



# First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

5th Sunday of Lent

March 22, 2026 - 10:30 AM

*Enter to worship – Leave to serve*

## PRELUDE

"I Am Coming to the Cross" (hymn tune by William G. Fischer, 1835-1912)

Van Denman Thompson

(1890-1969)

"Agnus Dei" (Lamb of God)

Gabriel Faure

(1845-1924)

"Lead Me to Calvary"

Douglas E. Wagner (b.

1952)

"Larghetto from Sonate I for Two Flutes"

Wilhelm Friedemann

Bach

Holly Dalager, Oboe & Vicki Kuyper, Flute

"Adagio from Sonate in G Major"

Jean Baptiste Loeillet de Gant (b.

1688)

Holly Dalager, Oboe & Vicki Kuyper, Flute

\*\*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

"The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God."

Romans 8:6,14

## CHORAL INTROIT

"Search Me, O God"

KAM-CHHAT

**ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Kathleen

Gardner

Psalm 130

Leader: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

People: **If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is**

**forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered**

Leader: Hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and great power to redeem.

People: **I wait for the Lord my soul waits; and in the word of the Lord I hope.**

Leader: Let us worship God!

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

#634 "To God Be the Glory"

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

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

You are merciful and just in the deliverance of your people, O God. You draw us up out of the depths of distress; incline your ear as we call on your name. Our souls rest in you and in the promise of Christ redeeming love. Lay now your hand upon us; draw us out by your Spirit, that we may sing praises to your name through the Son who taught us this 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.**

**PLEASE BE SEATED**

CALL TO CONFESSION

#286 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

TRENTHAM

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

You called us to life in the Spirit, yet we seek to satisfy the flesh. We call you gracious, yet we practice greed. We praise you with our lips, O God, yet we do not honor you in our lives. Discontent consumes us as we yearn for still more things. We know that to live by your grace promises inheritance of new life. Redeem our enslavement to corruptible desires, that we may be worthy to be called righteous in Christ.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

**Leader:** Paul declares that if the Spirit of God dwells in us, the one who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to our mortal bodies through God's Spirit which dwells in us.

**People:** **Thanks be to God!**

**Leader:** What do we profess?

**People:** **In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

## HYMN OF ASSURANCE

"Dry Bones"

Arr. Livingston Gearhart

## GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Debra Smith

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

## CALL TO PRAYER

#288 "Spirit of the Living God"

LIVING GOD

## PASTORAL PRAYER

## ANTHEM

"Kyrie"

Michael Joncas

Leah Mathe & Bryan Berard, Solos

## PROCLAIM GOD'S LOVE

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Ezekiel 37:1-14

CP Ada Castle

Ezekiel 37: 1-14 (NRSV)

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So, I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were

sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

People: This is the word of the Lord.

Leader: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "Dem Bones" CP Ada Castle

CLOSING HYMN #66 "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" PENTECOST

### **GO IN GOD'S NAME**

BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION #227 "Jesus, Remember Me" REMEMBER ME

*Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.*

*Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.*

\*POSTLUDE Hymn Tune Improvisation Dr. Howard A. Smolleck

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*Liturgist-Kathleen Gardner      Deacon Captain-Donna Marconi*  
*Sound System-Max Schroeder      Video-Dina Schroeder*

*Greeting before the Worship Service:*

*Divine Mboh-E      Donna Marconi-W      Kathleen Gardner-S*

*Greeting after the Worship Service:*  
*Debra Smith-E      CP Ada Castle-W      Kathleen Gardner-S*

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Rev. Pyong San Yu	Korean Congregation	Dr. Janet Loman	Comm. Pastor, College Ministry
Dr. Howard A. Smolleck	Organist	Ada Castle	Commissioned Pastor, Visitation
Veronica Giron	Salt & Light Coord.	Dr. Paul Deason	Commissioned Pastor
Beth Borchert-Thomas	Dir. of Music & Bells	Veronica Giron	Office Manager
Pang Baker	Bookkeeper		

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### Members of Session

Steve Loman	Moderator of the Session	Janet Mara	Moderator, Missions
Alice Distlehorst	Music & Worship	Ada Castle	Buildings & Grounds
Roni Hardin	Moderator, Music & Worship	Jeanette Smith	Administration & Finance
Diana Howard	Moderator, Congregational Life	Yolanda Koontz	Christian Education
Scott Burns	Congregational Life	Erin Taylor	Moderator, Christian Education
Nancy Cowan	Missions	Jimmy O'Neal	Administration & Finance
Linda Ward	Moderator, Buildings & Grounds	Jim Parks	President, Foundation
*Dinah Jentgen	Clerk of Session	*Mary Maley	
Administration			

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## Annual Meeting and Luncheon

**The Annual Meeting and Luncheon will be held today after  
Worship in Watkins Fellowship Hall.  
We hope to see you all there!**

### *Please Remember in Your Prayers*

- o Jimmy O'Neal and Dawn Griffin-O'Neal.*
- o Debbie Walker, Donna Marconi's sister, who lost her husband Jim suddenly yesterday evening.*

- o Susan Spahn, who lost her 26-year-old daughter Katie.
  - o Prayer for Peace in our family and Jerusalem in the name of Yahushua.
  - o Larry Felhauer, who will be having hernia surgery on Friday. March 20th.
  - o All those involved in and affected by the U.S. military.
  - o Dale Cook as he begins his ministry in Arizona.
  - o Rev. Nick Koontz as he begins his ministry.
  - o May we not be ignored in the least of these who come to Him and love Him.
  - o Prayers for Mimi.
  - o Barbara Trudell who is in Kenya and will be traveling for the next two weeks.
  - o Susannah Nava Martinez, who is dealing with her fibromyalgia, her husband who is dealing with some health concerns, and prayers for her family and their pets.
  - o Everyone caring for dementia patients.
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- o Everyone searching for meaningful employment at a living wage.
  - o Quality childcare.
  - o Holly, who was in a car accident.
  - o The woman who came in looking for help.
  - o Caleb Taylor, who continues with a chronic cough.
  - o Robert and Angela White.
  - o Sherry Lindsey, Brian Stewart, James Leyba, and Johnny Montenegro.

