



# First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 13, 2025 - 10:30 AM

*Enter to worship – Leave to serve*

## PRELUDE

“So Near to God Am I...His Loving Child”

“My Jesus, As Thou Wilt”

“Reverie in D Flat”

Vernon Eville (1876-1932)

Van Denman Thompson (1890-1969)

Floyd J. St. Clair (1871-1942)

\*\*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

I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you. Blessed are you,  
O Lord; teach me your statutes. Psalm 119:11-12

## CHORAL INTROIT

“O Worship the King, All Glorious Above”

LYONS

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Colossians 1

Jim Parks

Leader: We have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints.

**People: We have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to us.**

Leader: We have not ceased the praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God’s will,

**People: So that we may lead lives worthy of the Lord as we bear fruit in every good work.**

Leader: Let us worship God!

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

#65 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

CWM RHONDDA

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

Most Holy God, you know our every thought and deed; our lives are not hidden from you. You dwell in the heights yet stoop to hear us. You inhabit the depths, yet you rise to support our efforts to serve you. You encompass the whole of creation and are yet concerned about our needs. All praise to you, eternal God; we honor and glorify your holy name through Jesus Christ who taught us this prayer: 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. 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

"In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness"

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of compassion, we confess before you that we have sinned. We have passed by your neighbors and ignored opportunities to show them mercy. We have mocked their misery by making excuses to avoid their plight. We who have been taught the law of love practice instead the law of self-interest. Forgive us, we pray, for the sake of the Christ, who came to bind up the wounds of the one by the side of the road.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: Hear Paul's words when he writes of God, who transferred us from the dominion of darkness into the care of Christ our Savior. So, walk in Christ's love with assurance of your redemption and the forgiveness of sins.

**People: Hallelujah, Amen.**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

#661 "Why Should I Feel Discouraged?"

SPARROW

## CELEBRATION AND WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS

Susan Tabe Ashu, Mary Cowee and Veronica Giron

(Elders currently serving on Session will greet our new church family members while the congregation stands to sing hymn # 306, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds", vs. 1-2)

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in  
Christian love. The fellowship of  
kindred minds is like to that above.*

*Before our Father's throne we pour our  
ardent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our  
aims are one, our comforts and our cares.*

## GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Chibuzo Chilaka

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

## CALL TO PRAYER

#840 "When Peace Like A River"

VILLE DU HAVRE

## PASTORAL PRAYER

## ANTHEM

"We Are Marching in the Light of God"

SIYAHAMBA

## **PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Deuteronomy 30:9-14; Psalm 25:1-10

Dr. Janet Loman

## Deuteronomy 30:9-14

And the Lord your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the Lord will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, when you obey the Lord your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven that you should say, 'Who will go up to heaven for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe

it?" No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

Psalm 25:1-10

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me. Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth or transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O Lord! Good and upright is the Lord; therefore, he instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON	"Near to Your Heart"	Ada Castle
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*CLOSING HYMN	#839 "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!"	ASSURANCE
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**GO IN GOD'S NAME**

BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION	"God Be with You Till We Meet Again"	RANDOLPH
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*POSTLUDE	Hymn Tune Improvisation	Howard A. Smolleck
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*Liturgist- Jim Parks      Deacon Captain-Donna Marconi*  
*Sound System-Jonathan West      Video-Brent Brewer*

*Greeting before the Worship Service:*  
*Rev. Nick Koontz-S Donna Marconi-W*

*Greeting after the Worship Service:*  
*Chibuzo Chilaka-E    Ada Castle-W    Jim Parks-S*

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Rev. Pyong San Yu	Korean Congregation	Dr. Janet Loman	Comm. Pastor, College Ministry
Dr. Howard A. Smolleck	Organist	Ada Castle	Commissioned Pastor
Veronica Giron	Salt & Light Coord.	Dr. Paul Deason	Commissioned Pastor
Beth Borchert-Thomas	Dir. of Music & Bells	Veronica Giron	Office Manager
Rev. Nick Koontz	Dir. of Family Ministries	Pang Baker	Bookkeeper

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### **\*Members of Session\***

