

LAS PLACITAS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Living Faith, Loving God and Welcoming All

December 14, 2025

Third Sunday in Advent

10:30 am

the Rev. Matthew Baugh, Pastor



Welcome to Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

Your presence is a gift. We are glad you are here and hope you find the worship service to be meaningful. May God's peace go with you as you begin a new week. If you are looking for a church home, know you are welcome here.

~ANNOUNCEMENTS~

- ☼ **Once again this year the LPPC Earth Care Fellowship will sponsor the Winter Solstice Poetry Reading (WSPR) on Sunday, December 21, at 7 pm. This beloved, contemplative seasonal event, held in the beautiful candle-lit sanctuary of the historic Las Placitas Presbyterian Church, is memorable for the warmth of seasonal fellowship among friends and community and for the traditional reception afterwards. There is no admission charge, but donations are gratefully accepted. We hope you will join us!**

Seeking help: We would be grateful for volunteers to assist us that evening with WSP setup, parking, ushering, and refreshment prep.

- ☼ Lots of meetings this week, please see the calendar in the bulletin.
- ☼ The Placitas Artists Series art reception and concert are today, Sunday, December 14th. The pre-concert talk and art reception is at 2:00 pm, with the concert featuring Judith Gordon is at 3:00 pm
- ☼ **Books & stuffed animals + beans & rice for our Sisters & Brothers this Christmas.** Thanks to everyone for sharing children's books and stuffed animals for the Dignity Mission this Christmas! And for your ongoing offerings of beans and rice. Our cup (and wagon!) runneth over! *And, you still have time to contribute! Donations by Sunday, December 14th are greatly appreciated.* The LPPC youth will assemble special holiday "kids kits" in early December. And the last distribution of the year packs up for El Paso on December 15th.

Welcome Visitors - We welcome everyone visiting our service, whether this is your first time or you have worshipped with us before. We would love to be in touch with you, and ask that you fill out one of the blue cards in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. We will have an opportunity in the near future for you to meet with our Pastor and Session, in order to get to know each other better and invite you to consider joining our wonderful church.

LAS PLACITAS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 14, 2025

Third Sunday in Advent

10:30 am

Order for Worship

~THE PEOPLE GATHER~

Welcome to Las Placitas Presbyterian Church. If you are visiting, we invite you to sign one of the visitor cards to place in the offering plate, and everybody is encouraged to wear a name tag!

~ Please silence your cell phones. ~

****Please stand or rise in spirit where items are noted with an asterisk.****

~GATHERING AROUND THE WORD~

The theme will be that, even as we wait and prepare for Christmas, Christ is already in our midst. We don't need to sit back and wait, for God has already provided us with what we need. The candle this week is rose-colored and this Sunday is often called Rose Sunday. It's meant to offer a taste of Christmas joy into the discipline of the season of Advent. The theme for the week is peace.

GATHERING MUSIC

Mindy Sampson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Steve Chewning

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

INTROIT

"Star Bright"

Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

(based on Psalm 84)

Rev. Matthew Baugh

LEADER: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord!

PEOPLE: We long and even faint for the courts of the Lord. Our bodies and souls sing for joy to the living God.

LEADER: Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!

PEOPLE: We worship you with joy and gratitude!

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

READER 1: Our third Sunday in Advent is a little different. Every other Sunday in this season, we light a purple candle, the color represents our waiting and longing for the birth of Christ. But at some point in the church's history, people realized that it can't all be waiting and longing. This Sunday, sometimes called Rose Sunday, is a chance to take a break from the serious preparations for Christmas. As we light this candle, we celebrate the joy in our hearts that comes with Christmas.

READER 2: May God fill our hearts with the kind of joy the world can never extinguish.

*OPENING HYMN #403 “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty” Glory to God

CALL TO CONFESSION (Matthew 11:28-30) Lynn Coburn

Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” Trusting these words, let us confess our sins before God and each other.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved you with all of our heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Convict us with the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. Lord, you are full of compassion and grace, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy; there is always forgiveness with you! Restore to us the joy of your salvation; bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills, and rest to our souls. Speak to each of us, and let your word abide with us until it has wrought in us your holy will. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Rev. Matthew Baugh

God pardons those who humbly repent and truly believe the gospel. Since Jesus died for us, we have peace with God, to whom be praise and honor forever. Amen.

SHARING SIGNS OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

As God’s beloved and forgiven people, let us greet each other with words and signs of God’s peace.

