a study of Rev. Lewis Smedes', "*The Art of Forgiving*" in Jones Hall Library
- 9-11:45 AM Childcare in Branigan Hall
- 9:00 AM Sunday School for grades K-5 in Jones Hall
- 9:00 AM Sunday School for grades 6-12 in Jones Hall
- 9:30 AM Choir rehearsal with Beth Thomas in the Sanctuary
- 10:30 AM Worship together in the Sanctuary
- 11:30 AM Congregational Meeting
- 11:45 AM After-Worship Fellowship in Jones Hall (see announcement)
- 12:00 PM Sermon Discussion with Rev. Norm Story

Monday, January 20th

- Office Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King Day
- 12:00 PM Deadline for submissions for The Good News
- 7:00 PM Bells Rehearsal

Tuesday, January 21st

- 7:00 PM Session Meeting in Jones Hall Library

Wednesday, January 22nd

- 9:30 AM Staff Meeting (office will be closed during this time)
- 12:00 PM Deadline for the Sunday Bulletin
- 4:00 PM Salt & Light (see announcement)
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 23rd

- 1:30 PM Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor

Friday, January 24th

- Office Closed
- 6:00 PM In-Betweeners Potluck in Watkins Hall (see announcement)

Saturday, January 25th

Sunday, January 26th

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School with Rev. Larry Hicks leading a study of Rev. Lewis Smedes', "*The Art of Forgiving*" in Jones Hall Library
- 9-11:45 AM Childcare in Branigan Hall
- 9:00 AM Sunday School for grades K-5 in Jones Hall
- 9:00 AM Sunday School for grades 6-12 in Jones 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

12:00 PM Sermon Discussion with Rev. Norm Story