

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.

Lenten/Eastertide Study, 9:30 a.m. Sundays from February 25 – May 6, led by Pastor Katie, focuses on 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."

Lenten Soup & Bread Lunch following worship each Sunday through March 25. You are invited to give to One Great Hour of Sharing at the Lenten Lunches in the donation cans on the tables what you might spend if you went out for lunch.

Community Life Event on Wednesday! In honor of Women's History Month, the Kennedy Alumni Gallery on the Highlands campus is featuring a show of prints by women artists from the Dr. Robert Bell Permanent collection. Join us on Wednesday, March 21, for a private reception from 4:00–6:00 p.m. in the Kennedy Gallery located at 905 University Avenue. At 5:15 p.m., Curator Renee Buchanan will be giving a talk about this exhibit, which features works covering a period from 1870-2004. Refreshments will be provided.

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) provides funds for those affected by natural disasters—restoring hope through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance 32%; reducing hunger through Presbyterian Hunger Program 36%; and partnering in progress through Self-Development of People 32%. You are invited to give to OGHS at the Lenten Lunches following worship Feb. 25 through March 25 in the donation cans on the tables what you might spend if you went out for lunch. You may also contribute by check with OGHS on the memo line or with an OGHS envelope in the offering plate. Thank you for your generosity.

Prayers for the Church Family - Please pray for Kevin Johnson, Em Krall & Cathy Stauber, and Rudy Laumbach and for Ranchos Presbyterian Church, Taos NM (1892).... These names remind us to pray for each other and for the churches in our Presbytery.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Tuesday, March 20

8:30 – 10:00 a.m. - Coffee with Katie at Charlie's
6:30 p.m. - Session

Wednesday, March 21

4:00 – 6:00 p.m. – *Artists Who Happen To Be Women*
6:00 p.m. – Chancel Choir
7:00 p.m. – Rainbow Ringers

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

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

March Elder of the Month – Van Swan – 505-425-6923

March Deacon of the Month – Sharon Vander Meer – 505-425-6457

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1000 Douglas Avenue Las Vegas NM 87701
March 18, 2018

VOICES AT THE GATE



WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

MEDITATION – *I have found the paradox, that if you love until it hurts, there can be no more hurt, only more love.* --Mother Teresa

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.**

INTROIT *Canon* Johann Pachelbel, arr Hal Hopson

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Psalm 146)

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

We will praise the Lord as long as we live.

Yes! We will sing praises to God our whole lives.

We do not put our trust in mortals, whose plans perish when their breath departs.

We trust in God's help, and put our hope in our God, who made heaven and earth.

God keeps faith forever.

God will reign forever. Praise the Lord!

*** OPENING HYMN** PH #457 *I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY (adapted from Romans 5:8-9)

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 shows great love to us, for although we are sinners, Christ died for us. We are redeemed by God's grace poured upon us!

People: Thanks be to God!

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION (adapted from workingpreacher.org)

Holy God, we fail to grapple with the enormity of your love for us; we spend little time thinking deeply about Jesus' willingness to suffer and die because of that love. We relegate the cross to a time long ago and ignore similar injustices in our own time that lead to your suffering. In this season of contemplation, help us to recognize that you revealed yourself in Jesus, who walked among us and was handed over to be crucified. May we be strengthened by his presence among us today. We offer now our silent prayers. (Pause in silent prayer.) Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE STF #2200 *O Lord, Hear My Prayer*

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.

When I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.

Come and listen to me.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM *Divinium Mysterium* Fred Gramann

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE John 19:1-16a

SERMON *Redeeming Judge* Rev. Katie Palmer

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

GTG #443 *There Is a Redeemer*

WE SEAL GOD'S WORD.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

SONG OF PREPARATION PH #513 *Let Us Break Bread Together*

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

INSTITUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Communion will be passed in the pews.

Please take bread and hold until all are served; we will eat together.

Likewise, take a cup and hold until all are served; we will drink together.

Gluten-free elements are available.

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, despite our humanity - our doubts and our failures to acknowledge you—you have included us at your table. You have nourished us with the bread and cup of your kingdom. Send us forth from this meal eager to proclaim the redemption you give and eager to give of ourselves for one another. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

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 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 GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

***CLOSING HYMN** STF #2166 *Christ Beside Me*

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Please stand if you are able.

Assisting in Worship Today

Preacher – Rev. Katie Palmer, Worship Leader – Rosie Lopez

Choir Director – Karyl Lyne, Accompanist – Em Krall

Rainbow Ringers Handbell Ensemble

Sound – Patrick Rucker/Sean Croto,

Visuals – D.R. Palmer/Linda Solyntjes

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.