



First Presbyterian Church
Las Cruces, New Mexico
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Stewardship
Bible Presentation Sunday
October 18, 2026 — 10:30 AM
Enter to worship – Leave to serve

PRELUDE

“Show Us, O Lord, Your Steadfast Love” (See Hymnal #449)
(1934-2015)

Lani Smith

“I Would Be True” (tune by Joseph Y. Peek, 1843-1911)

Robert J Powell (b. 1932)

"Children of the Heavenly Father" (Swedish folk melody)
1954)

Mark Sedio (b.

**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

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Tom Marconi
Veronica Giron

Deacons
Salt & Light

MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God. (Philippians 1:9-11 NRSV)

CHORAL INTROIT

“Open Your Mouth and Praise the Lord!”
Caleb Taylor, Percussion

OPEN YOUR MOUTH

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Alonzo

Brewer

Psalm 135

Leader: Praise the LORD! Praise the name of the LORD; give praise, O servants of the LORD, you that stand in the house of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God.

People: **Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; sing to his name, for he is gracious.**

Leader: He it is who makes the clouds rise at the end of the earth; he makes lightnings for the rain and brings out the wind from his storehouses.

People: **Your name, O LORD, endures forever, your renown, O LORD, throughout all ages. For the LORD will vindicate his people, and have compassion on his servants.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

#310 "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

ST. THOMAS

***PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Gracious Redeemer God, as we gather in worship, we ask that you send your Holy Spirit to fall afresh on us. We pray for your Spirit to awaken new hope in us. Grant us the vision to see the coming of your kingdom. Help us to celebrate the glimpses of grace that you have given to each of us. Knit our hearts together in worship so that we know we do not struggle alone in working for your peace and justice. From our worship may we emerge empowered and encouraged to go out into the world proclaiming the Good News. Praying as you taught your disciples 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

"Lord, Have Mercy"
Chancel Choir

KYRIE ELEISON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Lord, you are the Creator of all things, and we are part of your creation. You call us to live in faithfulness with you and in loving harmony with others. We are too easily distracted by our wants and desires because our perspective is too small and

focused on ourselves. By your grace and power, cleanse us of our selfishness, and enlarge our lives. May we be more faithful, more caring, more just and more merciful. Teach us to treasure your truth, that hereafter, we might not willfully sin against you. Help us, Lord, by your power and Spirit to live more faithful lives that reflect your truth and grace. O Lord, grant that in the silence we may hear your voice.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: Hear the truth. Neither this world nor our lives are so broken that God cannot restore to wholeness. Trust and believe that reconciliation is possible. God does show us the way home. In the name of Jesus, our sins are forgiven.

People: **We rejoice in the Good News that through Jesus Christ, all our sin is forgiven.**

Leader: And so, what do we believe about the Good News?

People: **This is the Good News which we received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved: that Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day; and that he appeared to the women at the tomb, to Peter, then to the Twelve and to many faithful witnesses. We believe he is the Christ, the Son of the living God. He is the first and the last, the beginning and the end. He is our Lord, our Savior, and our God. Amen.**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

"Let There Be Peace On Earth"

Jill and Sy Miller

Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me;

let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God' our cre - a - tor, chil - dren all are we.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system has a treble staff with a melody and a bass staff with a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics 'Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me;' are written below the first system. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment, with the lyrics 'let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.' below it. The third system concludes the hymn with the lyrics 'With God' our cre - a - tor, chil - dren all are we.' The music is written in a simple, accessible style, suitable for congregational singing.

Let us walk with each oth - er in per - fect har - mo - ny.

Let peace be - gin with me; let this be the mo - ment now.

With ev - ery step I take, let this be my sol - emn vow:

to take each mo - ment and live each mo - ment in peace e - ter - nal - ly.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me.

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rebekah West

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

CALL TO PRAYER
PASTORAL PRAYER

#828 "More Love to Thee, O Christ"

MORE LOVE TO THEE

ANTHEM

"I Love to Tell the Story"

Benjamin Kornelis

PROCLAIM GOD'S LOVE

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 26:1-8 Romans 12:9-21

Dr. Paul Deason

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 26:1-8 (NRSV)

Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering. Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and mind. For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you. I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites; I hate the company of evildoers and will not sit with the wicked. I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O LORD, singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and telling all your wondrous deeds. O LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.

