



# First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

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

July 27, 2025 - 10:30 AM

*Enter to worship – Leave to serve*

## PRELUDE

“The Prayer Perfect” (tune by Ervine J. Stenson, 1916) Robert W. Thygerson (1921-2017)

“The Beautiful Garden of Prayer” (tune by J. H. Fillmore, 1920)

David H. Hegarty (b. 1945)

“I Am Praying for You” (tune by Ira D. Sankey, 1840-1908)

Van Denman Thompson (1890-1969)

\*\*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

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ....do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. (Colossians 2:8, 16-17)

CHORAL INTROIT “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” CHILDREN PRAYING

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 138:4-6)

Alonzo Brewer

Leader: All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth.

**People: They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.**

Leader: For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly;

**People: but the haughty he perceives from far away.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE #299 “You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim” HANOVER

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

Holy God, we come to you in prayer to glorify your name, because your name is what you are: our Creator and Provider, Shepherd and Savior, Healer and Righteousness, Rock and Dwelling Place. Your unconditional love for us is beyond anything that we can fathom; it stretches to the highest mountain peaks and reaches to the depths of the seas. Your love never ends. You hear us when we pray, and great is your faithfulness! ... **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 #444 “Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

DETROIT

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

We confess that we have not always treated Your name and reputation with the reverence and respect that they deserve. We have pursued our wills rather than Yours, trying to build our own kingdoms when Yours would be much better. We have been consumed with our own needs and desires instead of trusting in Your provision and sharing our blessings with our neighbors. We have not shown the same mercy to others that we have received from You. Too often, we have succumbed to temptation and fallen short of Your glory. We ask for Your grace. Lead us to recognize Your sovereignty. Help us live lives that are pleasing to You.

## 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: 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:** Why did Christ command us to call God “our Father”?

**People:** **To awaken in us at the very beginning of our prayer what should be basic to our prayer—a childlike reverence and trust that, through Christ, God has become our Father, and that just as our parents do not refuse us the things of this life, even less will God our Father refuse to give us what we ask in faith.** (The Heidelberg Catechism of 1563)

HYMN OF ASSURANCE: #192 “Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining”

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Brooke Montgomery

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

CALL TO PRAYER

#465 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

CONVERSE

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

“Seek and You Will Find”

NATALIE SLEETH

### PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Genesis 18: 20-32 Luke 11:1-13

Dr. Catherine Brewer

Genesis 18:20-32 (New Revised Standard Version)

Then the Lord said, “How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know.” So the men

turned from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh, do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh, do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

Luke 11:1-13 (New Revised Standard Version)

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial." And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks

for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "Teach Us to Pray, Lord" Dr. Catherine Brewer

\* SERMON RESPONSE: "The Lord's Prayer" A.H. MALOTTE  
Leah Mathe, Solo  
Gustavo Morales, Piano

**GO IN GOD'S NAME**

BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION "Seek Ye First" LAFFERTY

\*POSTLUDE Hymn Tune Improvisation Howard A. Smolleck

---

Liturgist- Alonzo Brewer Deacon Captain-Donna Marconi  
Sound System-Max Schroeder Video-Dina Schroeder

Greeting before the Worship Service:

Donna Marconi-E Dawn Griffin-O'Neal-W Kathleen Gardner-S

Greeting after the Worship Service:

Brooke Montgomery-E Dr. Catherine Brewer-W Alonzo Brewer-S

---

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

Veronica Giron

Office Manager

Pang Baker

Bookkeeper

---

**\*Members of Session\***

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

**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 In-Betweeners.

**Please Remember in Your Prayers**

- o Everyone returning to school.
- o Ken, Divine's friend, and Valeria Carter's niece Sherry.
- o Jonathan, Catie Brewer's cousin, who is beginning to professionally serve in Christian ministry in Michigan.
- o Prayers of thanksgiving as we see reason for some cautious optimism for Francis Aidoo's brother.

**Continued Prayer List**

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

**7/27 Debra Smith**



**7/29 Michelle Osborne**

**7/31 Brent Brewer**

**8/2 Jeremy Borchert**

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](https://fpc.lc/giving) or via the QR code on the right.
4. Using the app "Church Center".
5. Text 84321



CCLI License No. 540727



*FPC.LC*  
Website



*FPC.LC/News*  
Newsletter Sign-Up



*FPC.LC/Calendar*  
Online Church Calendar



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

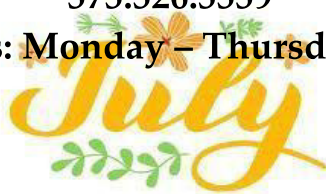
More information can be found on our website [fpc.lc](https://fpc.lc)

**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



Sunday, July 27th

- 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
- 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 28th

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

Tuesday, July 29th

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

Wednesday, July 30th

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

Thursday, July 31st

- 1:30 PM Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor

Friday, August 1st

Office Closed

Saturday, August 2nd

Sunday, August 3rd

- 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
- 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      Fellowship in Jones Hall