



First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 17, 2026 — 10:30 AM

Enter to worship – Leave to serve

PRELUDE

"Our Father in Heaven" (Chorale from 1539)

Michael Burkhardt (b. 1957)

"Like As a Father"

John Prindle Scott (American, 1877-1932)

"He, Watching over Israel, Slumbers Not, nor Sleeps" (from Elijah)

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

**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

"Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows." Matthew 10: 29-31

CHORAL INTROIT

"His Eye Is on the Sparrow"

SPARROW

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Alonzo Brewer

Leader: There is no hope like you, O God!

People: Hope for those who cry out from the deserts of their lives.

Leader: There is no grace like you, O God!

People: Grace for those rejected, ignored, and cast aside by the world.

Leader: There is no love like you, O God!

People: Love for those who have known days of trouble and nights of loneliness.

Leader: There is no one like you, O God!

People: No one! No one! No one!

*HYMN OF PRAISE

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

LAUDA ANIMA

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

When we are filled with loss and despair, you gladden our hearts with your hope. When everyone around us turns a deaf ear, you lean over and put your hand to your ear, to hear our cries. There is no love like you, Compassionate God. When we long to continue in sin, you call us to live with you in the kingdom of God. When we have fallen, our souls parched by death, you lift us up, holding us tight to your heart, carrying us to drink at the deep well of living water. There is no grace like you, Brother of the hopeless. When the world would stuff our pockets with fears, you turn them inside out, and fill them with the smooth stones of hope. When we see nothing on the horizon of life, you hold up the sign which reads 'follow Jesus!' When we are weakened by our foolish choices, you strengthen us with joy overflowing from your heart. There is no peace like you, Spirit of wisdom. God in Community, Holy in One, there is no one like you in our lives. This we know, as we pray together, **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

#422 "Create In Me a Clean Heart"

CREATE IN ME

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

It is never easy to confess our lives to you, Listener to our words. When we have a chance to speak up for the outsider, we too often join in sending them away into the wilderness of hopelessness. When we could shout good news to a needy world, our voices drop to a whisper. When we could abound in grace, we continue to wallow in wrongdoing. Forgive us, Hearer of our hearts, and have mercy on us. You lean over to listen to our words, and then to cast them into your sea of forgetfulness. You show us your signs of hope, that we might point others to you. You help us when we are weakest and, in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, you save us when we cannot save ourselves. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: Do not be afraid. God cherishes us, God treasures you, beyond all else in creation. You are graced, you are forgiven, you are healed.

People: **We will not keep this good news to ourselves. We will shout our hope from the rooftops of our hearts. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE	#730 "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"	GRANDE ISLE
GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES		Rebekah West
	• Children are asked to sit on the carpet squares in the front.	
CALL TO PRAYER	#840 "When Peace like a River"	VILLE DU HAVRE
PASTORAL PRAYER		
ANTHEM	"Sing to God, with Joy and Gladness"	GLENDON

PROCLAIM GOD'S LOVE

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Genesis 21:8-21 Romans 6:1-11 Dr. Catherine Brewer

Genesis 21:8-21 (NSRV)

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, 'Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.' The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, 'Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named after you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.' So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, 'Do not let me look on the death of the child.' And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, 'What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.' Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Romans 6:1-11 (NSRV)

What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us

who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "I Prefer the Vegetables" Erin Taylor

CLOSING HYMN #661 "Why Should I feel Discouraged" SPARROW

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*CHORAL BENEDICTION "It Is Well with My Soul" VILLE DU HAVRE

*POSTLUDE Hymn Improvisation Dr. Howard Smolleck

Liturgist-Alonzo Brewer Deacon Captain-Vicki Kuyper
Sound System-Rusty Smith Video-Brent Brewer

Greeting before the Worship Service:
Dawn Griffin-O'Neal-E David Vandervelde-W Divine Mboh-S

Greeting after the Worship Service:
Rebekah West-E Erin Taylor-W Alonzo Brewer-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	Moderator, 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

- *The Marconi family, Tom's mother Teresa Niksa Marconi has passed away.*
- *The family of Rev. Jay Bishop who passed away on June 10th.*
- *Sandra Valencia who is recovering from surgery.*
- *Valeria Carter's sister, Mae Johnson.*
- *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.

*Happy
Birthday!*

6/22 Alonzo Brewer

6/23 Josephine Fietze

6/24 Jasey Loman-Austin

6/24 Shirley McDowell

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:

- 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



Adult Sunday School This Summer

Over June through early August, the adult Sunday School will be viewing and discussing "Invitation: A Bible Study to Begin With" by Brian Russell. The series has 10 sessions, each with a 30-minute video, then a guide for discussion. The focus of the study is on the whole storyline of the Scriptures, to give a solid background to those early in their studies of the Old and New Testament, as well as new insights to those familiar with much of the Bible. We meet from 9 am until ~10:15 am each Sunday in the Library. People are welcome to attend whichever sessions they are available for. Please reach out to Catie Brewer if you have questions or would like to know more.

In-Betweeners Coming Up on June 26th

On our regular fourth Friday evening, we'll be getting together in Watkins Fellowship Hall at 6 PM for dinner, which will be catered this time. After dinner, Helen Visarraga will present an informative talk about "AI for Seniors." Please let the Ames know (575-636-0210, or just catch us after Worship) by Monday the 22nd that you plan to come!

YOUNG WOMEN'S SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Janet Loman is offering a Bible study for college-age women, ages 18-35, on the Book of Ruth in her home, beginning Tuesday, June 30, at 3:00 P.M. and ending on July 28. Please mark your calendars and plan now to attend every session and the optional swim time afterward! Please contact Janet at 575-202-4379 for more information.

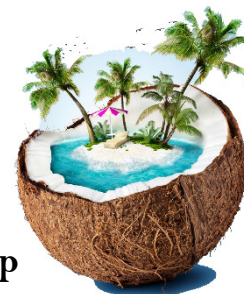
COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY SUMMER SWIM AND FELLOWSHIP

The Lomans have opened their back yard and pool for fellowship on Fridays at 5:00 P.M. during the summer break.

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.



Are you ready!?

Vacation Bible School begins Monday, June 22nd. We hope to see you all there!

June:

Sunday, June 21st

- 9:00 AM *Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library, led by Catie Brewer, viewing and discussing the video series "Invitation: A Bible Study to Begin With." Come any Sunday you can; the sessions are independent.*
- 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, June 22nd

- 8:00 AM *Vacation Bible School, Rainforest Falls*

Tuesday, June 23rd

- 8:00 AM *Vacation Bible School, Rainforest Falls*
- 12:00 PM *Deadline for submissions for The Good News*

Wednesday, June 24th

- 8:00 AM *Vacation Bible School, Rainforest Falls*
- 12:00 PM *Deadline for submissions for the Sunday Bulletin*

Thursday, June 25th

- 8:00 AM *Vacation Bible School, Rainforest Falls*
- 10:00 AM *Knitting Group in Jones Hall Parlor*
- 1:30 PM *Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor*

Friday, June 26th

- 8:00 AM *Vacation Bible School, Rainforest Falls*
- 6:30 PM *In-Betweeners in Watkins Fellowship Hall (see announcement)*
- Office Closed*

Saturday, June 27th

Sunday, June 28th

- 9:00 AM *Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library, led by Catie Brewer, viewing and discussing the video series "Invitation: A Bible Study to Begin With." Come any Sunday you can; the sessions are independent.*
- 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*