Alle - Alle - Alle - luia

Alle - Alle - Alle - luia

Alle - Alle - Alle - luia

Alleluia, Alleluia

A TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

Cristo me ama, bien lo se, Su palabra me hace ver

Que los niños son de Aquel, Quien es nuestro Amigo fiel

Cristo me ama, Cristo me ama, Cristo me ama, La Biblia dice así.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lynn Coburn

Almighty God, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may see the wonders of your word; and give us grace that we may clearly understand and freely choose the way of your wisdom, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Isaías 12:2-6

Spanish liturgist: Judie Hendry

He aquí Dios es mi salvación; confiaré y no temeré; porque mi fortaleza y mi canción es Jehová, quien ha venido a ser mi salvación. Sacaréis con gozo aguas de las fuentes de la salvación. Y diréis en aquel día: Alabad a Jehová, invocad su nombre, declarad en los pueblos sus obras, proclamad que su nombre es sublime. Cantad a Jehová, porque ha hecho cosas sublimes; sea sabido esto por toda la tierra. Da gritos de júbilo y canta, oh moradora de Sión; porque grande es en medio de ti el Santo de Israel.

One: El misterio revelado para todos. **All: Gracias a Dios.**

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and will not be afraid, for the Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.” With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say on that day: “Give thanks to the Lord; call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Luke 3:7-18

English liturgist: Lynn Coburn

John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

And the crowds asked him, “What, then, should we do?” In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none, and whoever has food must do likewise.” Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his

sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

So with many other exhortations he proclaimed the good news to the people.

One: The mystery of the ages, revealed to all. **All: Thanks be to God.**

~RESPONDING TO THE WORD~

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #382 “Heaven Is Singing for Joy”

Glory to God

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(The Apostles’ Creed)

We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre. Venga tu reino, hágase tu voluntad, así en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día, el que nos falta, y perdónanos nuestras deudas y nuestros pecados, como también nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores, y no nos dejes caer en la tentación, mas líbranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder y la gloria por siempre. Amén.

INVITATION TO GIVE

*DOXOLOGY

Glory to God #240, refrain

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to God’s Name.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, we offer our gifts, given from your abundance, that they may be used to proclaim your love and to bring healing and hope to all who are in need. Amen.

~FOLLOWING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD~

CLOSING HYMN #100 “My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout”

Glory to God

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Matthew Baugh

POSTLUDE

Mindy Sampson

Weekly Calendar

Sunday	12/14/25	8:30 am	Early worship Service: Upper Room
		10:30 am	Traditional Worship: Sanctuary
		2:00 pm	PAS Concert Talk and Art Reception
		3:00 pm	PAS Concert featuring Judith Gordon, Chamber Music
		7:00 pm	Alcoholics Anonymous: Fellowship Hall
Monday	12/15/25	10:00 am	Spanish Class
		10:00 am	Load Dignity Mission truck
Tuesday	12/16/25	9:30 am	Yoga
		10:30 am	Yoga
		5:30 pm	Fellowship Committee Meeting
		6:00 pm	Casa Rosa Board Meeting
Wednesday	12/17/25	11:00 am	Las Acequias de Placitas Bid Opening
Thursday	12/18/25	10:00 am	Bible Study
		7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Friday	12/19/25	9:00 am	Yoga--Upper room
		10:30 am	Yoga--Meeting Room
Saturday	12/20/25	8:00 am	Casa Rosa Pantry Distribution
Sunday	12/21/25	8:30 am	Early worship Service: Upper Room
			Conversation with Session
		10:30 am	Traditional Worship: Sanctuary
			Conversation with Session
		7:00 pm	Winter Solstice Poetry Reading
		7:00 pm	Alcoholics Anonymous: Fellowship Hall

Attendance December 7

8:30 am Service: 11

10:30 am Service: 56

Zoom: 11

Our thanks to.....

	12/14/25	12/21/25
English Liturgist	Lynn Coburn	Virginia Watkins
Spanish Liturgist	Judie Hendry	Eloise Sanchez
Ushers	Donna Ebers Sara Moore	Dawn Wolf Sue Hoff
Refreshments	<i>2nd Sunday Coffee Hour</i>	<i>volunteer needed</i>
Audio-Visual	Mike Potter	Carl Peterson
Church Lock-up	Janice Langdale	Janice Langdale

	12/28/25	1/4/26
English Liturgist	Janice Langdale	Jeannette Swent
Spanish Liturgist	Eloise Sanchez	Eloise Sanchez
Ushers	Wendy Ingram Joyce Hoses	Jacque Fletcher Don Turton
Refreshments	<i>volunteer needed</i>	<i>volunteer needed</i>
Audio-Visual	Carl Peterson	John Bullock
Church Lock-up	Janice Langdale	Judie Hendry

Our prayers for.....

