



First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 26, 2026 — 10:30 AM

Enter to worship – Leave to serve

PRELUDE

"Because He Lives" (tune by William J. Gaither, 1971)

setting by John Floyd Wilson (b. 1929)

Meditation on "Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

Elizabeth A. Krouse (b. 1943)

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God" (hymn tune from 1784)

Neil Harmon (b. 1967)

**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

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms. *Ephesians 1:18-20 (NIV)*

CHORAL INTROIT

"Nothing Can Trouble"

NADA TETURRE

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rebekah West

Leader: Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.

People: **Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles and the judgments He has uttered.**

Leader: O Offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

People: He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

Leader: He is mindful of his covenant forever, of the word that he commanded for a thousand generations.

*HYMN OF PRAISE #12 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

ST. DENIO

*PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we adore and glorify Your holy name. Just as You granted King Solomon a discerning heart to seek Your wisdom above all earthly treasures, we bow before You in awe. We praise You, the ultimate architect of the universe, and we give thanks for the priceless pearl of Your Kingdom. We are captivated by Your majesty and surrender our lives entirely to the guidance of Your divine will. We pray in the name of Christ our Lord who taught us to say: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 #785 "In Deepest Night"

ROSE MARY

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Awesome and compassionate God, you have loved us with unfailing, self-giving mercy, but we have not loved you. You constantly call us, but we do not listen. You ask us to love, but we walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, as you come to us in mercy, we repent in spirit and in truth, admit our sin, and gratefully receive your forgiveness through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: Hear the good news: who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ. And Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation—the old life is gone, and a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

People: Thanks be to God!

HYMN OF ASSURANCE #250 "In the Bulb There Is a Flower" PROMISE

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Brooke Montgomery

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

CALL TO PRAYER #833 "O Love that Wilt Not Let Me Go" ST. MARGARET

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM "Surely, It Is God Who Saves Me" FIRST SONG

PROCLAIM GOD'S LOVE

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Romans 8:26-39 Isaiah 55:8-9 Lon Anderson

Romans 8:26-39 (NRSV)

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Isaiah 55:8-9 (NRSV)

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "In the Fullness of Time" Lon Anderson

CLOSING HYMN #703 "Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me" ST. CATHERINE

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION #600 "Amen" AMEN

*POSTLUDE Hymn Improvisation Dr. Howard Smolleck

Liturgist-Rebekah West Deacon Captain-
Sound System-Jonathan West Video-Will Schroeder

Greeting before the Worship Service:
Veronica Giron-E Dawn Griffin-O'Neal-W Donna Phillips-S

Greeting after the Worship Service:
Rebekah West-E Lon Anderson-W Veronica Giron-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 time to welcome and greet new friends and old friends alike. Fellowship this morning is hosted by the Deacons Committee of Session.

Please Remember in Your Prayers

- As the school year begins, we all students, teachers, and church members will be a marigold for the entire year.*
- The family of Sherrie Helen, who passed away last Sunday.*
- That Johnny Montenegro finds a place to live now that he's exiting his program.*
- All the people of the church.*
- Simon, friend of Amber & Johnny, who's been experiencing a mental health crisis.*
- Valeria Carter's sister, Mae Johnson.*
- Prayers for Brian Stewart, and James Leyba.*

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.

7/26 Vicki Kuyper

7/27 Delfina Zertuche

7/31 Brent Brewer



7/27 Debra Smith

7/30 Howard Smolleck

8/1 Cheri McMillian

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”.



CCLI License NO. 540727



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Online Church Calendar



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More information can be found on our website fpc.lc

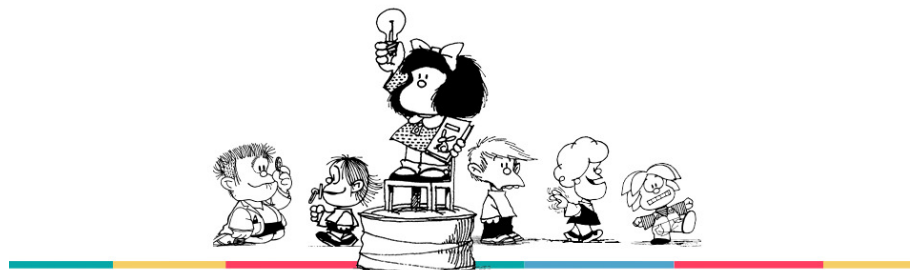
Thank you for your continued generosity and faithful giving.

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

Wishing all our students,
teachers, and staff
a GREAT



July

Sunday, July 26th

- 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, July 27th

Tuesday, July 28th

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

Wednesday, July 29th

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

Thursday, July 30th

- 10:00 AM Knitting Group in Jones Hall Parlor
- 1:30 PM Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor

Friday, July 31st

Office Closed

Saturday, August 1st

Sunday, August 2nd

- 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.
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