

**First Presbyterian Church
and
Comunidad de Esperanza (Community of Hope)**
Las Cruces, New Mexico
12th Sunday after Pentecost
August 15, 2021 – 10:30 AM
Enter to worship – Leave to serve
Entrar para adorar – Salir para servir

PRELUDE *Preludio*

“Day By Day, and With Each Passing Moment”

Robert A. Hobby (b. 1962)

Meditation on “The Church’s One Foundation”

P. J. Janson (b. 1967 Netherlands)

“Eternal Life”

Olive Dungan (1903-1997)

**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

** *El Preludio funciona como un velo que separa a nuestro mundo del lugar de la adoración de la paz y el santuario. Entramos piadosamente. Esperamos para la verdad y el Espíritu de Dios que nos desafía para volver al mundo equipados para el servicio cristiano fiel y útil.*

* ***Aquellos que pueden, por favor ponganse de pie***

Por favor apaguen todos los teléfonos celulares

WELCOME, GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bienvenida, Saludos & Anuncios

MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Meditación para la preparación para la adoración

You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:3-5 NRSV)

Ya has sido limpiado por la palabra que te he hablado. Permaneced en mí como yo permanezco en vosotros. Así como el pámpano no puede dar fruto por sí mismo si no permanece en la vid, tampoco ustedes si no permanecen en mí. Yo soy la vid, ustedes son las ramas. Los que permanecen en mí y yo en ellos dan mucho fruto, porque separados de mí no pueden hacer nada. (Juan 15: 3-5 NRSV)

CHORAL INTROIT *Coral Introito*

“I Am the Bread of Life”
Molly Schroeder, Solo

I AM THE BREAD

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME
REÚNIRSE EN EL NOMBRE DE DIÓS

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Llamada a la adoración*

Judith Ames

(from Psalms Psalm 42 and 46)

Leader: As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God?

People: **Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.**

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

People: **Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations. I am exalted in the earth. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

(de los Salmos Salmos 42 y 46)

Líder: *Como el ciervo anhela las corrientes de agua, así mi alma te anhela, oh Dios. Mi alma tiene sed de Dios, del Dios vivo. ¿Cuándo vendré y veré el rostro de Dios?*

Gente: *¿Por qué estás abatido, oh alma mía, y por qué estás inquieto dentro de mí? Esperanza en Dios; porque volveré a alabar, ayuda mía y Dios mío.*

Líder: *Dios es nuestro refugio y fortaleza, una ayuda muy presente en los problemas. Por tanto, no temeremos, aunque la tierra cambie, aunque los montes tiemblen en el corazón del mar; aunque bramen y se espumén sus aguas, aunque tiemblen los montes con su tumulto.*

Gente: *¡Quédense quietos y sepan que yo soy Dios! Exaltado soy entre las naciones. Yo soy exaltado en la tierra. El SEÑOR de los ejércitos está con nosotros; el Dios de Jacob es nuestro refugio.*

HYMN OF PRAISE *Himno de Alabanza*

#65 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

CWM RHONDA

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

Oración de adoración y la oración del Señor (al unísono)

O Lord, what a beautiful, bright, and brisk morning you have given us! 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.**

¡Oh Señor, qué hermosa, luminosa y fresca mañana nos has dado! ¡Qué placer venir y adorar, alabar y glorificar tu nombre! Con asombro, te agradecemos por la abundancia de bendiciones y dones en nuestras vidas. Si hiciéramos una lista de todas las formas en que somos bendecidos, nunca podríamos terminar la tarea. Gracias, y que seamos cada vez más conscientes de sus beneficios, sus infinitas bendiciones y su inquebrantable bondad amorosa. Que en nuestra adoración seamos tan exuberantes y ansiosos como nuestros hijos. Ayúdanos a dejar de lado las preocupaciones de este mundo y llegar a tu presencia con alegría y anticipación infantiles. Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu Nombre, venga tu reino, hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden. No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria, ahora y por siempre. Amén.

