



## First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

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

October 12, 2025 - 10:30 AM

*Enter to worship – Leave to serve*

### PRELUDE

“Prayer Is the Soul’s Sincere Desire” (early American hymn)

Franklin D. Ashdown (1942-2023) (organist in Alamogordo)

“Trusting” (based on the hymns “Only Trust Him” and “’Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”)

Robert James Hughes (1916-1999)

“Trumpet Processional in G”

David German (b. 1954)

**\*\*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

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Youth Sponsor

Yolanda Koontz

### MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then, when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart. (Jeremiah 29:11-13 NRSV)

CHORAL INTROIT

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

ALLELUIA NO. 1

### **ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Diana Howard

Leader: Brothers and sisters, we are gathered here to proclaim a vision;

**People: a vision of a world formed by God and transformed by Jesus’ love.**

Leader: We are disciples who are called to embody grace,

**People: sharing the Good News of the gospel in our words and our actions.**

Leader: May the Holy Spirit open our hearts and open our eyes

**People:** that we may live into God's vision for our lives and our world.

Leader: Thanks be to God! Amen.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE #611 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

HYMN TO JOY

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

Almighty God, You have built your church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone. Grant that all of us may be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever, even as we 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 #796 "We Come to You for Healing, Lord"

LAND OF REST

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us excruciating self-judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change and open us to a future in which we can be changed. Grant us Your grace to grow more and more in Your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the World.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: God's love is unconditional, eternal and available to all.

**People: This assurance calls us to trust in God's unwavering love and forgiveness,**

Leader: God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

**People: Thank God for the peace and joy that comes from this forgiveness!**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

#647 "Give Thanks"

GIVE THANKS

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Debra Smith

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

CALL TO PRAYER

#829 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

OLIVET

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

“You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord”

ON EAGLE’S WINGS

**PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7    Luke 17:11-19

Dr. Janet Loman

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7 (New Revised Standard Version)

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.... Thus says the Lord, of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

Luke 17:11-19 (New Revised Standard Version)

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” As they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“The Long Haul”

Rev. Larry Hicks

\*CLOSING HYMN

#300 “We Are One in the Spirit”    THEY’LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

**GO IN GOD’S NAME**

BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

ALLELUIA NO. 1

\*POSTLUDE

Hymn Tune Improvisation

Howard A. Smolleck

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*Liturgist- Diana Howard    Deacon Captain-Dawn Griffin -O'Neal*  
*Sound System-Jonathan West Video-Will Schroeder*

*Greeting before the Worship Service:*  
*Bob Distlehorst-E    Sharon Rooney-W    Dawn Griffin O'Neal-S*

*Greeting after the Worship Service:*  
*Diana Howard-E    Rev. Larry Hicks-W    Debra Smith -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/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
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	Buildings & Grounds
Stephen Taylor	Co-Moderator, Congregational Life	Jimmy O'Neal	Administration & Finance
Linda Ward	Moderator, Buildings & Grounds	Jim Parks	President, Foundation

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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 great time to visit with old and new friends alike. Fellowship this morning is being hosted by the Christian Education Committee of Session.

### *Please Remember in Your Prayers*

- *The family of Wayne Maley, who passed on October 5<sup>th</sup>.*
- *Sherry, friend of Amber Nolan.*
- *Ed and Donna Mathis, as they deal with Ed's health needs.*
- *Sherry, Valeria Carter's niece, and for Valeria's sister, Margaret.*

### *Continued Prayer List*

*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.*



10/15 Karma Bromwell

10/17 Curtis Benaway

10/17 Lauren Mattiace

## 10/17 Kathy Story



**Mission Statement:** *A place where Christian love is modeled*

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



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Online Church Calendar

*FPC.LC/Sermons*  
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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*



### Salt & Light

Welcome back! We hope you all had a great Fall Break. This Wednesday, October 15th, we'll be back in the Dino Daze.

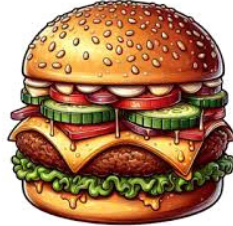


Dinner will be cheeseburgers, potato chips, lettuce, tomato, pickle slices, and ice cream sundaes for dessert.

