

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1000 Douglas Avenue, Las Vegas NM 87701

May 10, 2020

10:30 a.m.

FAITHFUL WITNESSES

MEDITATION – *Change your opinions, keep to your principles; change your leaves, keep intact your roots* -- Victor Hugo

WE GATHER TOGETHER

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Let us make a commitment during this time to call someone today,
visit with them, and wish them the peace of Christ.*

CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Psalm 33:18-22)

The eye of the Lord is on those who hope in his steadfast love.

Our soul waits for the Lord; our heart is glad in him because we trust in his holy name.

Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

OPENING HYMN, *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit* (GTG #408)

OPENING PRAYER

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING: Acts 17:1-9

After Paul and Silas had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days argued with them from the scriptures, explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, 'This is the Messiah, Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you.' Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. But the Jews became jealous, and with the help of some ruffians in the market-places they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. While they were searching for Paul and Silas to bring them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason's house. When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some believers before the city authorities, shouting, 'These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also, and Jason has entertained them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor, saying that there is another king named Jesus.' The people and the city officials were disturbed when they heard this, and after they had taken bail from Jason and the others, they let them go.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of people we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place where your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

SERMON: *Setting an Example*

Rev. Katie Palmer

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

FROM THE CONFESSION OF 1967 (reference 9.32)

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

***CLOSING HYMN, *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* (GTG #835)**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

We extend a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today.

Lent Sunday Class – Please join us Sunday mornings at 9:15 for the current series, “Favorite Childhood Bible Stories” led by Richard Lindeborg. To join the Zoom meeting, follow instructions to the worship link; the link and phone number are the same as for the worship service.

Sunday Class - Starting May 24, we will be discussing the book *The Simple Faith of Mister Rogers: Spiritual Insights from the World’s Most Beloved Neighbor* by Amy Hollingsworth. You can order the book online or ask Richard to have one shipped to you for \$12.69. Details in the May newsletter.

All-church Retreat Postponed - “To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven.” In consideration of this Bible verse, the Community Life Committee has decided to postpone the all-church retreat at Ghost Ranch by a year to September 17, 18 and 19, 2021.

Samaritan House Food Donations - May - Rice and Beans. Coffee and Tea are always appreciated. Please drop your donations off at Samaritan House.

Prayers for the Church Family - Please pray for Frank Hager, Pat & Corky Halverson, Ruth Hazelton, and Lillian Hoika as well as St Andrew Presbyterian Church, Albuquerque NM (1959). These names remind us to pray for each other and for those in our Presbytery.

May Elder of the Month – Corky Halverson – 505-235-7914

May Deacon of the Month – Mary Schipper - 505-429-0285

Church Office closed to the public, but calls and emails will be answered

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

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