### ***Continued Prayer List***

*Charlotte Brockway; Jacque Parks; Ed Mathis; Barb Wolflick; Amber Nolan; Sherry Lindsey; Sandra Valencia; Florence Hamilton; Sara Kay; Jack Curry; Arnold McMillan; Millie Conrad; Dorris Hamilton; Valeria Carter, and Joanne Kersting at The Heritage.*

*3/22 Shernel Chua-Berteau      3/23 Ryan Fellman*

*3/23 Tom Clement      3/24 Amber Nolan*

*3/24 Michelle Nganou      3/27 Anna Lowry*

*3/27 Chibuzo Chilaka*

# Welcome

**Mission Statement:** *A place where Christian love is modeled*

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:

- o Seating in the West and South sections of the Sanctuary is unrestricted.
- o The East section is reserved for those wishing to wear masks and social-distance.  
Hand-sanitizer and wipes are located in each aisle.
- o 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”.



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FPC.LC  
Website

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Newsletter Sign-Up

FPC.LC/Calendar  
Online Church Calendar

FPC.LC/Sermons  
Livestream and/or  
Replay Worship Services

More information can be found on our website [fpc.lc](http://fpc.lc)

**Thank you for your continued generosity and faithful giving.**

200 E. Boutz Rd., Las Cruces, NM 88005  
575.526.5559

Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

## *In the Life of the Church*

### *Salt & Light*

*We're Back!*

*Welcome back everyone! We hope you all had a wonderful Spring Break! This week's theme is "God's Words are Sweeter than Honey!"*

*Dinner will be Sloppy Joes, tater tots, pickle spears, and root beer floats for dessert. See you all there!*

You really  
are sloppy.

Well, you  
served me.



### **Help Needed**

At last Sunday's service, when I was ushering, I met an unhoused woman, Sharon Pierce, whose entire family is deceased. She cannot hear or speak (deaf-mute), and she needs a place to stay, along with her Chihuahua dog. Her monthly disability insurance is not enough to cover the cost of staying in a motel, and she does not qualify for La Casa or the City of

Hope. Eric Montgomery has gathered a helpful list of additional resources for her to try, and she has already contacted every agency on the list. She is hoping that someone in the congregation would have an unused camper or RV where she could stay, but she will be grateful for any help we can give. If you would like to help Sharon, please contact Vicki Kuyper, or Tom Marconi, Moderator of the Deacons.

## **Spring Clean-Up Day**

It's that time of year again. It's time for some spring cleaning. Spring Clean-up Day will be on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 AM. If you would like to help us clean up our grounds, please contact anyone from the Buildings and Grounds Committee, or call the office at 575-526-5559.



## **Church Bus Update**

Great News! The church bus is back in service. If you or know of anyone needing a ride to and from Sunday Service, please contact the church office at 575.526.5559 to setup a ride.

## ***In-Betweeners for March***

*On Friday, March 27th, we'll have a planned potluck dinner at 6 PM in Watkins Fellowship Hall. (If you don't cook, just ask us for a suggestion of food to purchase.) After dinner, Vicki Kuyper will explain and demonstrate the AË-Brisa electronic flute, including performance of an original composition!*

*Please let the Ames know that you're coming by Monday, March 23rd, by calling 575-526-3247, or just catch us after Worship.*

## **It's That Time of Year Again!**

**Easter is fast approaching and we're asking for volunteers to help with stuffing the Easter Eggs, Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> in Jones Hall at 4PM prior to our Maundy Thursday Service.**

**We are also in need of candy donations, (no chocolate please). Candy donations can be dropped off at the church office during business hours.**

**Thank you all for your support!**



### Sunday, March 22nd

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library, "The Sermon on the Mount," led by Rev. Larry Hicks
- 9-11:45 AM Childcare in Branigan Hall
- 9:00 AM Sunday School for grades K-5 in Branigan Hall
- 9:30 AM Sunday School for grades 6-12 in Reeves Hall
- 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 AM Worship together in the Sanctuary
- 11:45 AM Annual Meeting in Watkins Fellowship Hall (see announcement)

### Monday, March 23rd

- 7:00 PM Bells Rehearsal

### Tuesday, March 24th

- 12:00 PM Deadline for submissions for *The Good News*

Wednesday, March 25th

- 12:00 PM     *Deadline for submissions for the Sunday Bulletin*  
4:00 PM     *Salt & Light (see announcement)*  
7:00 PM     *Choir Rehearsal*

Thursday, March 26th

- 1:30 PM     *Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor*

Friday, March 27th

*Office Closed*

- 6:00 PM     *In-Betweeners in Watkins Fellowship Hall (see announcement)*

Saturday, March 28th

Sunday, March 29th

- 9:00 AM     *Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library, "The Sermon on the Mount" led by  
Rev. Larry Hicks*  
9-11:45 AM   *Childcare in Branigan Hall*  
9:00 AM     *Sunday School for grades K-5 in Branigan Hall*  
9:30 AM     *Sunday School for grades 6-12 in Reeves Hall*  
9:15 AM     *Choir Rehearsal*  
10:30 AM    *Worship together in the Sanctuary*  
11:45 AM    *After-Worship Fellowship in Jones Fellowship Hall*

