



We are glad you are here. You are invited to participate in the service to the degree you are comfortable. Please write your name and address on the attendance pad when it is passed and gather for a time of friendship and refreshment in the Fellowship Hall following worship. A church Elder will be at the communion table after worship to answer any questions you may have about membership or the church.

- ✦ If you would like to donate a poinsettia for the sanctuary, please call Pam's Flowers at 425-9612 to order it by December 15th. \$24.99.
- ✦ 'Tis the season! Join your church family in celebrating the Christmas season by attending these events:
  - ✧ **Christmas Luncheon** - Saturday, December 15, at Charlie's, 12:00 noon
  - ✧ **Christmas Cantata** - Sunday, December 16, in the sanctuary, 3:00 p.m. The cantata is "Joy" by Joel Raney, conducted by Amy Hufnal with narrator Chad Boliek.
  - ✧ **Christmas Eve Service** - Tuesday, December 24, 5:00 p.m.
- ✦ Our Advent study, from *The Thoughtful Christian*, is "From Longing to Receiving." Handouts will be available at each class for the next week's study. If you need a handout for next week, please stop by the church office.
- ✦ December Samaritan House Food Donations: Canned Meats & Fish

**Prayers for the Church Family** - Please pray for Albert Rodriguez & Stella Pino, Sharon & Ed Roe, and Patrick Rucker & Karyl Lyne and for El Buen Pastor United Presbyterian Church, Chimayo NM (1903). These names remind us to pray for each other and for those in our Presbytery.

**THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**

**Monday, December 10**

7:00 a.m. - I&S - Charlie's

4:30 p.m. - JOT - Old Town Mission

**Tuesday, December 11**

7:00 a.m. - Community Life - Charlie's

8:30 - 10:00 a.m. - Coffee with Katie - Charlie's

5:15 p.m. - Deep and Wide Taizé Worship - Old Town Mission

**Wednesday, December 12**

5:30 p.m. - Cantata Rehearsal

6:15 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. - Bell Rehearsal

**Saturday, December 15**

9:00 - 11:00 a.m. - Cantata Rehearsal

12:00 noon - Christmas Luncheon - Charlie's

*Church Office: 505-425-7763*

*Office Hours: Monday -Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.*

[fupc.nm@gmail.com](mailto:fupc.nm@gmail.com)    [www.lvpresbyterian.com](http://www.lvpresbyterian.com)

*Rev Katie Palmer - Office: 425-7763    Cell: 303-775-7356*

[pastorkatiepalmer@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkatiepalmer@gmail.com)

*December Elder of the Month -Karyl Lyne -505-454-9707*

*December Deacon of the Month - Christina Litherland - 505-429-1007*

**FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

1000 Douglas Avenue, Las Vegas NM 87701

December 9, 2018

10:30 a.m.



**We Are Messengers of God**

**WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD**

**MEDITATION** - *When the power of love overcomes the love of power the world will know peace.* --Jimi Hendrix

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*(Please use this time to share the peace of the Lord with your neighbor.)*

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you

**People: And also with you**

*(Please return to your seat when the introduction to the hymn starts)*

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;**

**The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

**RESPONSIVE CHORAL INTROIT**

Soloist/Congregation

One: Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

**\*All: Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.**

**Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from Psalm 85:4-13)

Restore us and revive us, O God.

**Show us your steadfast love; let us rejoice in you!**

Let us hear what you will speak, for God will speak peace to us.

**God's glory will dwell with us. Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet.**

Righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

**Faithfulness will spring up from the ground and righteousness will look down from the sky. We will follow in the Lord's steps!**

**\* OPENING HYMN**

PH #13 *Prepare the Way*

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY<sup>+</sup>

*We remember that, before we confess and no matter what we confess to God, we can be assured of God's Love and Mercy.*

Leader: God does not remember our sins, but remembers the holy promises made to us. God comes to us, bringing us love, freedom and peace.

People: Lead us in your peace, O God, and teach us your love.

## UNISON PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION<sup>++</sup>

God of Advent Promise, you sent your servant Esther into a life of privilege so that those at risk would have an advocate. Many of us also live lives of privilege, but often forget those who most need our help and support. Show us how to advocate for the vulnerable among us so that our world will know peace and justice. We pause now in silent prayer. (Pause) In Christ's name, Amen.

## CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

STF #2085 *He Came Down* (x2)

**He comes down that we may have peace;**

**He comes down that we may have peace;**

**He comes down that we may have peace; Hallelujah forever more.**

## WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM

*Carol for Advent*

Don Besig

Christie Baskett and Karyl Lyne

## CHECKING THE MAIL

LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF HOPE AND PEACE (see insert)

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Esther 4:1-17 Pew Bible Page 388

SERMON

*A Message of Peace*

Rev. Katie Palmer

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

## CALL TO OFFERING

## GIVING OF OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

### \*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above ye heavenly host;

Praise God and Son and Holy Ghost.

A Dios el Padre celestial;

Al Hijo nuestro redentor

Y al eternal Consolador,

Unidos todos alabad. Amen.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Lord in your Mercy (or Lord, with joy)

(The people respond to each petition with "Hear our prayer")

**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.**

## WE SEAL GOD'S WORD (see insert)

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

### SONG OF PREPARATION

*Come to the Table of Grace (v. 2) – See insert*

### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### INSTITUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

### COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*Communion will be served by intinction.*

*Please come forward, take a piece of bread, and dip it in the cup.*

*Gluten-free elements are available near the west door.*

## UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of Christmas Promise, God of Calm and Harmony, we have eaten and drunk from your table. May this meal fill us with peace in a world of tensions. May we do our part to work for peace as we wait for the day when the world will be changed. Amen.

## WE GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

\*CLOSING HYMN PH #450, *O Day of Peace*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

\*Please stand if you are able.

<sup>+</sup>Adapted from Thom Shuman at <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/>

<sup>++</sup>Based on a prayer from [narrativelectionary.org](http://narrativelectionary.org)

### Assisting in Worship Today

Preacher – Rev. Katie Palmer

Worship Leader – Rosie Lopez

Accompanist – Em Krall

Sound – Patrick Rucker/Sean Croto

Visuals – Christie Baskett/Linda Solyntjes

The flowers in the sanctuary are donated by

Pam's Flowers on the Plaza and arranged to the Glory of God.



The beautiful wreath on the front door is in honor of Dottie Mann from her family