

**First Presbyterian Church
Hastings, Nebraska**

Head of the Church: Jesus Christ
Ministers: Members of the Church

Pastor: Don Canady

Organist: Linda Vollweiler

Celebrate Band

Liturgist: Lauren Canady

November 27, 2016, 10:30 a.m.

ADVENT SUNDAY

**Indicates those who are able, please stand.*

PRELUDE "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Helmore/arr. Innes
(The prelude is an opportunity for prayer, meditation, and reflection.)

WELCOME AND PRAYER

ADVENT WREATH Lauren Canady

Christians around the world begin this day to await the advent of Christ. We join with a joyous and hopeful throng in lighting the Advent candles, symbols of our faith and signs of God's love.

We gather as a people of Hope.

Christian people around the world stand today in breathless anticipation of a miracle that has been repeated for hundreds of years, yet that astounds us anew each year.

Our hope springs anew, from an ancient vision.

As we light the first Advent candle, let it stand for hope based not on wishful thinking, but on deep conviction. We believe, we have seen, we have received the promise and the great gift, and therefore, in the midst of darkness and imperfection, we hope.

We gather expectantly, joyfully, and with deep commitment, for we have heard that a special Child is to come, that God is to be among us, and that soon we will see a new creation on earth. We are a people of hope.

Lighting of the Candle of Hope

ADVENT CANDLE MUSIC "Come Child of Light" Lloyd Larson

*CALL TO WORSHIP

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

For in God's house we shall find hope and healing.

In God's house we shall find forgiveness and friendship.

May peace be within the walls of this house of God.

Come, let us go to the house of the Lord.

Come, let us sing our praises to God who loves and redeems us.

Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Amazing Surprises, we are rushing headlong into this season of buying, giving and struggle. We over-schedule our time, overdraw our resources, ignore those moments in which we could just relax and have quiet time with our families and with you. We blame it on everything else but our own decision-making. The reality is that your love should be our foundation, the base from which we celebrate. Our watchfulness is not necessarily about what is to happen, but rather should be on the ways in which we order our lives, ways that block out your love and your healing power. Forgive us for our stubborn insistence on maintaining schedule rather than focusing on your love. Heal us. Strengthen us and make us watchful over our faith in you. For we ask this in Jesus' Name, Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

“Glory Be to the Father”

581

*PEACE OF CHRIST

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ATTENDANCE

A MOMENT WITH CHILDREN

Pam Canady

The congregation is invited to sing as the children come forward.

Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to him belong, they are weak but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me,

Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

ANTHEM

Celebrate Band

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Eternal God, your Spirit inspired those who wrote the Bible and enlightens us to hear your Word fresh each day.

Help us to rely always on your promises in Scripture.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

FIRST READING-Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me,

“Let us go to the house of the LORD!”

² Our feet have been standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem!
³ Jerusalem, built as a city
which is bound firmly together,
⁴ to which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD,
as was decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.
⁵ Their thrones for judgment were set,
the thrones of the house of David.
⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!
“May they prosper who love you!
⁷ Peace be within your walls,
and security within your towers!”
⁸ For my brethren and companions’ sake
I will say, “Peace be within you!”
⁹ For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek your good.

SECOND READING- Romans 13:11-14

¹¹ Besides this you know what hour it is, how it is full time now for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; ¹² the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING-Matthew 24:36-44

³⁶ “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, ^[a] but the Father only. ³⁷ As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of man. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they did not know until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of man. ⁴⁰ Then two men will be in the field; one is taken and one is left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding at the mill; one is taken and one is left. ⁴² Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But know this, that if the householder had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have watched and would not have let his

house be broken into. 44 Therefore you also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN "Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken" 81

MESSAGE "Wake Up"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that our merciful God, in a desire for us to know love and hope, gave us Jesus Christ. Through his coming into our lives we find a place where our hearts find shelter, and a guide to direct our journey in life. As we respond to God's loving goodness, we are drawn closer to him and the covenant promise to be God's disciples.

