First Presbyterian Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Stewardship
Reformation Sunday
October 25, 2026 — 10:30 AM
Enter to worship – Leave to serve

PRELUDE
"Holy God, We Praise Your Name" Michael Burkhardt (b. 1957)
Trumpet tune on "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" Grimoaldo Macchia (b. 1972)
"Suite for 2 Trumpets in C" Walther Aeschbacher
Adagio and Intrada Festiva
Jacob Dalager and Paul McLaughlin, Trumpets

**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 Jasey Loman Administration & Finance

MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

> Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. I will lead the blind by a road they do not know, by paths they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I will do, and I will not forsake them. (Isaiah 42:1, 16 NRSV)

CHORAL INTROIT "Built on the Rock" Gordon Young

<u>ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME</u>

*CALL TO WORSHIP Patrick Cummings

Psalm 95

Leader: O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

People: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the LORD is a great God.

Leader: O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

People: For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. O that today we would listen to his voice!

*HYMN OF PRAISE "Christ, the Lord, Our Sure Foundation" Lloyd Larson

Please join the Choir with Lead On, O King Eternal! #269

*PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

O Lord our God, together we are your people who have come in need today. We worship not because we are good, holy, and faithful, but because you are merciful and loving. By your Holy Spirit, allow us in this time of worship to catch a glimpse of your glory and greatness. Today may our hearts soar in the sure knowledge of your gracious love for us. We are grateful that you do care about our lives and concerns. Help us, we pray, to be a people of diligent faith and service. May this church, this community of grace, be more and more faithful and useful in fulfilling our mission to our world and community. We ask through Christ Jesus our Lord, who taught his 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 #422 "Create in Me a Clean Heart" CREATE IN ME

Chancel Choir

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O God and Father most gracious and full of compassion, have mercy upon us in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. And as you blot out our sins and stains, magnify and increase in us day by day the grace of your Holy Spirit: that as we

acknowledge our unrighteousness with all our heart, we may be moved to true repentance, mortifying all our sins and producing in us the fruits of righteousness and innocence which are pleasing to you.[1]

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

Leader: We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church,[2] the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.[3]

People: We confess and acknowledge one God alone, distinct in three persons: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, to whom alone we must cleave, and in whom alone we put our trust.[4]

Leader: We believe that there is but one only, the living and true God. God is a Spirit, in and of himself infinite in being, glory, blessedness and perfection, all-sufficient, eternal, unchangeable, incomprehensible, everywhere present, almighty, knowing all things, most wise, most holy, most just, most merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth.[5]

People: With believers in every time and place we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.[6]

HYMN OF ASSURANCE #275 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" EIN' FESTE BURG

Please stand as we sing

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Brooke Montgomery

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

CALL TO PRAYER "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" CHILDREN PLAYING

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM "God Is Our Refuge and Strength" Allen Pote

---

[1] Prayer by John Calvin, 1542
[2] The Nicene Creed
[3] The Apostles' Creed, 2.3.
[4] The Scots Confession, 3.01.
[5] The Larger Catechism, 7.117.
[6] A Brief Statem ent of Faith, 11.5, 11.6.

PROCLAIM GOD'S LOVE

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Matthew 22:34-46 Rev. Lew White

Matthew 22:34-46 (NRSV)

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

DOXOLOGY #606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" OLD HUNDRETH

SERMON "The Greatest Commandment" Rev. Lew White

CLOSING HYMN #695 "Change My Heart, O God" CHANGE MY HEART

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*CHORAL BENEDICTION "Built on the Rock" Gordon Young

*POSTLUDE "Suite for 2 Trumpets in C" Walther Aeschbacher
Scherzo and Andante Finale

Hymn Tune Improvisation Howard A. Smolleck

Liturgist-Patrick Cummings Deacon Captain-Vicki Kuyper
Sound System-Curtis Beneway Video-Rusty Smith

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

Greeting after the Worship Service:
Patrick Cummings-E Rev. Lew White-W Brooke Montgomery-S

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg to raise questions about the teaching of the church in his time and look to the Bible for the answers. Though it was not something he planned, it became the beginning of a revolution—one that John Calvin and John Knox continued, and many others followed. The Bible proclaims salvation by Grace through Faith in Christ alone to the Glory of God. These are the five main points of the Reformation, or the Five Solas:

Sola Gratia (Grace Alone): God is motivated to save us by His own love and grace, not by our merits. His heart is for us and His unconditional love is what causes Him to extend to us the free gift of salvation.

Solus Christus (Christ Alone): Jesus is the only mediator between God and humankind. We need no priesthood to connect us with God, only Jesus and His own Spirit in us.

Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone): How do we know what is true, especially about the character of God an Word of God reveals it. The Word has authority to correct tradition, churches, church councils and all leaders.