PLEASE BE SEATED *Tomen asiento por favor*

CALL TO CONFESSION *Llamada a la confesión*

“Lord, Have Mercy”
Choral Scholars

KYRIE ELEISON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison) *Oración de confesión (unísono)*

For the gift and blessing of life, we give you thanks, O God. Lord of everlasting love, we confess that we have been unfaithful to our covenant with you and with one another. We have worshipped other gods: money, power, greed, and convenience. We have served our own self-interest instead of serving you and your people. We have not loved our neighbor as you have commanded, nor have we rightly loved ourselves. Forgive us, gracious God, and bring us back into the fullness of our covenant with you

and with one another. May the presence of your Holy Spirit within us, guide us to walk and grow in faithfulness and joy hereafter.

Por el regalo y la bendición de la vida, te damos gracias, oh Dios. Señor del amor eterno, confesamos que hemos sido infieles a nuestro pacto contigo y con los demás. Hemos adorado a otros dioses: dinero, poder, avaricia y conveniencia. Hemos servido nuestros propios intereses en lugar de servirle a usted y a su gente. No hemos amado a nuestro prójimo como tú lo has mandado, ni nos hemos amado a nosotros mismos. Perdónanos, Dios misericordioso, y llévanos de vuelta a la plenitud de nuestro pacto contigo y con los demás. Que la presencia de tu Espíritu Santo dentro de nosotros, nos guíe a caminar y crecer en fidelidad y alegría de aquí en adelante.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSON AND REFLECTION

Momento de confesión en silencio y reflexión

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

Seguros del amor y misericordia de Diós

Leader: Hear the words of Jesus from the Gospel of John. "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 the blood of Christ, our sin is forgiven, thanks be to God. Amen.**

Leader: What truth does Scripture teach us about God?

People: **We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible; one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, to have been created, and to be ruled and guided by his inscrutable providence for such end as his eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed, and to the manifestation of his own glory.**
(from The Scots Confession of 1560)

Líder: *Escuche las palabras de Jesús del Evangelio de Juan. "Como el Padre me amó, también yo os he amado a vosotros. Permaneced en mí y en mi amor". Amigos, crean las Buenas Nuevas, todos nuestros pecados son perdonados.*

Gente: *Por la gracia de Dios somos amados y salvos. Por la sangre de Cristo, nuestro pecado es perdonado, gracias a Dios. Amén.*

Líder: *¿Qué verdad nos enseñan las Escrituras acerca de Dios?*

Gente: *Confesamos y reconocemos a un solo Dios, a quien solo debemos unirnos, a quien solo debemos servir, a quien solo debemos adorar, y solo en quien confiamos. Quien es eterno, infinito, incommensurable, incomprendible,*

omnipotente, invisible; uno en sustancia y sin embargo distinto en tres personas, el Padre, el Hijo y el Espíritu Santo. Por quien confesamos y creemos que todas las cosas en el cielo y en la tierra, visibles e invisibles, han sido creadas y deben ser gobernadas y guiadas por su inescrutable providencia para el fin que su eterna sabiduría, bondad y justicia han designado, y para el manifestación de su propia gloria. (de la confesión escocesa de 1560)

HYMN OF ASSURANCE *Himno de Seguridad*

#312 “Take Us As We Are, O God”

ENDLESS FEAST

- Choral Scholars to sing verse 1
- Congregation to join on verses 2-4

CELEBRATION AND WELCOME OF A NEW MEMBER

Patricia Adu-Mensah

(Elders currently serving on Session will greet our new church family members while the congregation sings hymn # 306, “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”)

* Blest Be the Tie That Binds (verses 1-2)