CONCERNS and CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

OFFERING

(All loose coins in the offering plate will go to PCUSA Hunger Fund.)

OFFERTORY "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Prichard/arr. Schram

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God" (to the tune of All Creatures) 15

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Sing praises, Alleluia
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" 82

*CHARGE and BLESSING

*POSTLUDE "Prelude and Fugue in D Minor" J.S. Bach

2016 Go & Serve Bid Board
Supporting the Go & Serve Mission Trip

Please help support the Go & Serve mission trip by donating to the Bid Board.
Past donations have included:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Baked Goods | Christmas Decorations |
| Quilts/Blankets | Glass Work |
| Centerpieces | Art Work |
| Note Cards | Books |
| Candles | Wreaths |
| Gift Certificates | Special Meals |
| Tickets to Events | Homemade Crafts |
| Gift Baskets | Autographed Items |

These are just suggestions; anything is welcome.
We would love to see some new items included.

Donated items may be dropped off at the church office by November 23rd. The Bid Board will be open Sunday, November 27th, through December 11th. The Bid Board will be located in the Parlor.

Please complete this form and return it to the church office.

Your donations and support are greatly appreciated!!

Thank you!!

I would like to donate the following items:

Donated by: _____

Phone: _____

Business: _____

Youth Contact: _____

Community Prayer Walk

Sunday, December 4, 2016 from 1:00-2:00 pm

Details:

- 30-40 minutes of walking, with optional fellowship time after walk
- Begins in front of St. Cecilia High School (participants park in the St. Cecilia parking lot)
- Ends at the St. Cecilia Health Ministry, approximately 200 yards from the parking lot

For St. Cecilia and St. Michael parishioners, this "Prayer Walk" will be integrated into our internal Walk to Bethlehem Advent program.

For those with **limited mobility**, a modified "Prayer Walk" will be set up at the Health Ministry Office, 415 N. Kansas. Handicapped parking and entrance is located on the west side of the building.

**Walking together in groups, or as families,
is a great way to participate!**

This prayer walk commemorates Joyce Schiffler, a well-known community walker, who was tragically killed while crossing at 7th and Burlington in September.

The Prayer Walk also:

- Promotes physical and spiritual activity.
- Encourages faith communities on their spiritual walk with God.
- Brings faith traditions together in prayer.
- Honors Joyce, who walked everywhere and inspired people to love.

A collaboration between First Presbyterian Church, St. Cecilia Health Ministry, Mary Lanning Healthcare, and the Hastings Health Ministry Network.



Announcements:

The radio broadcast airs on KICS 1550 AM and is given by JoAnn and Les Seiler.

Today's service will be broadcast on Channel 181 Tuesday, 1:00 p.m., and Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

For those living at Good Samaritan Village, today's service will be broadcast on Channel 3 on Sunday at 12:00 noon and on Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.

Ushers: Dennis Asmus – Captain, Dave Fisher, Ed Lockwood, Phil Odom, Rich Portwood

Greeters: Kim and Gaylon Hermann

Acolytes: Campbell Schukei, Chudier Duang

Youth Ushers: Emma Redinger, Grace Redinger

December Ushers

Andrew Barrows, Linda Donohue, Jim Donohue, Susie Graham, George Howard-Captain

December Greeters

Dec 04	Pam Lay
Dec 11	Chris and Kevin Junker
Dec 18	Frank and Kay Georgiana
Dec 24(5:30p.m.)	Brian and Laurie Johnson
Dec 24(7:30p.m.)	
Dec 25	Jill Kramer

Greeter(s) needed for Dec 4th and Dec 24th services. Please call the office if you are willing and able.

