



First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

Pentecost Sunday

May 24, 2026 — 10:30 AM

Enter to worship – Leave to serve

PRELUDE

“Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart” (hymn tune from 1870)

Robert W. Thygerson (1921-2017)

“O Breath of Life, Come Sweeping Through Us”

(Spiritus Vitae by Mary Jane Hammond, 1878-1964) setting by Jared M. Salyards (b. 1992)

"America the Beautiful" (Materna)

Karrin Elizabeth Ford (b. 1951)

**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

Today historically went by the name of Whitsunday (in Old English), traditionally referring to the white robes worn by newly baptized converts. The Hebrews called it Shavout and the Greeks called it Pentecost. The discouraged disciples were sent the “Comforter” on this day, just as Jesus had promised in John 15:26: “But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth.” (KJV) We wear the color red today to celebrate the flames of fire that appeared above the disciples’ heads, marking the arrival of the Holy Spirit. This collective display of red also symbolizes our unity as a community of believers, all touched by the same Holy Spirit and bound together in Christ’s love.”

CHORAL INTROIT

“O Day of Joy and Wonder!”

JONATHAN’S TUNE

Bryan Berard, Solo

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lon Anderson

Leader: Holy Spirit, Creator, in the beginning you moved over the waters.

People: **From your breath all creation drew life. Without you, life turns to dust. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Holy Spirit, Comforter, Counselor, Advocate, by your inspiration, the prophets spoke and acted in faith.

People: **You clothed them with power as bearers of your Word. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Holy Spirit, mighty and powerful, you came as fire to Jesus' disciples in the Upper Room.

People: **Come Holy Spirit, even to this room today, to your sanctuary. Amen!**

*HYMN OF PRAISE

#289 "On Pentecost They Gathered"

MUNICH

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

Eternal and loving God, we praise you for bestowing on us the power of your Holy Spirit at Pentecost. With wind and fire you breathe on us and claim us as your children. Come, Holy Spirit! May we be your dwelling place! Transform this humble gathering into the church of Jesus Christ – people of dreams and visions, people of hope and witness, people of love and service. Burn away all that is false in us, ignite in us a passion for the gospel, and sweep us out into the world to love and serve only you, our living God. We pray in the name of Christ our Lord, who taught us to say: **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

"Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"

BRIDEGROOM

Bryan Berard, Solo

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Our Heavenly Father and Creator of all things. you breathed the breath of life into each of your children. You know our every need and you care for us faithfully. Yet, too often, we fail to follow your call and your guidance. We confess that we have not loved as you would have us love. We have not always been peacemakers in our families, our communities and in our world. Loving God, forgive us that our love for you has not been more passionate and that our vision and dreams have fallen short

of your expectations for us. Send your Spirit upon us that we may witness to the Good News of your love and fill us with joyful hope, so that we live more Christ-like lives. Hear our prayer, O God of everlasting love.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: Hear and believe the Good News! If anyone is in Christ, there is a new beginning; what was old is past and gone; everything has become alive with new possibilities. Step forward into fullness of life with the certain knowledge that in Christ we are forgiven and freed.

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Leader: And how did Jesus say we are to live, knowing that we are forgiven?

People: **"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."** (Matthew 6:19-21, *NRSV*)

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

"As The Deer"

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Amon Taylor

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

CALL TO PRAYER

"Holy Spirit, Come to Us"
Chancel Choir

TUI AMORIS IGNE

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

"Fill Us With Your Spirit"

David Lance

PROCLAIM GOD'S LOVE

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Numbers 11:24-30

Acts 2:1-21

Rev. Larry Hicks

Numbers 11:24-30 (NSRV)

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord, and he gathered seventy of the elders of the people and placed them all around the tent. Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the

seventy elders, and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!" And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

Acts 2:1-21(NSRV)

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

Leader: Thanks be to God.

People: This is the word of the Lord.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*CHORAL BENEDICTION "We Shall Go Out With Joy" THE TREES OF THE FIELD
 *POSTLUDE Hymn Improvisation Dr. Howard Smolleck

Liturgist-Jonathan West Deacon Captain-Divine Mboh
Sound System-Curtis Beneway Video-Rusty Smith

Greeting before the Worship Service:

Dawn Griffin-O'Neal-E Donna Marconi-W David Vandervelde-S

Greeting after the Worship Service:

Amon Taylor-E Rev. Larry Hicks-W Lon Anderson-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
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
Wanda Mattiace	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
Congregational Life & Outreach Support Committee of Session.

Please Remember in Your Prayers

- *The Courter Family.*
- *All the election officials through this primary season.*
- *Ellen Harbaugh.*
- *Valeria Carter's sister, Mae Johnson.*
- *Johnnie Aldrich, as she temporarily moves to Corpus Christi for cancer treatment.*
- *Mary & Marianne Maley, as they prepare for their move to Indiana at the end of this month.*
- *Bill & Ruth Akins*
- *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.



5/24 Rev. Norm Story

5/27 Erin Taylor

5/28 Mikki Allbright

5/28 John Curry

5/26 Jane Vandervelde

5/28 Rusty Smith

5/29 Evan Schroeder

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 or via the QR code on the right.
4. Using the app “Church Center”.



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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



COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY SUMMER SWIM AND FELLOWSHIP

The Loman's are opening their back yard and pool for fellowship on Wednesdays and Fridays at 5:00 P.M. during the summer break.

Our first gathering will be on Friday, May 29th.

We hope you will join us for all the fun!

Snacks to share and friends are always welcome!

Please call Janet @ 575.202.4379 for more information.



Rainforest Falls VBS is looking for volunteers!

VBS will be June 22-26. We would love to have helpers for the whole week but if you just can make it for a few days that will work too! Sign up using the QR code!



May

Sunday, May 24th

- 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, May 25th

Memorial Day – Office Closed

Tuesday, May 26th

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

Wednesday, May 27th

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

Thursday, May 28th

- 11:00 AM Knitting Group in Jones Hall Parlor
- 1:30 PM Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor

Friday, May 29th

Office Closed

Saturday, May 23rd

Sunday, May 30th

- 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

