



# First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

1st Sunday of Lent

February 22, 2026 - 10:30 AM

*Enter to worship – Leave to serve*

## PRELUDE

“I Need Thee Every Hour” (tune by Robert Lowry, 1872) David H. Hegarty (b. 1945)

*“I need Thee every hour; stay thou near by; temptations lose their power when Thou art nigh.”*

“To Thee I Cry, Lord Jesus Christ” Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

“Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended” (17<sup>th</sup>-century tune) Mary McDonald (b. 1956)

\*\*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

. . . and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. (Romans 5:5-8)

## CHORAL INTROIT

#775 “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

WALK WITH ME

Congregation please join verse 1

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Vicki Kuyper

Leader: People of God, on this wilderness journey, what will you eat?

**People: The word of the Lord is our daily bread.**

Leader: People of God, in this time of temptation, how will you live?

**People: Our faith is in the faithfulness of God.**

Leader: People of God, at this kingdom crossroad, whom will you serve?

**People: We worship the Lord our God alone.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE #166 "Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days"  
FLAVIAN

ST.

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

Gracious God, you are our way in the wilderness. In our own times of testing be our spiritual nourishment, protect us with your angels, and show your authority in our lives, so that we may hunger for righteousness and live in peace and safety, worshiping and serving you alone; through Christ Jesus our Lord, who taught us to 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 #775 "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" WALK WITH ME  
Congregation please join verse 2

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Lord God, you know the ways of good and evil. You know the things that tempt us and the things that give us life. You know our nakedness, and you know our sin. We confess that we have disobeyed your word, denying your providence and care and relying on our own cleverness. Have mercy on us, we pray: cover us with your grace, feed us with the bread of life, and re-create us in your image; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Happy are those whose sin is forgiven!

People: **Be glad in the Lord and shout for joy: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God!**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE #43 "You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord" ON EAGLE'S WINGS  
Choir to sing verses  
Congregation to sing refrain

*And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine the sun,*

*and hold you in the palm of his hand.*

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Brooke Montgomery

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

CALL TO PRAYER

#175 "Seek Ye First"

LAFFERTY

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

"Be Still"

Mary McDonald

### **PROCLAIM GOD'S LOVE**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Deuteronomy 8:2-6

Matthew 4:1-11

David Vandervelde

Deuteronomy 8:2-6 (NRSV)

Remember the long way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, in order to humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commandments. He humbled you by letting you hunger, then by feeding you with manna, with which neither you nor your ancestors were acquainted, in order to make you understand that one does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. The clothes on your back did not wear out and your feet did not swell these forty years. Know then in your heart that as a parent disciplines a child so the LORD your God disciplines you. Therefore keep the commandments of the LORD your God, by walking in his ways and by fearing him.

Matthew 4:1-11 (NRSV)

"Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

SERMON

“Out of Solitude”

Dr. Janet Loman

CLOSING HYMN

#710 “We Lift Our Voices”

OFFERING

**GO IN GOD’S NAME**

BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION # 227 “Jesus, Remember Me”

REMEMBER ME

*Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.  
Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.*

\*POSTLUDE

Hymn Tune Improvisation

Dr. Howard A. Smolleck

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*Liturgist-Vicki Kuyper      Deacon Captain-Divine Mboh  
Sound System-Max Schroeder      Video-Dina Schroeder*

*Greeting before the Worship Service:*

*Divine Mboh-E*

*David Vandervelde-W*

*Vicki Kuyper-S*

*Greeting after the Worship Service:*

*Brooke Montgomery-E*

*Dr. Janet Loman-W*

*David Vandervelde & Vicki Kuyper-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 Director | Dr. Paul Deason | Commissioned Pastor             |
| Beth Borchert-Thomas   | Dir. of Music & Bells | Veronica Giron  | Office Manager                  |
| Amon Taylor            | Youth Director        | Pang Baker      | Bookkeeper                      |

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**Members of Session**

|                   |                                |                |                                |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Steve Loman       | Moderator of the Session       | Janet Mara     | Moderator, Missions            |
| Alice Distlehorst | Music & Worship                | Ada Castle     | Buildings & Grounds            |
| Roni Hardin       | Moderator, Music & Worship     | Jeanette Smith | Administration & Finance       |
| Diana Howard      | Moderator, Congregational Life | Yolanda Koontz | Christian Education            |
| Scott Burns       | Congregational Life            | Erin Taylor    | Moderator, Christian Education |
| Nancy Cowan       | Missions                       | Jimmy O’Neal   | Administration & Finance       |
| Linda Ward        | Moderator, Buildings & Grounds | Jim Parks      | President, Foundation          |
| *Dinah Jentgen    | Clerk of Session               | *Mary Maley    | Administration                 |

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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 Buildings & Grounds Committee of Session.

### *Please Remember in Your Prayers*

- *Gary & Charlotte Brockway, as Charlotte recovers from her knee replacement surgery, that is going more slowly than they'd hoped for.*
- *Tracy, Diana Howard's son who is undergoing cancer treatment.*
- *Safe travels for Papa and Gigi.*
- *Dale Cook,*
- *Robert and Angela White.*
- *Sherry Lindsey, Brian Stewart, James Leyba, and Johnny Montenegro.*

### *Continued Prayer List*

*Helen Moser; Jacque Parks; Jim Pace; Ed Mathis; Barb Wolflick; Amber Nolan; Sandra Valencia; Florence Hamilton; Sara Kay; Jack Curry; Arnold McMillan; Millie Conrad; Dorris Hamilton, and Joanne Kersting at The Heritage.*

*2/22 Jerry Moser*

*2/25 Ruth George*

*2/26 Eric Montgomery*



*2/25 Donna Phillips*

*2/26 Cole Anderson*

*2/27 Susie Borchert*

*2/28 Diana Davidson*

# Welcome

**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:

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".



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*



## Salt & Light

*This Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> our theme will be  
"Blessed are the Peacemakers" and it's Pizza Night!  
Dinner will be pizza, garden salad with ranch dressing,  
and cupcakes for dessert.  
We hope you will all join us!*

## Elder & Deacon Retreat

*This Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM is the  
Elder and Deacon Retreat  
in Jones Hall Library.  
Please be sure to attend!*



## In-Betweeners for February

*On Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, we will be getting together at 6 PM in Watkins  
Fellowship Hall for dinner together, followed by a program by Patterson Hornworks.  
Dinner will be catered this time, enchiladas from Si Senior's. Please let the Ames  
know that you plan to come by Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>; call 575-526-3247,  
or just catch us after Worship.*

*february*

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Sunday, February 22nd

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library, "The Sermon on the Mount," led by Rev. Larry Hicks  
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  
9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 AM Worship together in the Sanctuary  
11:45 AM After-Worship Fellowship in Jones Fellowship Hall (see announcement)

Monday, February 23rd

- 7:00 PM Bells Rehearsal

Tuesday, February 24th

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

Wednesday, February 25th

- 12:00 PM Deadline for submissions for the Sunday Bulletin  
4:00 PM Salt & Light (see announcement)  
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 26th

- 1:30 PM Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor

Friday, February 27th

Office Closed

Saturday, February 28th

- 9:00 AM Elders and Deacon Retreat in Jones Hall Library

Sunday, March 1st

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library, "The Sermon on the Mount" led by Rev. Larry Hicks  
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  
9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 AM Worship together in the Sanctuary  
11:45 AM After-Worship Fellowship in Jones Hall