Steve Loman	Moderator	Bill Akins	Administration & Finance
Dinah Jentgen	Clerk of Session	Patrick Cummings	Moderator, Christian Ed.
Dr. Paul Deason	Moderator, Missions	Alice Distlehorst	Music & Worship
Roni Hardin	Moderator, Music & Worship	Diana Howard	Co-Moderator, CLOS
Yolanda Koontz	Christian Education	Jerry Moser	Buildings & Grounds
Jimmy O'Neal	Administration & Finance	Jim Parks	President, Foundation
Bruce Pearson	CLOS	Stephen Taylor	Co-Moderator, CLOS
Linda Ward	Moderator, Building & Grounds		

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### **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 Jennie Curry Bible Study.*

### ***Please Remember in Your Prayers***

- o The family of Jerry Claessen, in his passing.*
- o Bill Akins, as he recovers from his illness.*
- o Those affected by the floods in Texas and Ruidoso.*
- o Mary Ferguson, who had shoulder replacement surgery.*
- o The family of Sue Craugh in the death of her daughter, Joanne.*
- o Valeria Carter's niece, Sherry.*
- o Those who are traveling this summer.*
- o Francis Aidoo's brother.*
- o The Inocencio family in their time of transition.*

### ***Continued Prayer List***

*Ada Castle; Yolanda Koontz; Barb Wolflick; Amber Nolan; Sherry Lindsey; Sandra Valencia; Florence Hamilton; Sara Kay; Jack Curry; Arnold McMillan; Millie Conrad; Dorris Hamilton, Don Niewold, and Joanne Kersting at The Heritage.*

7/13 Joseph Higginbotham  
Marill Crouse



7/14 Ed Mathis 7/15

7/15 Amy Pleasant  
Alex Burr

7/16 Steve Harbaugh 7/18

7/18 Steve Loman  
Quinzi

7/18 Winnie

7/18 James Roegge

7/19 Lillian Brewer

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:**

- o Seating in the West and South sections of the Sanctuary is unrestricted.
- o The East section is reserved for those wishing to wear masks and social-distance.  
Hand-sanitizer and wipes are located in each aisle.
- o 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:**

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



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Online Church Calendar

*FPC.LC/Sermons*  
Livestream and/or  
Replay Worship Services

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

### **In-Betweeners Coming Up**

On Friday evening, July 25<sup>th</sup>, we'll be getting together at 6 PM in Watkins Fellowship Hall. Dinner this time will be a planned potluck, so save the date!

### **Youth Nature Walk**

Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> we will be heading to Carlsbad Caverns and reading and discussing James 5:1-6 and 5:7-20. We will be leaving at 8AM and returning at 7PM. Anyone who would like to attend is more than welcome to convoy with us. We hope you will join us!



## **Blessing of the Backpacks**

The school year is coming up on us quickly and we are now collecting backpacks and school supplies so that we can provide backpacks to students this coming school year. Please see the Good News, the bulletin in Jones Hall, or the insert in your Bulletin for the school supply list. We are also collecting socks, undies and toiletries. If you would like to donate any of these items please bring them by the church office. Thank you for your support!



**Sunday, July 13th**

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library with Catie Brewer, beginning to view "The Chosen" series, Season 4
- 9-11:45 AM Childcare in Branigan Hall
- 9:00 AM Sunday School for grades K-5 in Branigan Hall
- 9:30 AM Sunday School for grades 6-12 in Reeves Hall
- 9:30 AM Choir rehearsal with Beth Borchert-Thomas in the Sanctuary
- 10:30 AM Worship together in the Sanctuary
- 11:45 AM After-Worship Fellowship in Jones Hall (see announcement)

**Monday, July 14th**

- 12:00 PM Deadline for submissions for The Good News

**Tuesday, July 15th**

- 12:00 PM Deadline for submissions for the Sunday Bulletin

**Wednesday, July 16th**

- 9:30 AM Staff Meeting (office will be closed during this time)

**Thursday, July 17th**

- 1:30 PM Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor



*Friday, July 18th*

*Office Closed*

*Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>*

*Sunday, July 20th*

*9:00 AM Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library with Catie Brewer, viewing "The Chosen" series,  
Season 4*

*9-11:45 AM Childcare in Branigan Hall*

*9:00 AM Sunday School for grades K-5 in Branigan Hall*

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