



First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

3rd Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026 - 10:30 AM

Enter to worship – Leave to serve

PRELUDE

"Open Our Eyes, Lord: We Want to See Jesus" (by Robert Cull, 1976)

Peggy Ann Bettcher (b. 1961)

"I Come to the Garden Alone"

Robert W. Thygerson (1921-2017)

"... and He walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me that I am His own ..."

"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" (tune from 1874)

David H. Hegarty (b. 1945)

**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

"So that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints. (Ephesians 1:18)

CHORAL INTROIT

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

MADRID

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Alonzo

Brewer

Psalm 116

Leader: I love the Lord, because God has heard my voice and my supplications.

People: Because you inclined your ear to me, therefore I will call on you as long as I live.

Leader: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

People: I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people.

Leader: Let us worship God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE
EYES

#452 "Open the Eyes of My Heart"

OPEN THE

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

We enter your courts with praise, O God; we come into your house with thanksgiving. In Christ you give us the cup of salvation; in him we receive the bread of life. To you indeed our vows are to be made; you shall hear our confession of faith. So be with us now as we gather, and be pleased with the homage we bring in the name of the One 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

#500 "Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread"

ST. FLAVIAN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

You called us to life in the Spirit, yet we seek to satisfy the flesh. We call you gracious, yet we practice greed. We praise you with our lips, O God, yet we do not honor you in our lives. Discontent consumes us as we yearn for still more things. We know that to live by your grace promises inheritance of new life. Redeem our enslavement to corruptible desires, that we may be worthy to be called righteous in Christ.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: You know that you were ransomed from futile ways with the precious blood of Christ.

People: That word is the good news preached to us.

Leader: He was destined before the foundation of the world but was made manifest at the end of all times for your sake.

People: That word is the good news preached to us.

Leader: Through him you have confidence in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory.

People: That word is the good news preached to us.

Leader: Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth, love one another earnestly from the heart.

People: That word is the good news preached to us.

Leader: You have been born anew, through the living and abiding word of God.

People: **That word is the good news preached to us.**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE #443 "There Is a Redeemer" GREEN

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Rebekah West

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

CALL TO PRAYER #451 "Open My Eyes, That I May See" OPEN MY EYES

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM "When the Poor Ones" EL CAMINO

PROCLAIM GOD'S LOVE

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Luke 24: 13-35 Dr. Janet Loman

Luke 24: 13-35 (NRSV)

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost

evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

People: This is the word of the Lord.

Leader: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON “Walk With Me” CP Ada Castle

CLOSING HYMN #702 “Christ Beside Me” BUNESSAN

GO IN GOD’S NAME

BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION “When the Poor Ones” EL CAMINO

*POSTLUDE Hymn Improvisation Dr. Howard Smolleck

Liturgist-Alonzo Brewer Deacon Captain-Donna Marconi
Sound System-Rusty Smith Video-Brent Brewer

Greeting before the Worship Service:
David Vandervelde-E Donna Marconi-W Vicki Kuyper-S

Greeting after the Worship Service:
Alonzo Brewer-E CP Ada Castle-W Rebekah West-S

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
Pang Baker	Bookkeeper		

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	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	

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 Music & Worship Committee of Session.

Please Remember in Your Prayers

- *Chase Harting and Donna Curtiss.*
- *Jacob, neighbor of Paul Deason & Diana Davidson who has some health concerns.*
- *Peace and stability in our community.*
- *Tracy Howard, son of Diana Howard, who's cancer has spread, and immunotherapy isn't working.*
- *Joyce, that her radiation treatments work.*
- *Prayers for Brian Stewart, James Leyba, and Johnny Montenegro.*

Continued Prayer List

Sharon Pierce; Charlotte Brockway; Jacque Parks; Ed Mathis; Barb Wolflick; Amber Nolan; Sandra Valencia; Florence Hamilton; Sara Kay; Jack Curry; Arnold McMillan; Millie Conrad; Dorris Hamilton; Valeria Carter, and Joanne Kersting at The Heritage.

4/19 Jean Rhodes

4/22 Ruth Akins



4/20 Robert Knapp

4/25 Dot Otto

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:

- 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 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

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



great

know of

their name,

Graduation

Graduation is a special time in a student's life and a

achievement. If you have someone in your family or

someone who will be graduating in May, please send us

the name of the school, and/or degree that they will be receiving so that we are sure to recognize them during our May 10th service. Please email their information to Veronica at secretary.fpc.lc by Friday, May 1st.

In-Betweeners Coming Up!

On our regular fourth Friday, 4/24, we'll be getting together in Watkins Fellowship Hall at 6 PM. Dinner will be catered this time. After dinner, we'll enjoy a truly remarkable video, "Soul of the Ocean."

Please let the Ames know by Monday, April 20th, that you plan to come by calling 575-526-3247, call for more information about
In-Betweeners, or just catch us after Worship.



April



Sunday, April 19th

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School with Catie Brewer
- 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 in Jones Fellowship Hall (see announcement)*

Monday, April 20th

7:00 PM *Bells Rehearsal*

Tuesday, April 21st

12:00 PM *Deadline for submissions for The Good News*
7:00 PM *Session in Jones Hall Library*

Wednesday, April 22nd

12:00 PM *Deadline for submissions for the Sunday Bulletin*
7:00 PM *Choir Rehearsal*

Thursday, April 23rd

1:30 PM *Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor*

Friday, April 24th

Office Closed

6:00 PM *In-Betweeners in Watkins Fellowship Hall (see announcement)*

Saturday, April 25th

Sunday, April 26th

9:00 AM *Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library with Catie Brewer.*
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*

