

WELCOME! We are glad you are here. You are invited to participate in the service to the degree you are comfortable, including receiving Communion. 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.

Annual Congregational Meeting will be held next Sunday, February 11, immediately after worship. Copies of the Annual Report are available in the narthex.

Education Class for Adults And Youth - Rod Billingsley's class on *Old Testament Stories Your Mother Never Told You* runs through February 18. Next week: "Brides for the Tribe of Benjamin" (Judges 19-21).

Lenten/Eastertide Study will be led by Pastor Katie beginning February 25. We will be reading Barbara Brown Taylor's *Learning to Walk in the Dark*, which "provides a way to find spirituality in those times when we don't have all the answers." Brown argues that "[o]ften, it is while we are in the dark that we grow the most." (Amazon review) Books are available in the church office for \$10.

Dinners for 6+2 - Reminder that the second session of Dinners for 6+2 should be underway.

Prayers for the Church Family - Please pray for Chad Boliek, Gretchen Bush, and Randy Campbell as well as for United Church of Los Alamos NM (1947). These names remind us to pray for each other and for the churches in our Presbytery.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Tuesday, February 6

7:00 a.m. - Personnel

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

Wednesday, February 7

1:30 p.m. – Mission and Peacemaking – Church Library

6:00 p.m. – Chancel Choir

7:00 p.m. – Rainbow Ringers

Saturday, February 10

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. - Deacon Training at the Vander Meers' home

Assisting in Worship Today

Pastor – Rev Katie Palmer

Worship Leader – Robin Carlson

Choir Director – Karyl Lyne

Accompanist – Em Krall

Sound – Patrick Rucker/Sean Croto

Visuals – Christie Baskett/Linda Solyntjes

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1000 Douglas Avenue Las Vegas NM 87701
February 4, 2018

THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS

WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

MEDITATION – *Listen. People start to heal the moment they feel heard.*
Cheryl Richardson

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.**

PRELUDE AND SILENT MEDITATION

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from a poem by Howard Thurman)

God's tent is gone from our sanctuary

But our hearts live in it with Christ.

What now do we do

when the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their
flocks?

Now the work of Christmas begins:

to find the lost, to heal the broken,

to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner,

to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among the people,

to make music in the heart.

*** OPENING HYMN** STF #2236 *Gather Us In*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

*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: Know this. Christ comes to heal and to save, not to condemn. In
Christ, we are forgiven, loved, and whole.

People: Thanks be to God!

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the broken, the lonely, and the seeking, we confess that we are a broken people who try to hide our brokenness or who want healing without growth. Give us courage and understanding to face the ways in which we are broken. We confess, too, that we hurt others, sometimes without ever knowing it. Remind us, whenever we encounter another, to offer your grace through kindness, time, and a willingness to listen. We offer now our silent prayers. (Pause in silent prayer.) Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE STF #2152 *Change My Heart, O God*

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

You are the Potter, I am the clay.

Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change My heart, O God, make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS Psalm 42:1-3 Pew Bible Page 447
John 4:1-30, 39-42 Pew Bible Page 864

ANTHEM *O Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers* Gilbert M Martin

SERMON *Healing Conversation* Rev. Katie Palmer

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

PH #367 *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

CALL TO OFFERING

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, 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")

THE LORD'S 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.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

SONG OF PREPARATION STF #2265 *Time Now to Gather*

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

Gracious God, you are the Holy One who nourishes and guides us. Thank you for inviting us to sit together at your table. As we leave the table this morning fed by the love that Jesus' birth brought to us, let us go out to do the work of Christmas. Let us be aware of our brokenness and seek your healing. Let us recognize brokenness in others and show them your love, grace, and mercy. We pray in the name of Christ. Amen.

WE GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

CLOSING HYMN PH #536 *Lord, Make Us More Holy*

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Please stand if you are able.

Communion is offered each Sunday from October 1 through Pentecost (May 20, 2018) and on the first and third Sundays of each month from June through September. We do not celebrate Communion on the fifth Sunday of a month due to the addition of the Healing Liturgy to the service.

Church Office: 505-425-7763

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

Rev Katie Palmer – Office: 425-7763 Cell: 505-231-1923

February Elder of the Month – Robin Carlson – 505-425-7992

February Deacon of the Month – Jan Beurskens – 716-864-2026

✿ The flowers in the sanctuary are donated by Pam's Flowers on the Plaza and dedicated to the glory of God.