Sunday, November 15th, 2026

PROGRESSIVE • INCLUSIVE • COMMUNITY

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
• IN LAS CRUCES •

DoC UCC

Reach Up

Reach In

Reach Out

We are here to help people know God, find freedom, discover their purpose, and make a difference in the community, near and far. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey...
You are welcome here.

Welcome to First Christian Church

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
a just world for all

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE.....Aletta Wilson

CALL TO WORSHIP.....Jeanne Knotts

Please join in the responsive Call to Worship, with everyone giving voice to the bold text as found in this bulletin and on the screens.

Family of God, whom do we serve?
We serve God, who calls us to love our neighbors, tend creation, and care for the least of these.

Family of God, in a world that values productivity and profit, whom do we serve?
We serve God, who calls us to value equity, justice, and sabbath for all.

Family of God, in a world that privileges power over others instead of power shared with our neighbors, whom do we serve?
We serve God, who calls us to privilege the agency and flourishing of ourselves, our neighbors, and all creation.

Family of God, we gather here to grow in love of God, neighbor, self, and all creation. Let us now enter the joy of serving God, who is Love.
We gather to worship God and work for God's purposes until God's kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven. Thanks be to God! Amen.



GATHERING HYMN

O God of Vision.....Chalice Hymnal #288
Verses 1 & 2

1

O God of vision far greater than all human scheming,
gather us now in your presence, refreshing, redeeming.
Show us a new life in your breathtaking view,
lovely beyond all our dreaming.

2

Pour out your Spirit on all now assembled before you.
May our diversity here be a means to adore you.
Women and men, young, old, and youthful again,
make us as one, we implore you.

UNISON PRAYER.....Jeanne Knotts

God, our kind and loving Parent, you no longer call us servants but friends.
There is so much you have entrusted to us, even the future of your kingdom of justice and love.
Give us the grace to work out with you the growth of mercy and goodness in this world,
to be united with all Christians and with all who seek you with a sincere heart in bringing reconciliation and joy to everyone.
Let us go together the way to you, our living and loving God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASS THE PEACE.....Rev. Patrick Crocker

PRAYER TIME.....Rev. Patrick Crocker

Lord's Prayer:

Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,
Holy and blessed is your true name.
We pray for your reign of peace to come.
We pray that your good will be done.
Let heaven and earth become one.
Give us this day the bread we need;
give it to those who have none.
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,
from each one to each one.
Lead us into holy innocence beyond the evil of our days --
Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
Forever your name is All in One. Amen. (Parker Palmer)

Doxology:

Praise God, who fills each cup and plate,
Whose table's wide and love is great.
From broken bread, may all be fed,
And justice rise where fear has spread.
Amen.

HYMN OF GRATITUDE

Now We Are All Our God.....Chalice Hymnal #715

Verses 1, 2, & 3

1

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices,
who, from our mothers' arms, has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

2

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us full of grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills of this world in the next.

3

All praise and thanks to God the Father and our Mother,
to Christ and to the One who binds us to each other,
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

CELEBRATION OF GRATITUDE.....Deb Cook

SCRIPTURE.....Matthew 25:14-30 (MSG)

SERMON.....Rev. Patrick Crocker

Joy in the Shadows of Empire

COMMUNION HYMN

This is a Day of New Beginnings.....Chalice Hymnal #518

Verses 1, 2, & 4

1

This is a day of new beginnings,
time to remember and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing,
laying to rest the pain that's gone.

2

For by the life and death of Jesus,
God's mighty Spirit, now as then,
can make for us a world of difference,
as faith and hope are born again.

4

In faith we gather round the table
to taste and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings;
our God is making all things new.

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST.....Scott Hays-Strom

ANNOUNCEMENTS & BENEDICTION.....Rev. Patrick Crocker

GOING FORTH HYMN

Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant.....Chalice Hymnal #490
Verses 1, 2, & 5

1

Sister, let me be your servant,
brother, let me walk with you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

2

We are pilgrims on the journey,
fellow trav'lers on the road.
We are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

5

Brother, let me be your servant,
sister, let me walk with you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

POSTLUDE.....Aletta Wilson



ABOUT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we celebrate communion weekly. We welcome all to the Lord's table as God has welcomed us.

We are the United Church of Christ, committed to hearing God's ancient story anew and afresh in our lives and in the world today. Why? Because God is still speaking.

We are an Open and Affirming community. In Christ's example, we want to offer all persons, regardless of race, creed, sexual orientation, or gender identity, the opportunity to discover and develop their gifts of God's love and service.



If you are visiting us today, we welcome you!

Please come worship with us again!

Global Ministries is supported by both DOC and UCC.
For more information, visit globalministries.org.
To assist with global crisis relief efforts, please visit:
DoC: www.weekofcompassion.org
UCC: www.ucc.org/what-we-do/wider-church-ministries/global-hope/

WEEKLY EVENTS

Bible Study.....Sunday, 9 AM
Worship Service*.....Sunday, 10:15 AM
Men's Breakfast (at University IHOP).....Wednesday, 9AM
Spiritual Practices.....Thursday, 9 AM

** Our Hybrid Worship Service is held in-person at the church, and live-streamed via Zoom and Facebook Live.*

MONTHLY EVENTS

Celebrate Birthdays of the Month.....First Sunday, 11:30 AM
Contemplative Worship.....First Sunday, 6:30 PM
Potluck.....Third Sunday, 11:30 AM
Brown Bag Lunch.....Third Wednesday, 11:30 AM

STAY IN TOUCH

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For Text Alerts:
Msg **FCCTextMe** to **(844) 467-1299**

UPCOMING SERVICES

Services are at 10:15 am MDT unless otherwise noted.

November 22, 2026
Worship Leader: Eric Hays-Strom
Offering: Paul Cook
Communion: Deb Cook

November 29th, 2026
Worship Leader: Karen Holmes
Offering: Rev. Patrick Crocker
Communion: Paul Cook

December 6th, 2026
Worship Leader: Hilda McKee
Offering: Esther Devall
Communion: Rev. Patrick Crocker

December 13th, 2026
Worship Leader: Jeanne Knotts
Offering: Sue Bogart
Communion: Esther Devall

NOTICE:
Anyone allergic/sensitive to scents is welcome to use the single stall bathroom across the hall from the main bathrooms.