



First Presbyterian Church
Las Cruces, New Mexico
Palm - Passion Sunday
April 13, 2024 - 10:30 AM
Enter to worship – Leave to serve

PRELUDE

“Suite for Three Trumpets” **David Uber**
Jacob Dalager, Pancho Romero and Paul McLaughlin, Trumpets

****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

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. On that day the Lord their God will save them for they are the flock of his people; for like the jewels of a crown they shall shine on his land. (Zechariah 9:9, 16 NRSV)

CHORAL INTROIT

“Fanfare for Palm Sunday”
Jacob Dalager, Trumpet

Arr. Mary McDonald

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Bill Kuyper

(from Psalm 118)

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

People: **Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.**

Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord.

People: **The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.**

*PROCESSIONAL WITH PALMS

“Blessed Is He Who Comes”
Combined Choirs
Congregation to join on the verses

Lloyd Larson

All glory, laud and honor to Thee, Redeemer King.
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!
The people of the Hebrews with palms before Thee went.
Our praise and prayer and anthems before Thee we present.

Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David’s royal son.
Who in the Lord’s name cometh, the King and blessed one.
To Thee before the passion, they sang their hymns of praise.
To Thee, now high exalted our melody we raise!

Thou didst accept their praises, accept the prayers we bring.
Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King.
All glory laud and honor to Thee, Redeemer King!
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

SPECIAL MUSIC

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

Gathering for worship today, we are like the crowd that lined the streets witnessing your entry into Jerusalem. Some of us gather here full of enthusiasm. Some of us gather wearied by what life has thrown at us. Some of us have come out of curiosity. Some of us out of habit. Some of us gather with great expectation. Some of us with no particular hopes. It is here, O God, that you meet us and greet us and, if we will allow, it is here that you surprise us with your love and your grace. So open our eyes and hearts, and surprise us today with renewed joy, with the promise of hope, with a glimpse of your good plans for us. Through our worship we join in the cry “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!”
...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

“I Love You, Lord”

I Love You, Lord

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O majestic God who came in humility and riding on a colt, we join the crowds of the ages shouting your praises. While our lips give you glory, our lives do not consistently reflect your greatness, and living faithfully is often beyond us. We hear of your salvation and grace, yet sin is still close and real, daily drawing us away from you. Have mercy upon us. Ride into our hearts with healing grace. Forgive the wrong of what we have done, what we have said, and who we have been. Hosanna in the highest! Lord save us, and help us live more faithful and useful lives in response to your gracious love.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: God is gracious and loving. Hear the Good News of the gospel; that nothing in all of creation can separate us from the love of God through Christ Jesus. In Jesus Christ, all our sins are forgiven.

People: **Believing and trusting the Good News, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven and set free to follow Jesus. Thanks be to God.**

Leader: What is our only comfort, in life and in death?

People: **That I belong—body and soul, in life and in death—not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil; that he protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit his purpose for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him. (The Heidelberg Catechism of 1563)**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

“Maestoso Fanfare”
Bells of Praise

Michael Mazzatenta

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Debra Smith

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

CALL TO PRAYER

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Argentine Santo

Chancel Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

“A Palm Sunday Jubilation”

Arr. Ron Paige

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Luke 18:31-43

Luke 19:28-40

Dr. Janet Loman

Luke 18:31-43 (New Revised Standard Version)

Then he took the twelve aside and said to them, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. For he will be handed over to the Gentiles; and he will be mocked and insulted and spat upon. After they have flogged him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise again.” But they understood nothing about all these things; in fact, what he said was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said. As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” Then he shouted, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?” He said, “Lord, let me see again.” Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has saved you.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

Luke 19:28-40 (New Revised Standard Version)

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” They said, “The Lord needs it.” Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!” Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“God’s Healing Grace Will Prevail”

Rev. Norm Story

*CLOSING HYMN

#269 “Lead On, O King Eternal”

Lancashire

GO IN GOD'S NAME

BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION

"Blessed Is He Who Comes"
Congregation to join:

Lloyd Larson

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna to the King, Hosanna to the King.
Hosanna to Jesus the King.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

*POSTLUDE

Hymn Tune Improvisation

Howard A. Smolleck

Liturgist- Bill Kuyper

Sound System-Jonathan West

Video-Will Schroeder

Greeting before the Worship Service:

Rev. Nick Koontz-S

Greeting after the Worship Service:

Bill Kuyper-E Rev. Norm Story-W Debra Smith-S

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

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.

Please Remember in Your Prayers

- *Ian and Emily*
- *That the Church would be the Church indeed during a time that feels uncertain for many. Let us love, protect, and honor one another and especially the most vulnerable amongst us as witnesses to Christ Jesus.*
- *Ken & Michelle Osborne as they face some health concerns.*
- *The city of Las Cruces in the wake of the shooting.*
- *Francis' brother's health.*
- *The volunteers at El Caldito Soup Kitchen.*
- *Martine Christensen*

Continued Prayer List

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



4/14 Bill Kuyper

4/15 Patrice Gabriel

4/16 Virigina Haynes

4/16 Cole Montgomery

4/16 Graciano Montes

4/19 Doris Morgan

welcome

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 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

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

Salt & Light is on vacation! We will see you all for Vacation Bible School in June!

In-Betweeners, Save the Date!

*We'll be getting together on our regular fourth Friday,
April 25th, at 6 o'clock PM.*

Dinner will be catered this time.

For more information please contact the Ames at

Judithkames1@gmail.com

or 575.526.3247.

