

First Presbyterian Church
Las Cruces, New Mexico
Christ the King Sunday
Thanksgiving In-Gathering
November 20, 2022 - 10:30 A.M
Enter to worship – Leave to serve



PRELUDE

“Fanfare on Two Thanksgiving Hymns” Charles Callahan (b. 1951)

“Two Movements for Trumpet”
Larry Hill, Trumpet

Allen Vizzutti

“Now Thank We All Our God” David Hegarty (b. 1945)

**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

His divine power has given us everything needed for life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world.

2 Peter 1:3-4a

CHORAL INTROIT

“Come with a Grateful Heart”

Bailey-Mayo

Salt & Light Choirs

Amon Taylor, Flute

Rosalyn Stolee. Piano

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

A LITANY OF THANKSGIVING led by the Salt and Light Choir

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea

We thank you, Lord.

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ

We thank you, Lord.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends

We thank you, Lord.

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve

We thank you, Lord.

For health and strength to work and leisure to rest and play

We thank you, Lord.

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity

We thank you, Lord.

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice

We thank you, Lord.

For the communion of saints, in all times and places

We thank you, Lord.

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord

To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

Arr. Jay Althouse

Larry Hill, Trumpet

- Congregation join on verses 1 & 3
- Come, Christians join to sing. Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King. Alleluia! Amen!
Let all with heart and voice, before His throne rejoice;
praise is His gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!
- Chancel Choir
- Praise yet our Christ again. Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain. Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven’s blissful shore; His goodness we’ll adore.
Singing forevermore. Alleluia! Amen!

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

Linda Ward

Eternal and ever-blessed God, the same yesterday, today, and forever, we rejoice in the order and goodness of your creation. Let the light of your love shine into our hearts and bless our worship,

transforming it from its imperfections to an offering acceptable to you. Help us see new glory in the things we take for granted and lead us to praise you with our whole being. May your joy be in our hearts and your love in our fellowship. Praying as you taught your disciples to pray, **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 #551 “Lord, Have Mercy”

LAND OF REST

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O Lord God, there is no blessing we could ask but that you are able to give, have promised to give, and have already given to countless multitudes, all unworthy and guilty like us. Help us to be more able to receive your mercy and grace. May we be conscious of our sin. Soften our hearts to bewail our folly, ingratitude, pride, unbelief, rebellion, and corruption. Give us hope against our guilt and shame, a love that excites toward holy obedience, a joy that is our strength, and faith in your Son, who loves us and died for us. Help us to be humble in our need for your mercy and grace, and strive to live continually as on the brink of eternity.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: While it is true that we have sinned, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God’s love in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God, in Jesus Christ, all our sin is forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God; all our sins are forgiven and gone. Amen.**

Leader: What does Scripture teach and declare about God?

People: **We declare that Jesus is Lord. His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that deform and destroy human life. His lordship is hidden. The world appears to be dominated by people and systems that do not acknowledge his rule. But his lordship is real. It demands our loyalty and sets us free from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us. We maintain that ultimate sovereignty now belongs to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life. Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord!**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

“Now Thank We All Our God”

Arr. Jason Krug

Organ and Trumpet
Handbell Ensemble

At this time, you are invited to come forward to place your food offerings in the baskets on the Chancel. These gifts will be used to continue our support of the Casa de Peregrinos Food Pantry.

DOXOLOGY #606 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” OLD HUNDREDTH

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Judith Ames

- 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.

CALL TO PRAYER

“In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful” IN THE LORD I’LL BE EVER THANKFUL
Chancel Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

“Come! Let Us Give Thanks”
Larry Hill, Trumpet

John Purifoy

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURES LESSONS *Lecturas de la escritura*

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Colossians 1:11-23a

Jeremiah 23:1-6 (New Revised Standard Version)

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. ²Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord. ⁵The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The Lord is our righteousness.”

Colossians 1:11-23a (New Revised Standard Version)

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers— all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was

pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. ²¹And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him— ²³provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON “The Glorious Power to Love” Dr. Janet Loman

*CLOSING HYMN #363 “Rejoice, the Lord Is King!” DARWALL’S 148TH

GO IN GOD’S NAME

BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

“Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise” THANKFUL HEARTS

*POSTLUDE Hymn Tune Improvisation Howard A. Smolleck

Liturgist – Linda Ward Deacon Captain – Divine Mboh

Sound System – Rusty Smith Video – Brent Brewer



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 Music & Worship Ministry team.