## It's Trunk or Treat Time!

Trunk or Treat is upon us! See how you can help make this year successful by

signing up on the page on the back of your bulletin.



### *Deacons' Hamburger Fry*

*The Deacons' Annual Hamburger Fry will be on Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, following our Worship Service. We hope you can join us!*

### *Mary Martha Bible Study Group*



*Mary Martha Circle has transitioned to a Bible study group. Come to the Jones Hall Library at 9:30 AM for a social time, then the Bible study will begin promptly at 10:00. Gracia Class will lead us in studying the Book of Joshua and its application to our lives today. Anyone with questions is welcome to call Gracia Class, 575.650.7113.*





## In-Betweeners

In-Betweeners will be getting together on our regular fourth Friday, October 24th, in Watkins Fellowship Hall at 6 PM. Dinner this time will be catered. Eric Montgomery has agreed to speak to us on the pros and cons of the Jupiter Project, the huge data center planned for the southern part of our county. Please let us know by Monday, October 20th, that you plan to come. Call or text the Ames at 575-636-0210, or email [jkames@q.com](mailto:jkames@q.com).



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## Mesilla Valley Concert Band

The Mesilla Valley Concert Band is performing on Sunday, October 19th, at 3:00 PM in the Atkinson Recital Hall at NMSU. Vicki Kuyper and Alice Distlehorst play in this band.



## *The New Horizons Symphony Orchestra*

*The New Horizons Symphony Orchestra is performing on Sunday, October 19th, at 3:00 PM in the Atkinson Recital Hall at NMSU. The concert will feature four guest piano soloists.*

*Vicki Kuyper and Rusty Smith play in this orchestra.  
Admission is free.*



## October

### *Sunday, October 12th*

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library with Catie Brewer, viewing "The Chosen" series, Season 5*
- 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, October 13th*

- Office Closed in Observance of Indigenous People's Day*
- 12:00 PM Deadline for submissions for The Good News*
- 7:00 PM Bells Rehearsal*

### *Tuesday, October 14th*

- 9:30 AM Mary Martha Bible Study (see announcement)*
- 7:00 PM Committee Night in Jones Hall*

### *Wednesday, October 15th*

- 9:30 AM Staff Meeting (office will be closed during this time)*
- 12:00 PM Deadline for submissions for the Sunday Bulletin*
- 4:00 PM Salt & Light (see announcement)*

*7:00 PM      Choir Rehearsal*

*Thursday, October 16th*

*1:30 PM      Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor, reflection on Scripture for Sunday*

*6:30 PM      Deacon's Meeting in Jones Hall*

*Friday, October 17th*

*Office Closed*

*Saturday, October 18th*

*6:00 PM      Crescent Park/ College Park Neighborhood Watch meeting in Watkins Fellowship Hall*

*Sunday, October 19th*

*9:00 AM      Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library with Catie Brewer, viewing "The Chosen" series, Season 5*



*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*



Trunk or Treat Is Coming!  
Friday, October 31

What is It? Trunk or Treat is an important congregational outreach to our community, sponsored by the Congregational Life and Outreach ministry team. It is a great chance to serve our neighborhood. The essence of Trunk or Treat is serving kids candy from the trunks of our cars in a safe, fun environment. But there is much more, including music, food, and games.

It's on Friday, Oct 31st, from 6 to 8 pm, with setup beginning one to two hours prior.

**We need your help! This event is totally dependent on our congregation to be successful.**

Further information: Contact Stephen Taylor, [spytaylor70@aol.com](mailto:spytaylor70@aol.com) or, call the church office at 526-5559 and leave your contact information with Veronica.

Want to help? Please complete the form below and drop it in one of the purple offering boxes.

*tear here*

tear here

*tear here*

*tear here*

Yes! I want to participate in one or more of the following ways:

	<i><b>Give out candy from my car trunk with optional car decoration</b></i>
	<i>Run a game booth</i>
	<i>Kitchen duty and serving food (hot cocoa, nachos, etc.)</i>
	<i>Donate extra candy (individually wrapped)</i>
	<i>Monitor the party jumper</i>
	<i>Help with take-down</i>
	<i>Clean up kitchen</i>
	<i>Other (fill in the blank):</i>

**Please fill out the information below:**

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ My phone is \_\_\_\_\_

My email is \_\_\_\_\_