



**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Las Cruces, New Mexico**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**June 30, 2024 - 10:30 A.M**  
*Enter to worship – Leave to serve*

**PRELUDE**

“Let the Whole Creation Cry”

David Cherwien (b. 1957)

“Arise, My Soul, Arise” (American tune from 1860)

James Leslie Boeringer (1930-2014)

“Higher Ground”

Brian Glyncannon (2000)

**\*\*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**

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

**MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do his will, working among us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.  
(Hebrews 13:20-21 NRSV)

**CHORAL INTROIT**

“Like the Murmur Of The Dove’s Song”

Bridegroom

**ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Eric Montgomery

(from 1 Corinthians 15)

**Leader:** For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures

**People:** **Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.**

**Leader:** But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

**People:** But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Let all that you do be done in love.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

#354 "Mine Eyes Have Seen The Glory"

Battlehymn

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

Holy God, we praise you for this beautiful day, for the abundance of blessings that you 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 gratitude and 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

#423 "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God"

Saraday

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 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, forgive us, inspire us, and strengthen us to draw nearer to you, so that we may live and serve you more faithfully hereafter. Through Jesus we pray.

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, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God. (Micah 6:8)

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

“Let There Be Peace On Earth”

Jill & Sy Miller

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Judith Ames

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

CALL TO PRAYER

#286 “Breathe On Me, Breath of God”

Trentham

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

“America, Of Thee I Sing!”

Arr. George Strid

### **PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Ezekiel 37:1-14   Ephesians 2:1-5, 8

Dr. Janet Loman

Ezekiel 37:1-14 (New Revised Standard Version)

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, “Prophecy 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.

Ephesians 2:1-5, 8 (New Revised Standard Version)

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else.

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the

gift of God—

**Leader:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

|               |                                 |                 |
|---------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| SERMON        | “Reshaped by Continuing Grace”  | Rev. Norm Story |
| *CLOSING HYMN | #282 “Come Down, O Love Divine” | Down Ampney     |

**GO IN GOD’S NAME**

BENEDICTION

|                     |                               |                    |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| *CHORAL BENEDICTION | “Let There Be Peace On Earth” | Jill & Sy Miller   |
| *POSTLUDE           | Hymn Tune Improvisation       | Howard A. Smolleck |

*Liturgist-Eric Montgomery    Deacon Captain-Divine Mboh  
Sound System-Jonathon West    Video-Brent Brewer*

*Greeting before Worship Service:  
Dawn Griffin O’Neal-E    Patricia Adu-Mensah-W    Kathleen Gardner-S*

*Greeting after Worship Service:  
Judith Ames-E    Eric Montgomery-W    Rev. Norm Story-S*

|  |                            |   |                                 |
|--|----------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Rev. Dr. Norm Story<br>Dr. Janet Loman, CP | Pastor<br>College Ministry | Rev. Pyong San Yu<br>Dr. Howard A. Smolleck | Korean Congregation<br>Organist |
| Ada Castle                                 | Commissioned Pastor        | Veronica Giron                              | Salt & Light Coord.             |
| Dr. Paul Deason                            | Commissioned Pastor        | Karen Candusso                              | Youth Group Sponsor             |
| Beth Borchert-Thomas                       | Dir. of Music & Bells      | Veronica Giron                              | Secretary                       |
| Rev. Nick Koontz                           | Dir. of Family Ministries  | Cat Munoz                                   | Bookkeeper                      |



**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 CLOS.

**6/30 Melanie Grant**

**7/3 Samantha Armendariz**

**7/3 Stephen Jack Loman**

**7/4 Melissa Sherman**

**7/6 Karen Candusso**

**7/6 Kendall Montgomery**

### Please Remember in your Prayers

- The town of Ruidoso, the families that have been evacuated and the ones who have lost their homes and businesses.
- Everyone traveling this summer.
- David Medina, in the passing of his wife Cindy Medina.
- John and Kathy, the sister and brother-in-law of the Moreharts.
- Karen and Barry, who are both facing some health concerns.

### Continued Prayer List

Cat Munoz; Linda Ramirez; Jack and Joyce Curry, who have returned home; Jerry and Rayma Claessen at Grace Village; Arnold McMillan; Jessica Borchert-Stout; Jeremy Borchert; Cindy Medina; 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.

- Cash or check in the purple offering box.
- Check sent by mail.
- Online at [fpc.lc/giving](https://fpc.lc/giving) or via the QR code on the right.
- Using the app “Church Center”.
- Text 84321

CCLI License No. 540727

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

Thank you for your continued generosity and faithful giving.

First Presbyterian Church

200 E. Boutz Rd, Las Cruces, NM 88005

Church office hours are Monday-Friday 9AM-2PM



Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup> following the CLOS Ice Cream Fellowship  
Beth will lead us in a patriotic sing along.



Please plan to stay and join us!



## In the Life of the Church

**We're just a week away from the Dive!!**

**Vacation Bible School will be**

**"Scuba Diving into  
Friendship with God"**

**On Monday,**

**July 8<sup>th</sup> through Friday,**

**July 12<sup>th</sup>. Come "jump" in with us!**

### **School is Almost in Session!**

With the school year about to begin, we have many students and schools in need of school supplies. The Deacons will be collecting donations of needed supplies now through mid-July. If



you would like to donate you can find a list of items that are needed in the Bulletin. Supplies can be dropped off at the church office. If you have any questions, please reach out to Rev. Nick Koontz, 575.526.5559, or Linda Ward, 619.417.6912

## **We Still Need Backpacks!**



**We are once again going to provide backpacks and school supplies for kids. We also need names from you of those kids that you would like to see get new backpacks. They can be from our church, the community, or others you know who could use a little help. We hope you will continue your generosity and assist us by purchasing a backpack or two to donate to the cause. This year school starts on July 15th so we need to get on move! If you have any questions, please contact Linda Ward at 619.417.6912, or one of our Deacons.**



### **Sunday, June 30th**

- 9:00 AM** Adult Sunday School with Catie Brewer is watching and discussing the video series “Epic of Eden: Psalms” by Sandra Richter in Jones Hall Library
- 9-11:45 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
- 9:30 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 in Jones Hall

### **Monday, July 1st**

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

Tuesday, July 2nd

Wednesday, July 3rd

9:30 AM      Staff Meeting Church Office will be closed during this time  
12:00 PM      Deadline for submissions for the Sunday Bulletin  
7:00 PM      Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, July 4th

Office Closed in Observance of Independence Day

Friday, July 5th

Saturday, July 6th

Sunday, July 7th

9:00 AM      Adult Sunday School with Catie Brewer is watching and discussing the video series "Epic of Eden: Psalms" by Sandra Richter in Jones Hall Library  
9-11:45 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  
9:30 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 in Jones Hall  
12:10 PM      Patriotic Sing-along with Beth Thomas