Psalm 26:1-8 (Scottish Metrical Psalter 1650)

Judge me, O Lord, for I have walk'd in mine integrity: I trusted also in the Lord; slide therefore shall not I. Examine me, and do me prove; try heart and reins, O God: For thy love is before mine eyes, thy truth's paths I have trode. With persons vain I have not sat, nor with dissemblers gone: Th' assembly of ill men I hate; to sit with such I shun. Mine hands in innocence, O Lord, I'll wash and purify; So to thine holy altar go, and compass it will I: That I, with voice of thanksgiving, may publish and declare, And tell of all thy mighty works, that great and wondrous are. The habitation of thy house, Lord, I have loved well; Yea, in that place I do delight where doth thine honour dwell. With sinners gather not my soul, and such as blood would spill: Whose hands mischievous plots, right hand corrupting bribes do fill. But as for me, I will walk on in mine integrity: Do thou redeem me, and, O Lord, be merciful to me. My foot upon an even place doth stand with stedfastness: Within the congregations th' Eternal I will bless.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Romans 12:9-21 (NRSV)

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in

spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in afflictions, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Praise to you, O Christ!

DOXOLOGY	#803 "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"	RESIGNATION
SERMON	"Personal Integrity"	Dr. Paul Deason
CLOSING HYMN	#65 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"	CWM RHONDDA

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*CHORAL BENEDICTION	"Let There Be Peace On Earth"	Jill and Sy Miller
*POSTLUDE	Hymn Tune Improvisation	Howard A. Smolleck

<i>Liturgist-Alonzo Brewer</i>	<i>Deacon Captain-Dawn Griffin-O'Neal</i>
<i>Sound System-Rusty Smith</i>	<i>Video-Brent Brewer</i>

Greeting before the Worship Service:

<i>Bob Distlehorst-E</i>	<i>Linda Pearson-W</i>	<i>Janet Mara-S</i>
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Greeting after the Worship Service:

<i>Rebekah West-E</i>	<i>Dr. Paul Deason-W</i>	<i>Alonzo Brewer-S</i>
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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 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	

Please Remember in Your Prayers

- *Barbara Wolflick, who suffered a mini stroke last Sunday.*
- *Donna Mathis, who is recovering from knee replacement surgery.*
- *Valeria Carter, who is facing some health concerns.*
- *Donna Curtiss who is dealing with glaucoma.*
- *Carol & Charlie Mathis from Santa Teresa.*
- *Ed Mathis, Carole Cook, Julie Glende, and Munsealle Pientlea.*
- *Marjorie Burr as she recovers from a broken femur, and another recent fall.*
- *Valeria Carter's sisters, Mae Johnson & Margaret.*

Continued Prayer List

Dennis Thomas, Kathy Story, Sharon Pierce; Charlotte Brockway; Barb Wolflick; Sandra Valencia; Sara Kay; Jack Curry; Millie Conrad; Dorris Hamilton, Valeria Carter, and Joanne Kersting at The Heritage.

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



FPC.LC
Website

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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

Hamburger Fry

Please join us today after our
Worship Service in
Watkins Fellowship Hall
for the Deacon's
Annual Hamburger Fry.

We will be serving hamburgers,

hot dogs, potato salad, beans,
and potato chips.

This is the only source of
funding for our ministries that
support our community and
church
projects. Please join us and help
us!

Salt & Light

This Wednesday, October 21st our theme is *We Are Superheroes in Christ*.
Dinner will be fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, corn, rolls, and
pineapple upside down cake for dessert.

In-Betweeners for October

On Friday evening, October 23rd, we plan to get together at 6 PM for
dinner catered by Savory Ventures (Veronica) in
Watkins Fellowship Hall. Our after-dinner presenter will be
Sal Patricolo, whose topic, "The Death of Mary Waters,"

is taken from local Las Cruces legend.

Please let the Ames know by Monday, 10/19, that you will be coming by calling 575-636-0210, or just catch us at church!