Communion Servers, December 4 – Team 3

Martha Boyd, Dave Fisher, Kay Georgiana, Susan Hoff, Harold Korb, Lynette Krieger, Paul Krieger, Scott Kummer, Kathleen Nelson, Chris Schukei, Doug Soderquist

Communion Servers, December 24 – Team 4

Dick Brader, Jan Ham, Jeanne Hastings, Mark Hemje, Kraig Lofquist, Katherine Sachtleben, Ted Schroeder, Lori Schroeder, Alice Throckmorton, May Wierenga

Please keep in your prayers Art Langvardt and family. Art was recently diagnosed with cancer.

Please pray for members of our PNC: Jim Duval, Chad Murrell, Mike Karloff, Joan Shaw, Chris Junker, Pam Lay, and Jeni Howard.

13 Additional Volunteers will be needed for the United Harvest mobile food pantry distribution on Saturday, December 17, at the Annex. These volunteers will be asked to walk through the line and fill a box, which FPC Deacons will deliver to a disabled or elderly individual physically unable to attend. Please call the office to sign-up.

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### **Mark Your Calendar for FPC Christmas Caroling!**

It's fun for all ages!

Outreach, fellowship, service, fun, and bonding--don't miss it!

Sunday, December 11, 1:30 p.m.

Meet in the Fellowship Hall, and then we'll carpool to various rest homes to spread warmth and cheer, enjoying cookies and hot cocoa at our final stop.

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Advent Devotional Books Now Available

A guidebook with daily devotional readings can be helpful in keeping one's heart focused on "the reason for the season" in this busy time of year. Pick up your free daily devotional guidebook in the Memorial Room.

Hands Around the World Store Christmas Fair Trade Sale

Saturday, December 10, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Memorial Room, First Presbyterian Church

Hands Around the World Store and Eternal Threads will join together for a Fair Trade shopping opportunity. All of our products come from artisans who live in poor areas around the globe. Purchasing their goods helps them to feed their families, allows them to send their children to school, and helps improve their lives by becoming economically self-sufficient. Handcrafts for sale include baskets, scarves, woolen hats and mittens, jewelry, table linens, holiday decorations, gourmet chocolates, spices, tea, coffee and much more. We will feature 4 varieties of delicious Café Justco coffee from Mexico. Your purchase helps to lift disadvantaged artisans, farmers, and their families out of poverty. Your purchase makes a difference.

Quilters meet every Tuesday at 1:00p.m. in the Annex. If you are interested in joining, or have questions, please contact Bev Stein at 402-463-1410.

Stewardship letter with 2017 *estimate of giving card* and 'Sharing Time and Talents in 2017' sheet have been distributed and mailed. If you have not received yours, please call the office.

This Week --- Nov 28 – Dec 3, 2016

Mon, Nov 28	10:00a.m.	Staff Meeting in Pastor's Office
	5:00-9:00p.m.	Boy Scouts Court of Honor in Fellowship Hall
Tue, Nov 29	1:00p.m.	Quilters in the Annex
Wed, Nov 30	7:00a.m.	Bible@Breakfast in Library
	4:30p.m.	WNL!
	6:45p.m.	CANCEL CHOIR rehearsal in Choir Room
Fri, Nov 25	11:00-4:00p.m.	HC Rehearsal Messiah in Sanctuary

Next Sunday, December 4, 2016

9:15a.m. Sunday School
10:30a.m. Worship Service
Pastor Don Canady
1-2p.m. Prayer Walk
7:00p.m. Taize Worship Service

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POINSETTIAS

Poinsettias may be purchased in honor or in memory of a loved one. The cost is \$15 each. Money raised over the cost will be donated to Salvation Army Utility Assistance Program, which provided \$24,627.75 towards utilities assistance in the last 12 months. Funds helped 404 people with necessary electricity, water and gas, of which 382 were in families - 70 were children under the age of 5 and 85 were children aged 6-10. 7 of the 404 people assisted were over the age of 62.

As with all of The Salvation Army's programs, utilities assistance is an emergency service. To qualify, individuals and families must have received a disconnect notice and meet qualifications of need.

Your donation makes a difference. Please return this order form to the church office.

Poinsettia in memory of: _____

Poinsettia in honor of: _____

Given by: _____