Music here

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Lon Anderson

Momento de buenas noticias para los discípulos jóvenes

- Since children under 12 are not vaccinated, they are asked to wear masks and to sit on the carpet squares in the front during the Young Disciples Talk.
- *Dado que los niños menores de 12 años no están vacunados, se les pide que usen máscaras y que se sienten en los cuadrados de alfombra en el frente durante la charla de los Jóvenes Discípulos.*

CALL TO PRAYER *Llamada a La Oración*

#499 “Bread of the World in Mercy Broken”

RENDEZ À DIEU

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM *Himno*

“The Lord’s Prayer”
Molly Schroeder, Solo

ALBERT MALOTTE

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PROCLAMACIÓN DE LA PALABRA DE DIOS

SCRIPTURE LESSONS *Lecturas de la escritura*

Dr. Janet Loman

Deuteronomy 30:15-19

John 6:47-56, 66-68

Deuteronomy 30:15-19 (New Revised Standard Version)

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live.

John 6:47-56, 66-68 (New Revised Standard Version)

Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.” The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Deuteronomio 30:15-19 (Nueva Versión Internacional)

¹⁵ »Hoy te doy a elegir entre la vida y la muerte, entre el bien y el mal. ¹⁶ Hoy te ordeno que ames al SEÑOR tu Dios, que andes en sus caminos, y que cumplas sus mandamientos, preceptos y leyes. Así vivirás y te multiplicarás, y el SEÑOR tu Dios te bendecirá en la tierra de la que vas a tomar posesión. ¹⁷ »Pero, si tu corazón se rebela y no obedeces, sino que te desvías para adorar y servir a otros dioses, ¹⁸ te advierto hoy que serás destruido sin remedio. No vivirás mucho tiempo en el territorio que vas a poseer luego de cruzar el Jordán. ¹⁹ »Hoy pongo al cielo y a la tierra por testigos contra ti, de que te he dado a elegir entre la vida y la muerte, entre la bendición y la maldición. Elige, pues, la vida, para que vivan tú y tus descendientes.

Juan 6:47-56, 66-68 (Nueva Versión Internacional)

⁴⁷ Ciertamente les aseguro que el que cree tiene vida eterna. ⁴⁸ Yo soy el pan de vida. ⁴⁹ Los antepasados de ustedes comieron el maná en el desierto, y sin embargo murieron. ⁵⁰ Pero este es el pan que baja del cielo; el que come de él no muere. ⁵¹ Yo soy el pan vivo que bajó del cielo. Si alguno come de este pan, vivirá para siempre. Este pan es mi carne, que daré para que el mundo viva. ⁵² Los judíos comenzaron a disputar acaloradamente entre sí: «¿Cómo puede este darnos a comer su carne?» ⁵³ —Ciertamente les aseguro —afirmó Jesús— que, si no comen la carne del Hijo del hombre ni beben su sangre, no tienen realmente vida. ⁵⁴ El que come mi carne y bebe mi sangre tiene vida eterna, y yo lo resucitaré en el día final. ⁵⁵ Porque mi carne es verdadera comida y mi sangre es verdadera bebida. ⁵⁶ El que come mi carne y bebe mi sangre permanece en mí y yo en él. ⁶⁶ Desde entonces muchos de sus discípulos le volvieron la espalda y ya no andaban con él. Así que Jesús les preguntó a los doce: ⁶⁷ —¿También ustedes quieren marcharse? ⁶⁸ —Señor —contestó Simón Pedro—, ¿a quién iremos? Tú tienes palabras de vida eterna.

Líder: Esta es la palabra del Señor.

Gente: Gracias a Dios.

SERMON Sermón “Choosing Well, Choosing Life” Rev. Norm Story

*CLOSING HYMN *Himno Final*

#509 “All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly” HOLY MANNA

GO IN GOD'S NAME
VAYAN EN EL NOMBRE DE DIOS

BENEDICTION *Bendición*

*CHORAL BENEDICTION *Bendición Coral*

“God Be With You Till We Meet Again” GOD BE WITH YOU

*POSTLUDE *Postludio* Hymn Tune Improvisation Howard A. Smolleck

Liturgist – Judith Ames Deacon Captain – Dale Cook

Sound System – Max Schroeder Video – Dina Schroeder



Join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments immediately following Worship this morning just outside the front doors of the Sanctuary. This is a time to welcome and greet new friends and old friends alike. Fellowship this morning is hosted by the Christian Education Ministry team.

