



**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Las Cruces, New Mexico**  
**18th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**August 3, 2025 - 10:30 A.M**  
*Enter to worship – Leave to serve*

**PRELUDE**

“Communion”

Jacques Nicolas Lemmens (1823-1881)

“Jesus, Stand Among Us”

Malcolm David Archer (b. 1952)

*“Jesus, stand among us in Thy risen power. Let this time of worship be a hallowed hour.”*

“The Communion Table”

Michael Shea (b. 1941)

**\*\*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**

“Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.”(Proverbs 4:23)

**CHORAL INTROIT**

**#716 “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”**

**BEACH SPRING**

**ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Scott Burns**

(Psalm 63)

**Leader:** O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. Let the redeemed say so, those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

**People:** **Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind. And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of his deeds**

**with songs of joy.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

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

LAUDA ANIMA

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION (unison)

Gracious Lord Jesus, we thank you for this time of worship; help us to open our hearts afresh to your great and amazing love. Help us also to open our minds to your word of truth. May your word be a comfort, guide, and when needed, a word of challenge and confrontation. Lord God, help us to open fully the doors of our church, to welcome the stranger, the wounded, the foreigner, the suffering, the immigrant, and the outcast. Help us by your Holy Spirit to blossom and grow in your embracing love. May we in our worship truly celebrate your blessings and gifts, for these we thank you in the name of Jesus. Amen.

**PLEASE BE SEATED**

CALL TO CONFESSION #778 "As Pants the Deer for Living Streams"

SEACHRIST

Choral Scholars sing verses 1 and 4

Congregation sings verses 2 and 3

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Holy God, your grace startles us. Not only is it more than we deserve, it is more than we can imagine. Again and again you reach out to us, offering love without boundaries, and mercy without exception. Forgive us for making you too small, for thinking that you are only our God, for believing that we have you all figured out. Expand our vision and enlarge our hearts, that we might grow in love and gratitude, and more nearly follow Jesus our Savior.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

(from Corinthians 5:17-18)

**Leader:** Hear the Good News: "If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, that our sins are forgiven.

**People:** "All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us a ministry of reconciliation." Let us live new lives of Christian unity, faith, obedience, joy, and peace!

**Leader:** Now cleansed from our sin, how should we live in faithful response?

**People:** "Jesus said, 'you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." (Matthew 22:37-40)

HYMN OF ASSURANCE      #839 "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!"      ASSURANCE

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES      Amon Taylor

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

CALL TO PRAYER      #460 "Break Thou the Bread of Life"      BREAD OF LIFE

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM      "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout"      STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

### **PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS      Luke 12:13-21      Scott Burns

Luke 12:13-21 (New Revised Standard Version)

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'" ' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

Leader:      This is the word of the Lord.

**People:      Thanks be to God.**

SERMON      "We Are What We Love"      Dr. Janet Loman

\*COMMUNION HYMN      #726 "Will You Come and Follow Me"      KELVINGROVE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Today our Communion service will be a hybrid. We will serve and pass trays in all three sections, and there will be pre-packaged Communion kits available at each of the doors for those wishing to continue with the kits.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD’S 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

**GO IN GOD’S NAME**

BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION      “May the God of Hope Go with Us”      ARGENTINA

\*POSTLUDE      Hymn Tune Improvisation      Howard A. Smolleck

---

*Liturgist- Scott Burns      Deacon Captain-Donna Marconi*  
*Sound System-Curtis Benaway      Video-Rusty Smith*

*Greeting before the Worship Service:*  
*Kathleen Gardner-E   Donna Marconi-W   Veronica Giron-S*

*Greeting after the Worship Service:*  
*Scott Burns-E   Donna Mathis-W   Amon Taylor-S*

---

Rev. Pyong San Yu	Korean Congregation	Dr. Janet Loman	Comm. Pastor, College Ministry	Dr.
Howard A. Smolleck	Organist	Ada Castle	Commissioned Pastor/Visitation	
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	

**\*Members of Session**

Steve Loman	Moderator of the Session	Dr. Paul Deason	Moderator, Missions
Bill Akins	Administration & Finance	Alice Distlehorst	Music & Worship
Dinah Jentgen	Clerk of Session	Roni Hardin	Moderator, Music & Worship
Patrick Cummings	Moderator, Christian Ed.	Diana Howard	Co-Moderator, Congregational Life
Yolanda Koontz	Christian Education	Bruce Pearson	Congregational Life

Jerry Moser  
Jimmy O'Neal  
Jim Parks

Buildings & Grounds  
Administration & Finance  
President, Foundation

Stephen Taylor Co-Moderator, Congregational Life  
Linda Ward Moderator, Buildings & Grounds

### 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*

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

### *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.*



8/4 Nancy Cox

8/5 Verna Green

8/6 Judy Hicks

8/6 Gerald Carson      8/7 Scott Burns

8/7 Margaret Burr

8/7 Gary Brockway



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”.

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](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*



*We need your Help!*

## **Salt & Light**

Our fall semester is quickly approaching and will begin on Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for volunteers to assist with recreation, classroom assistants, snacks, and our kitchen crews. If you are interested in volunteering and being apart of our great program, please contact Veronica at 575.405.4488, or via email at [secretary@fpc.lc](mailto:secretary@fpc.lc) for more information.

# Church Bus



Our Church Bus is currently out of service, as it needs the engine replaced. This bus is an important part of our ministry. It allows those who worship with us, who otherwise would not be able to do so, to ride, because our bus has the ability to transport people in wheelchairs. We want to get the bus back in service quickly for all those who depend on our bus.

Because the expense to replace the engine is estimated to be approximately \$5,000, a designated fund account has been established, so the bus can be back in service as quickly as possible. Donations are invited. Please designate “Church Bus” with your donation.

*August*

alamy

## 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 After-Worship Fellowship in Jones Hall (see announcement)

**Monday, August 4th**

12:00 PM Deadline for submissions for The Good News

**Tuesday, August 5th**

12:00 PM Deadline for submissions for the Sunday Bulletin

**Wednesday, August 6th**

9:30 AM Staff Meeting (office will be closed during this time)  
12:30 PM Doris Morgan Memorial Service in the Sanctuary

**Thursday, August 7th**

6:30 PM Jennie Curry Bible Study in Jones Hall Library

**Friday, August 8th**

Office Closed

**Saturday, August 9th**

**Sunday, August 10th**

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)