



First Presbyterian Church
Las Cruces, New Mexico
4th Sunday of Lent
March 30, 2025 - 10:30 A.M
Enter to worship – Leave to serve

PRELUDE

“The Lamb” (19th century American camp meeting song)

Neil Harmon (b. 1967)

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

Michael Burkhardt (b. 1957)

Instrumental introduction from the Lenten cantata ***The Seven Words of Jesus Christ***

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

****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

For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. (2 Corinthians 4:6-7 NRSV)

CHORAL INTROIT

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

We’ll Walk In The Light

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jim O’Neal

(1 Chronicles 16)

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. Sing to him, sing praises to him, tell of all his wonderful works.

People: **Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Seek the Lord and his strength, seek his presence continually.**

Leader: Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he

uttered, O offspring of his servant Israel, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

People: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come before him. Worship the Lord in holy splendor. O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

#620 "Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven"

Lauda Anima

*PRAYER OF ADORATION (unison)

Holy and Loving God, as the angels and all the saints gather before your throne and proclaim your everlasting praise and glory, so we gather here today in your holy sanctuary to worship and adore you. Stir up, O Lord, your faithful ones to seek more eagerly your living presence and attend us in this time we have set aside so that we may more worthily magnify your most holy name. Grant us grace to follow those who have gone before us in lives of faith and commitment, that we, with them, may know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you. We ask through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever, and who taught his 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

#434 "Restore in Us, O God"

Baylor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O Lord, not a day of my life has passed that has not proven me guilty of sin against you and the gift of your Law. Though my unrighteousness weighs me down, yet your righteousness exalts me to the throne of your boundless grace and mercy. I long to hear your voice assuring me: that by your stripes I am healed, that you were bruised for my iniquities, and that I am made righteous and beloved in you. I am guilty but pardoned, lost but saved, wandering but found, a sinner but cleansed. Grant that I never lose sight of the wonder of grace and the beauty of holiness, and that I will seek to live a life more humble and pleasing to you.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: God justifies those who confess their guilt and forgives their transgressions. The God of our salvation delivers us in awesome ways. Those who put their trust in God and center their hope in Jesus Christ are blessed by an outpouring of the Spirit. Friends, believe the Good News.

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

Leader: How does the Holy Spirit help us live faithful lives?

People: In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE #127 Hark! "The Herald Angels Sing" We'll Walk In The Light
Choir will sing verse 1
Congregation join on verses 2-4

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Debra Smith
• 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 "Depth Of Mercy" David Rasbach

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Isaiah 61:1-3, 8-11 2 Corinthians 5:14-6:1 Dr. Janet Loman

Isaiah 61:1-3, 8-11 (New Revised Standard Version)

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

2 Corinthians 5:14-6:1 (New Revised Standard Version)

For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON	"The Extraordinary Power of Grace"	Rev. Norm Story
*CLOSING HYMN	465 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"	Converse

GO IN GOD'S NAME

BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION	#227 "Jesus, Remember Me"	Remember Me
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Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom
Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom

*POSTLUDE	Hymn Tune Improvisation	Howard A. Smolleck
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Liturgist- Jim O'Neal

Sound System-Max Schroeder

Video-Dina Schroeder

Greeting Before the Worship Service:

Rev. Nick Koontz-E Donna Phillips -W Donna Marconi-S

Greeting after the Worship Service:

Rev. Dr. Norm Story
Loman Com. Pastor, College Ministry
Commissioned Pastor Veronica Giron
Commissioned Pastor
Music & Bells Veronica Giron
Ministries Pang Baker

Pastor Rev. Pyong San Yu
Dr. Howard A. Smolleck
Salt & Light Coord. Dr. Paul Deason
Youth Group Sponsor Beth Borchert-Thomas
Secretary Rev. Nick Koontz
Bookkeeper

Korean Congregation Dr. Janet
Organist Ada Castle
Dir. of
Dir. of Family

Please Remember in Your Prayers

- *Sandra Valencia, who had a successful surgery.*
- *The family of Linda Seaton's father, Ben.*
- *The family of Bill Christensen.*
- *Everyone who are facing illnesses.*

Continued Prayer List



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*Sara Kay, Jack Curry, Jerry Claessen at Grace Village, Arnold
McMillan, Millie Conrad, Dorris Hamilton and Joanne Kersting at The Heritage.*



3/30 Paul Deason

4/1 Donna Curtis

4/2 Eziuche Chilaka

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 the Congregational Life & Outreach Support Committee of Session.

Welcome

Our Worship services are available:

- 1.) In-person, with Covid19 precautions
- 2.) Live-stream on YouTube, First Presbyterian Church Las Cruces, NM



YouTube

3.) Video archive on the church website, our Facebook site or

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 or via the QR code on the right.
- Using the app “Church Center”.
- Text 84321

CCLI License No. 540727



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More information can be found on our website 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

*This Wednesday, April 2nd, our theme is
“Hop into Spring”*

Dinner will be chicken tenders, tater tots, salad, rolls, and fruit for dessert.

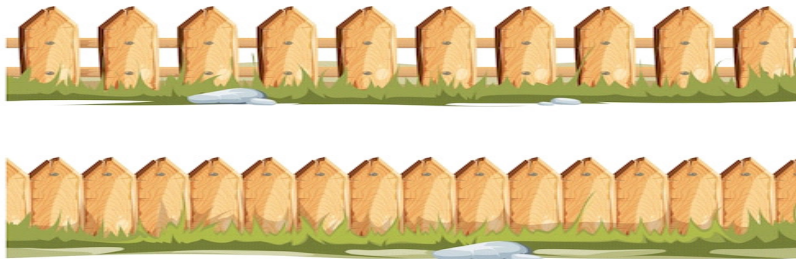


It's Spring Cleanup Day!

ATTENTION! We need your help!

*This Saturday April 5th is Spring Cleanup Day, hosted by the
Buildings and Grounds Committee.*

*Please come at 9:00 AM and help clean up different areas of the church and
grounds. We hope to see you all there!*



Sunday, March 30th

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library with Catie Brewer is studying "With Jesus in the Upper

Room” by Maxine Dunnan, which will include short videos to support the study guide

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 Library

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

Monday, March 31st

12:00 PM Deadline for submissions for The Good News

7:00 PM Bells Rehearsal

Tuesday, April 1st

Wednesday, April 2nd

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, April 3rd

1:30 PM Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor

Friday, April 4th

Office Closed

Saturday, April 5th

9:00 AM Spring Cleanup Day! (see announcement)

Sunday, April 6th

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library with Catie Brewer is studying “With Jesus in the Upper Room” by Maxine Dunnan, which will include short videos to support the study guide

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

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