Rev. Dr. Norm Story	Pastor	Rev. Pyong San Yu	Korean Congregation
Dr. Janet Loman, CLP	College Ministry	Dr. Howard A. Smolleck	Organist
Bobby & Karen Candusso	Youth Group Sponsors	Karen Candusso	Salt & Light Coord.
Beth Borchert-Thomas	Dir. of Music & Bells		

Greeting before Worship Service:

Divine Mboh – E Diana Howard – W Lynne Carver - S

Greeting after Worship Service:

Judith Ames – E Lon Anderson – W Rev. Norm Story – S

***Those who are able, please stand**

Please turn off all cell phones

Please remember in your prayers: Bill and Virginia Haynes; Mary Olberg; Adele LaVerne's family on the passing of Adele; Claudia Sanchez and family; Carol Bott; Paul Vaughan; Melanie Grant and her family; Genevieve Ariege; J.M. Allen; Rev. Marcus Burr; all who feel isolated in these troubled times; all the children and youth returning to school; all the teachers; Presbyterian Church (USA); Deacons' Ministries; Gospel Rescue Mission; "El Caldito" soup kitchen; Missionaries Joel and Barbara Trudell, Cape Town, South Africa.

Welcome!

We come together as a community at worship to experience the grace of God, who is present in our midst. This is a time to open ourselves to Him and to each other. Expect great things of God and His grace will come to you! Thank you for coming to First Presbyterian Church; we are glad that you are here. If you are not active in a church home in this community, we invite you to consider joining our fellowship and sharing in this ministry of Christ.

Our sacred space is not this building or this Sanctuary, but it is the fellowship we share, the hospitality we live, and the presence of God we see in each other.

For prayer requests during the week, call the church office to get your request on the Church-wide Prayer Chain, or e-mail Linda Ramirez at linda@fpc.lc

Our Vision: A place where Christian love is modeled

Our Mission: To be a place where Christian love is modeled through:

1. Understanding, celebrating, and sharing God's Word.
 2. Following obediently where God is leading us.
 3. Leading, nurturing, and serving our community for Christ.
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CHURCH CALENDAR

Call the church office 526-5559 for information on any events, or by the net: www.fpc.lc
or by e-mail: linda@fpc.lc

Rev. Norm Story e-mail: revstory@fpc.lc

Facebook: Look up First Presbyterian Church of Las Cruces

Sunday, August 15, 2021

- 9:15 – 11:45 AM Childcare in Branigan Hall
9:15 AM Sunday School for grades K-5 in Branigan Hall
9:15 AM Sunday School for grades 6-12 in Reeves Hall
9:15 AM Adult Sunday School with Catie Brewer. We will be viewing and discussing "The Chosen" video series.
9:45 AM Membership committee meeting in the Jones Hall Parlor
10:30 AM Worship Service
11:45 AM After-Worship Fellowship outside the front doors of the Sanctuary
12:00 PM Sermon discussion in the Jones Hall Library with Rev. Story

Monday, August 16, 2021

Office will be closed

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

- 7:00 PM Session meeting in Jones Hall Library

Wednesday, August 18, 2021

- 9:30 AM Staff meeting, office will be closed during meeting
7:00 PM Search Committee in Jones Hall Library

Thursday, August 19, 2021

- 6:30 PM Deacons meeting in Jones Hall Library

Friday, August 20, 2021

New Deadline ⇒ Midnight on Fridays is deadline for submission for the Good News
scotty.benaway@sbcglobal.net

