

HELLO FUPC FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

In this mailing you'll find a note from Pastor Katie and the bulletin for Sunday's worship service. Join us Sunday at 10:30 via zoom by going to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5739200081> or join us by phone (312-626-6799). If you're joining by phone, enter meeting ID 573-920-0081. If you've not used zoom before, follow the instructions provided at the link. If you need help with zoom, call D.R. Palmer before Sunday. It is so good to see and hear each other! Please plan to join us!

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN

Tuesday, March 2

7:30 a.m. – Personnel via Zoom

9:00 a.m. - Coffee with Katie via Zoom

Noon – Buildings and Grounds via Zoom

3:00 p.m. – Mission and Peacemaking via Zoom

Thursday, March 4

9:30 a.m. – Worship and Music via Zoom



First United Presbyterian Church
1000 Douglas Avenue
PO Box 37
Las Vegas NM 87701



February 24, 2021

Dear FUPC Family and Friends,

Given our Lenten theme of “Looking Beyond the Blinders,” I’ve been thinking a lot about seeing what is outside the narrow vision I sometimes have out of habit. So often in the day-to-day, I see things in terms of my to-do list and the habits I establish for my days: time for work, for meals, for recreation. I suspect that I am not alone in falling into this tunnel vision, where invisible blinders prevent me from taking time to really see what’s going on around me.

I am reminded of a few lines about seeing in Annie Dillard’s wonderful book *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*, which I’ve probably shared with you before. Early in the book she writes, “[B]eauty and grace are performed whether or not we will or sense them. The least we can do is try to be there.” Later she says, “This is our life, these are our lighted seasons, and then we die. . . . In the meantime, in between time, we can see.” And again, in the last pages, she asserts, “The universe was not made in jest but in solemn, incomprehensible earnest. By a power that is unfathomably secret, and holy, and fleet. There is nothing to be done about it, but ignore it, or see.”

Dillard explores the natural world of beauty and grace, but also assures us that in nature we find a kind of natural poverty, violence, and an order of predator and prey. How do we **see**, not only in nature but in our social and political structures, where things bring life and where they bring pain?

On Sunday, we will read from Luke 13 the parable of the fig tree and hear Jesus’ lament over Jerusalem, whose people he has wanted to nurture and protect. But, he says, they were unwilling to accept prophets and teachers and even Jesus himself. And yet, as we read last week, Jesus sets his face on Jerusalem, determined to go there, knowing the city’s unwillingness to accept him, reading the climate in which he was a storm that the authorities wanted to calm. How do we take our blinders off in order to see Jesus’ offer of the nurture that will help us bear fruit?

I look forward to seeing you at our Zoom worship and again Sunday at 3:00 p.m. for our first Lenten lecture/discussion series with guest speaker Nelson Capitan.

With thanks for all of you,
Pastor Katie

By a departing light
We see acuter, quite,
Than by a wick that stays.
There’s something in the flight
That clarifies the sight
And decks the rays.

--Emily Dickinson



FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1000 Douglas Avenue, Las Vegas NM 87701

February 28, 2021 10:30 a.m.

Second Sunday in Lent

LOOKING BEYOND THE BLINDERS

MEDITATION – *It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.* –Antoine de Saint-Exupery

WE GATHER TOGETHER

- WELCOME** Rev. Katie Palmer
- PRELUDE** Em Krall
- ANNOUNCEMENTS** Richard Lindeborg
- 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 122:1-2, 9)

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!”
Our feet are standing within your gates, O God;
For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, we will seek your good.

OPENING HYMN *O God in Whom All Life Begins* (GTG #308)

OPENING PRAYER

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 13:1-9, 31-35

At that very time there were some present who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, ‘Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.’

Then he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?” He replied, “Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.”’

...
At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], ‘Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.’ He said to them, ‘Go and tell that fox for me, “Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem.” Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.”’

SERMON *Nurturing Hands* Rev. Katie Palmer

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

RESPONSE *What Is the World Like* (GTG #771, v. 1)

WITH THANKS FOR GENEROUS GIVING *Doxology*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

WE GO FORTH IN GOD’S NAME

CLOSING HYMN *Jesus Calls Us* (GTG #720)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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

Looking Beyond the Blinders to See EVERYONE – a Zoom discussion series for Lent, 3 p.m. TODAY, as well as on March 14 and March 28. Today we welcome Nelson Capitan to open our eyes to issues of indigenous peoples.

Lenten Series: This year’s study is a discussion of the book *Are We There yet? Pilgrimage in the Season of Lent*, with an introduction by Marek P. Zabriskie (2017). The book is available new from the publisher -- Forward Movement -- for \$7 plus shipping and as a PDF download for printing or viewing at bodysuitmx.blogspot.com. Richard Lindeborg can have a copy shipped to your home.

The reading assignment for March 7 is pp. 29-46: (The First [full] Week of Lent) “Forgiveness and Freedom”

Samaritan House Food Donations – March: Soup (any kind) - Coffee and Tea are always appreciated. Please drop your donations off at Samaritan House

Prayers for the Church Family - Each week we choose some specific names to remind us to pray for each other and for those in our Presbytery. Please pray for Gay Veit, Maria Weinrich, and Lisa Weinstein & family as well as St Andrew Presbyterian Church, Albuquerque NM (1959).



March Elder of the Month – Judy Long – 505-429-0379

March Deacon of the Month – Sharon Vander Meer –505-617-0839

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

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

fupc.nm@gmail.com 505-425-7763 www.lvpresbyterian.org

Rev Katie Palmer – Office: 425-7763 Cell: 303-775-7356 pastorkatiepalmer@gmail.com

Assisting in Worship This Week

Preacher – Rev. Katie Palmer Worship Leader – Richard Lindeborg

Director of Music - Karyl Lyne Accompanist – Em Krall

Zoom Host – D.R. Palmer Visuals – Tegan Palmer

Singers:

Deb Allen-Reid, Christie Baskett, Judy Long, Jan Beurskens,
DR Palmer, Kent Reid, Mark Gillingham, Karyl Lyne