Thanksgiving In-Gathering

Each autumn, just before Thanksgiving, the thankful people of our congregation bring nonperishable food to place on the Chancel in gratitude to the Lord, who has blessed us so generously. Canned goods, dried beans, rice, pasta, peanut butter — any nourishing food that is nonperishable is welcomed. The food offerings will be distributed through Los Peregrinos to our Las Cruces neighbors who need them. Let's fill the Chancel on November 15th!

**10/19 Donna Farmer
Conniff**



10/19 Laura



October

Sunday, October 18th

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library, led by Rev. Larry Hicks studying the book of Jeremiah.

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 *Deacon's Hamburger Fry in Watkins Hall (see announcement)*

Monday, October 19th

3:30 PM *Storytellers of Las Cruces in Jones Hall Library*
7:00 PM *Bells Rehearsal*

Tuesday, October 20th

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

Wednesday, October 21st

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

Thursday, October 22nd

10:00 AM *Knitting Group in Jones Hall Parlor*
1:30 PM *Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor*
5:30 PM *Deacons Meeting in Jones Hall*

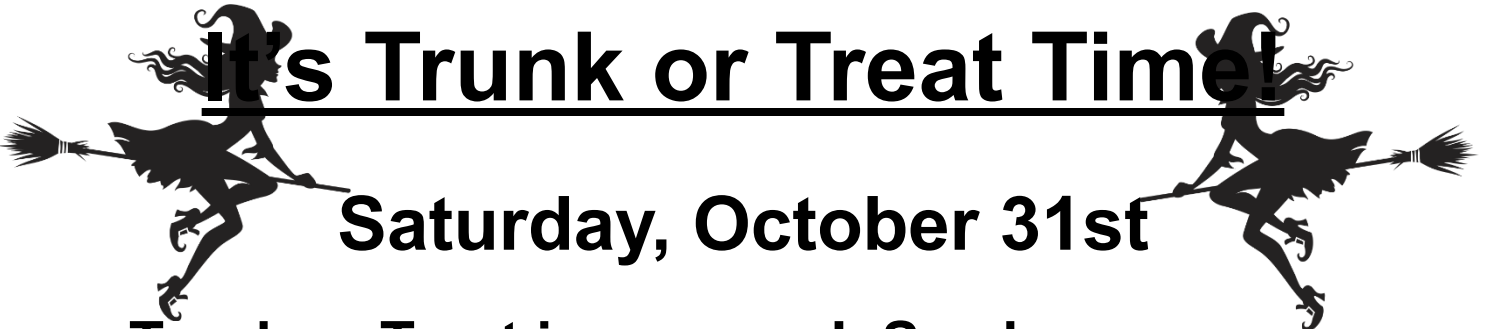
Friday, October 23rd

Office Closed

Saturday, October 24th

Sunday, October 25th

9:00 AM *Adult Sunday School in Jones Hall Library, led by Rev. Larry Hicks studying the book of Jeremiah.*
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*



It's Trunk or Treat Time!

Saturday, October 31st

Trunk or Treat is upon us! See how you can

help make this year successful!

What is It? Trunk or Treat is an important congregational outreach to our community, sponsored by the Congregational Life and Outreach ministry team. It is a great chance to serve our neighborhood. The essence of Trunk or Treat is serving kids candy from the trunks of our cars in a safe, fun environment. But there is much more, including music, food, and games.

It's on Saturday, October 31st, from 6 to 8 PM, with setup beginning one to two hours prior.

We need your help! **This event is totally dependent on our congregation to be successful.**

Further information: Contact Diana Howard at frostyacres@myctl.net or, call the church office at 526-5559 and leave your contact information with Veronica.

Want to help? Please complete the form below and drop it in one of the purple offering boxes.

tear here

Yes! I want to participate in one or more of the following ways:

	<i>Give out candy from my car trunk with optional car decoration</i>
	<i>Run a game booth</i>
	<i>Kitchen duty and serving food (hot cocoa, nachos, etc.)</i>
	<i>Donate extra candy (individually wrapped)</i>
	<i>Monitor the party jumper</i>
	<i>Help with take-down</i>
	<i>Clean up kitchen</i>
	<i>Other (fill in the blank):</i>

Please fill out the information below:

My name is_____ My phone is_____

My email is_____