Sola Fide (Faith Alone): We are saved by faith, not by works. Our salvation depends on our faith in Christ and what He has done, not on anything we do. Our only work is to believe.

Soli Deo Gloria (To God's Glory Alone): We live into the great affirmation of the Westminster Catechism, "the chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever." All we do as followers of Jesus—and as His church—is to bring glory to God alone.

Rev. Lew White Pastor Rev. Pyong San Yu Korean Congregation Dr. Janet Loman Comm. Pastor, College Ministry Ada Castle Commissioned Pastor, Visitation

Dr. Paul Deason	Commissioned Pastor	Dr. Howard A. Smolleck	Organist
Beth Borchert-Thomas	Dir. Of Music & Bells	Veronica Giron	Office Manager
Veronica Giron	Salt & Light Coord.	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 Veronica Giron.

Please Remember in Your Prayers

- *The family of Jaime Mata, Kathy Walker's son-in-law, who passed away on Oct. 13th.*
- *Janet Mara, who is dealing with a flooded home, and is not able to be at home at the moment.*
- *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.*
- *Ed Mathis, Carole Cook, Julie Glende, and Munsealle Pientlea.*
- *Valeria Carter's sisters, Mae Johnson & Margaret.*

Continued Prayer List

Dennis Thomas, Marjorie Burr, 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	*FPC.LC/News*	*FPC.LC/Calendar*	*FPC.LC/Sermons*
Website	**Newsletter Sign-Up**	**Online Church Calendar**	**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.

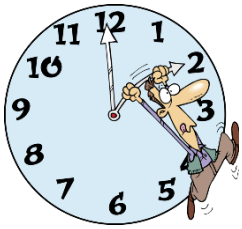
200 E. Boutz Rd., Las Cruces, NM 88005
575.526.5559
Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

In the Life of the Church



Salt & Light

This Wednesday, October 21st our theme is *We Are Superheroes in Christ*.
It's Pizza and Birthday Night!
Dinner will be pizza, Ceasar salad, and cupcakes for dessert.
We hope to see all our Superheroes there!



Daylight Savings Time

Just a friendly reminder that Daylight Savings Time is on Sunday, November 1st. Don't forget to "fall back!"

Renaissance Faire

Please join us at the Renaissance Faire Saturday, November 7th!





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!

10/30 Bruce Pearson



10/30 Holly Dalager



October

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 Hall (see announcement)*

Monday, October 26th

7:00 PM *Bells Rehearsal*

Tuesday, October 27th

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

Wednesday, October 28th

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

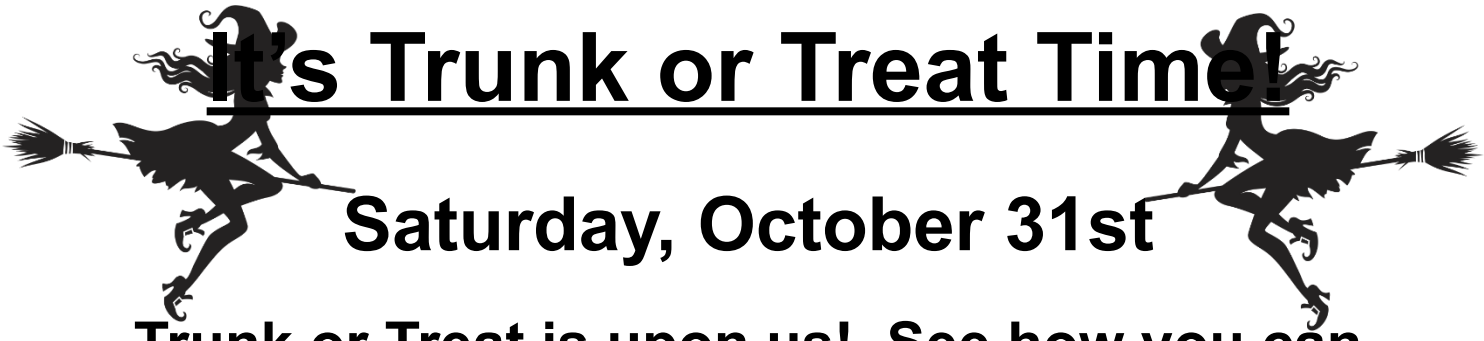
4:00 PM Salt & Light (see announcement)

Thursday, October 29th
10:00 AM Knitting Group in Jones Hall Parlor
1:30 PM Listening Prayer in Jones Hall Parlor

Friday, October 30th
Office Closed

Saturday, October 31st
6:00 PM Trunk or Treat in West Parking Lot

Sunday, November 1st
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 tear here tear here tear here

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

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

Please fill out the information below:

My name is_____ My phone is_____

My email is_____