Rev. Dr. Norm Story	Pastor	Rev. Pyong San Yu	Korean Congregation
Dr. Janet Loman, CP	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:

Wanda Mattiace – E Lucy Eyong – W Dennis Thomas - S

Greeting after Worship Service:

Judith Ames – E Linda Ward – W Dr. Janet Loman – S

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

Please turn off all cell phones

Please remember in your prayers: Several members of our church are needing prayers; Clyde Treat; Jean O’Neill; Joyce Hill; Rev. Jay Bishop; Johanna Miller, Dorris Hamilton, Genevieve Ariege, and Norma Klein at the Heritage; Rev. Marcus Burr; all who feel isolated in these troubled times; Presbyterian Church (USA); Deacons’ Ministries; Gospel Rescue Mission; Salvation Army; 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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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
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Covid19 precautions:

- **Seating in 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 at each door.
 - A purple box with slots for depositing your offering is 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.
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11/20 – Carol Goss
11/23 – Valencia Owens
11/25 – Thomas Korang

(If we missed your birthday, please call the office at 575-526-5559 or email Linda at linda@fpc.lc)



- **No Salt & Light on November 23rd**

College and Young Adult Dinner Night

will be on Saturday, November 26, at 5:00 PM
at the Loman Residence. Come and enjoy a simple soup supper
and dessert, of course!
WE ARE HOPING TO SEE YOU! – FRIENDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Zoom Bible Study will resume in February, 2023

Donations to support your church can be done in a variety of ways. Thank you for your continued generosity and faithful giving.

- Cash or check in the offering (purple boxes in the Sanctuary)
- Check sent by mail
- Church website: fpc.lc and click on the “heart” icon or fpc.lc/giving or scan QR code
- Smartphone App: Church Center
- Text 84321



In-Betweeners - Save the Date

Our next get-together is on Friday evening, December 9th at 6 PM in Watkins Fellowship Hall. After a planned potluck dinner, there will be Christmas music and carols. Contact: the Ames, 575-526-3247, or jkames@q.com.

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, November 20, 2022 Christ the King Sunday

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library with Larry Hicks
9:00 – 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
9:15 AM Choir rehearsal with Beth Thomas in the Sanctuary
10:30 AM Worship Service
11:45 AM After-Worship Fellowship in Jones Hall

Monday, November 21, 2022

Tuesday, November 22, 2022

3:00 PM Listening Prayer in the Jones Hall Parlor
Call Mary Maley at 269-209-4357 if you have questions

Wednesday, November 23, 2022

9:30 AM Staff meeting, office will be closed during meeting
12:00 PM **DEADLINE for submissions for the Sunday bulletin**
NO - Salt & Light – Thanksgiving break

Thursday, November 24, 2022 Thanksgiving Day
Office will be closed for the holiday

The Good News Newsletter goes out on Saturdays. Please send submissions to:
scotty.benaway@sbcglobal.net

Friday, November 25, 2022

Office Closed

Saturday, November 26, 2022

Sunday, November 27, 2022

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library with Larry Hicks

9:00 – 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

9:15 AM Choir rehearsal with Beth Thomas in the Sanctuary

10:30 AM Worship Service

11:45 AM After-Worship Fellowship in Jones Hall

12:00 PM Sermon discussion in the Jones Hall Library with Rev. Story

CCLI License No. 540727

Coming Up in Adult Sunday School

On Dec. 4th, a new video series will begin that will continue through the season of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. The class, led by Catie Brewer, will be viewing and discussing R. C. Sprout's "Face to Face with Jesus." The studies are based on individual interactions that Jesus had with disciples and others.

Each video is independent of the others, so the series is ideal for this time of year, when some of us may be unable to come every week. Come to the Jones Hall Library at 9:00 AM. to join us. Everyone is welcome!



Each year the Deacons provide Christmas Food Baskets to those in need from

our congregation, Salt and Light, as well as Hospice and others in our community.

Christmas trees are at each entrance of the Sanctuary with post-it notes and monetary values. **Please pick up a note** and place it in an envelope with cash or a check made payable to the church by December 9.

Do you know someone who needs a Christmas food basket?

Please send your Christmas basket requests to:
Gracia Class, Linda Ward, or Linda Ramirez by December 2.



The **Mary Martha Circle** is once again collecting books for ages 4 months through 8-9 years old to be given away by the Children's Reading Alliance non-profit. This group was founded in 2010 and has given away many thousands of books and has trained parents on the importance of reading to and with their children. Also, there is a dedicated group of volunteers who are "**reading buddies**" in the classroom helping the children learn and want to read. We have a large, blue plastic bin in Jones fellowship hall for collecting books. Please consider donating a book or more for the upcoming holiday recess. If you need more information, please call Helen Moser, 575.647.3365 or Cheri McMillan, 575.526.2395.