BethAnne Bethel

Susan Booth

Charlie DeLara

Johnathan DeLara

Missy DeLara

The family of Clarence Duran

Viola Duran

Bear Eriksson

Charlene Filip

Annette DeLara Good

Gordon Higby

Sue Hoff

Dan Howarth

David Howarth

Tommy Lucero

George Mueller and family

Leonard Prairie

Reta Price

Alicia Rodarte and family

Ruby Sanchez Rodriques

The family of Marcella Sanchez

Herman Santillanes

Sharon Santillanes

Joe Schroeder

The family of Clara Stephenson

Edwina Trujillo

Harvey Vigil

Spanish Heritage! In honor of our congregation's Spanish heritage, and out of respect for the ongoing

cultural diversity of New Mexico, we include Spanish elements in the Sunday Service. The worship service is recorded each week and edited onto a CD. There are free copies of recent services on the table in Fellowship Hall. Sermons may also be heard on our website: www.lasplacitaschurch.org/worship-at-lppc/sermons.

Hearing Assistance. Las Placitas Presbyterian Church offers a loop system for hearing aid wearers with a “T” (telecoil) setting. The worship service is broadcast directly through the hearing aid. Others desiring hearing assistance may check out a portable receiver and headset. Our public address system operates on a radio frequency which is transmitted to special assisted hearing devices that are available from the greeters or sound technician.

Online Giving. Las Placitas Presbyterian Church (LPPC) offers the convenience of donating online to support our ministries and missions. It is easy, safe, and secure. Thank you so much for your generosity and blessings! Simply go to www.lasplacitaschurch.org/give

CONTACT US

Church Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Phone: 505-867-5718

Matthew Baugh, Pastor: pastor@lasplacitaschurch.org

Karen Cox, Administrator: administrator@lasplacitaschurch.org

Karen Cox, Financial Secretary: finance@lasplacitaschurch.org

Elliot Smith, Choral Director: elliotsongsmith@gmail.com

Sara Moore, Web Manager: webmanager@lasplacitaschurch.org

Accompanist:

Mindy Sampson

Ruling Elders:

Class of 2026: Donna Ebers, Jacque Fletcher, Colleen Rust

Class of 2027: Lauren Mueller-Skinner, Carl Allen, Janice Langdale

Class of 2028: Steve Chewning, Judie Hendry, Mike Potter

Deacons:

Class of 2026: Martha Brown, Ivona McCrary, Eloise Sanchez

Class of 2027: Missy DeLara, Sue Hoff, Anna Howarth

Class of 2028: Katherine Gustafson, Kathy Peterson, Warren Peterson

Clerk of Session: Carl Allen

LAS PLACITAS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship 8:30 am and 10:30 am

Gather for conversation and food after the 10:30 am Service!



MISSION STATEMENT

Las Placitas Presbyterian Church is an inclusive community of all ages gathering for worship, prayer, learning, fellowship and spiritual growth. As members of the body of Christ, we celebrate God's grace in our lives and seek to extend God's love and promise through service, outreach, education, music, arts and witness. We are committed to peace and justice in the world, and to care for the earth as God's gift to humankind.

We cherish our origin as an early Spanish village mission church and honor this heritage in all of our activities.

We are Presbyterian in theology and governance, but welcome and support all people as they explore their personal life paths, emphasizing Christ's word, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them"

~Matthew 18:20

OUR CHURCH HISTORY

In 1882, José L. A. Gurulé, a descendant of settlers of Spain's 1768 San Antonio de las Huertas Land Grant, invited Rev. José Ynés Perea, a native of Bernalillo and the first ordained Hispanic Presbyterian minister in the United States, to come to a meeting in Placitas. This led to holding monthly Presbyterian services.

On February 25, 1894, all 95 adults present at Sunday service led by Rev. James Menaul and Rev. Perea voted to organize the Presbyterian Church at Las Placitas. Presbyterian Churches began to be established in the New Mexico Territory starting with Santa Fe in 1867, and Placitas followed as the 35th church organized, 17th among those extant.

Early church services were held in the same one-room adobe house used from 1893 until 1900 as the Presbyterian Mission School. In 1913, the adobe house was renovated and a tower added for the bell purchased in 1894 from the San Felipe Pueblo. In 1930, a new church building was built in the same location, after razing the adobe house and reusing its bricks. In the early 1980s, an addition gave us the current sanctuary, the Fellowship Hall and a kitchen. Construction from August 2004 to May 2005 expanded the kitchen and added the administrative and educational wing.

P.O. Box 768, 7 Paseo de San Antonio, Placitas, NM 87043

505.867.5718