Saturday, August 21, 2021

Sunday, August 22, 2021

- 9:15 – 11:45 AM Childcare in Branigan Hall
9:15 AM Sunday School for grades K-5 in Branigan Hall
9:15 AM Sunday School for grades 6-12 in Reeves Hall
9:15 AM Adult Sunday School with Catie Brewer. We will be viewing and discussing "The Chosen" video series.
10:30 AM Worship Service
11:45 AM After-Worship Fellowship outside the front doors of the Sanctuary
12:00 PM Sermon discussion in the Jones Hall Library with Rev. Story

Church Office Hours are: Monday – Friday
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM



8/17 – Paul Vaughan
8/19 – John Grant, Carol Carson
8/20 – Ralph Miller
8/21 – Lisa Raye Robinson

(If we missed your birthday, please call the office at 526-5559 or email Linda at linda@fpc.lc)

Greetings! Our worship services are now available

- 1) in-person, with Covid19 precautions
- 2) live-stream on YouTube (search for: First Presbyterian Church Las Cruces, NM)
- 3) video archive on the church website, our Facebook site or YouTube

Casa de Peregrinos



**Food Pantry
Donations Needed**

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- Hand-sanitizer and wipes are located at each door.
 - A purple box is located in each aisle with slots where you can deposit your offering.
 - Child care is available in Branigan Hall, birth through age 5, beginning at 9:15 am.
 - Sunday School is available for grades K-5 in Branigan Hall and for grades 6-12 in Reeves Hall. Start time is 9:15 am.
 - Please register your presence with contact information or 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.

Catie Brewer began a new video series for Sunday School: *The Chosen* is a television drama based on the life of [Jesus of Nazareth](#). It is the first multi-season series about the life of Jesus. The series' creators stated that they had hoped to distinguish the new series from previous portrayals of Jesus by crafting a multi-season, episode-based story. The series portrays Jesus "through the eyes of those who met him"

Online Giving

In these unprecedented times, we have been very blessed to have the option of online giving. We have seen a major increase with our faithful congregation giving in this manner. This has been instrumental in keeping our Mission in place and our budget in line. Cash and checks are still welcome, but we are glad to offer a more convenient, safe, and easy way to give. Many options are available and listed below. Thank you for your continued generosity and faithful giving.

Go to the church website: fpc.lc click on the “heart” icon and set up your giving today.
Or go directly to: fpc.lc/giving

Smartphone users can download the Planning Center App: Find First Presbyterian Church, select and start your giving in under a minute.

You can also Text 84321, enter any dollar amount, follow the steps listed and you are set for future giving. One simple step to giving with the convenience of one text from then on.

QR Scan: Follow the prompts and it is as easy as 1, 2, 3! Give quickly, securely and even set up recurring gifts. Supporting your church has never been easier!



In-Betweeners Coming Up!

On our regular fourth Friday evening, August 27th at 6:00 PM, we plan to get together for dinner and a program of music. Yes, another musical evening, but very different!

We will hear “The Salty Dogs,” a local Bluegrass band.

For more information or to let us know you’re coming, contact the Ames. 526-3247, or jkames@q.com.

Mary Martha Circle co-chairs Cheri McMillan and Helen Moser invite the ladies of the church that may interested in learning more about our group Bible study and activities which will begin on September 14. Please come over to Helen’s home *Wednesday, August 18 from 10-12:00 AM* for a “get reacquainted social time”. There will be summer beverages and treats. You may gather indoors or outdoors and wear masks if you wish.

Please RSVP to either of us by Monday. Helen at 647-3365 or Cheri at 526-2395.

Please absolutely NO food or drink in the Sanctuary at any time. Thank you!

www.fpc.lc or e-mail: linda@fpc.lc

Rev. Norm Story e-mail: revstory@fpc.lc

Facebook: Look up First Presbyterian Church of Las Cruces

Our worship services and midweek concerts are available on our website,
Facebook and YouTube