

**First Presbyterian Church
Hastings, Nebraska**

Head of the Church: Jesus Christ
Ministers: Members of the Church
Pastor: Greg Allen-Pickett
Liturgist and Scripture Reader: Jill Kramer
Organist: Linda Vollweiler
Handbell Choir Director: Byron Jensen

Second Sunday of Easter – April 23, 2017, 10:30 a.m.

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

PRELUDE "Rondo Passacaglia" Cynthia Dobrinski
Hastings College Handbell Choir
(The prelude is an opportunity for prayer, meditation, and reflection.)

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP (From Acts 2 and Psalm 16)

My heart is glad!

My soul rejoices, and my body rests secure!

For you do not abandon me.

You give me counsel.

You are at my right hand.

You show me the path of life.

Your presence is sheer joy. You are my God; blessed is your name!

Come, let us worship the risen Lord!

*HYMN

"O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing"

235

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Jesus, Savior, Resurrected Messiah, we come before you from different paths: some of us certain of your joyful presence in our lives, some of us not so certain of the hope of being touched by your joy.

Yet we are all here, reaching out to you: for understanding, for hope, for joy. Meet us here, today, in all your power and consolation.

Stand among us once again, risen Christ,

And bless us with your greeting: "Peace be with you."

Be present with us in our doubts,

And convert those doubts to joyful faith in you. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We listen to the news, read the newspapers, hear from our family and friends who are struggling, and wonder if peace will ever reign in your world, Lord. Today we have been invited to be with the disciples in that hidden place where they also wondered about peace and hope. You broke through. You shattered the darkness and they were astonished again. Help us to understand that you will bring peace to each one of us. Forgive all those times when we treat this moment of revelation as though it were impossible. Give us the courage to reach out to you and touch our hearts once again. 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

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Greet others around you this morning by exchanging the Peace of Christ.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ATTENDANCE

RECOGNITION OF HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AND CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

We invite the High School Seniors and the children to come down this morning. While they are coming down, we invite the congregation to sing *Jesus Loves Me, This I Know*:

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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

1st SCRIPTURE READING – *1 Peter 1:3-9* (From the Bible translation *The Message*)

ANTHEM “Fantasy on KING'S WESTON (At the Name of Jesus)” Fred Gramann

2nd SCRIPTURE READING- *John 20:19-31* (From the Bible translation *The Message*)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "In Defense of Doubting Thomas"

*HYMN "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight" 817

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Uniting in Worship People's Book)

***This is the gospel which we have received, in which we stand,
And by which we are saved, if we hold it fast:
That Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,
That he was buried, that he was raised on the third day,
And that he appeared first to the women,
Then to Peter and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.
We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.
Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end;
He is our Lord and our God. Amen.***

OFFERING (All loose coins in the offering plate will go to PC(USA) Hunger Fund.)

OFFERTORY "Fantasy on THE OLD RUGGED CROSS" Jason W. Krug
(Commissioned by the Hastings College Handbell Choir -- world premiere)

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" 606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.***

*HYMN "Thine is the Glory" 238

*CHARGE and BLESSING

*POSTLUDE "Canticle" Arnold B. Sherman

**Come worship with us next week and invite your friends and family.
Sunday, April 30: Celebration of our Christian Education Volunteers
9:15am Sunday School for all ages
10:30am Worship
Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett, Preaching**

The Presbytery of Central Nebraska invites you to share in the Installation of Reverend Greg Allen-Pickett as Teaching Elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Hastings.

At this event, Pastor Greg will be formally installed as our new pastor. It will be a joyful service including communion and music from our chancel choir, our celebrate band, and Greg and Bryce Wiebe leading the congregation in a song. The sermon will be preached by Rev. Dr. Christine Chakoian, author, pastor, and head of staff of First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest, IL.

Sunday, May 7, 2017, 4:00 p.m.

A potluck supper will be held at the church immediately following the service. Please bring a dish to share, with consideration given to the following suggestions: main dish (last name beginning with A-I); side dish (last name beginning with J-S); dessert (last name beginning with T-Z).

This Week --- April 24 – April 29, 2017

Mon, Apr 24	10:00a.m. 7:00p.m.	Staff Meeting in Pastor's Office Boy Scouts Troop 200 in Basement Scout Room
Tue, Apr 25	1:00p.m.	Quilters in the Annex
Wed, Apr 26	7:00a.m. 4:00p.m. 6:30p.m. 6:45p.m. 7:30p.m.	Bible@ Breakfast in the Parlor WNL! Woodcarvers in Basement Chancel Choir Practice Chancel Bells Practice
Thu, Apr 27	6:00p.m.	Spanish Class in the Parlor Chapel, HC
Fri, Apr 28	10:00a.m. 7:00p.m.	Mahjong Ladies in the Parlor Understanding Islam Lecture in French Memorial Chapel, HC

First Presbyterian Church 621 N. Lincoln Avenue Hastings, Nebraska 68901 E-mail: fpc@fpchastings.org www.fpchastings.org p: (402) 462-5147 f: (402) 462-6818

2017 First Presbyterian Church High School Graduates

Noble David Henderson

Parents: Virginia & Brad Davis and David Henderson

High School: Hastings High School

Extracurricular involvement: choir and student council

Plans after graduation: attend Central Community College and major in Welding Technologies

Most Memorable FPC Event: The trip to Triennium in the summer of 2016...GO AND DO. Noble learned about going and doing what God would have us do and met other Christians from around the globe. Camp Calvin Crest was also an exciting event for Noble.

Most Memorable High School Event: 2016 Tiger Mania because of the fun guys and honoring Mr. Canady.

Favorite Scripture: The entire book of Exodus. Noble just "really digs the story of Moses. He's my hero."



Courtney Junker

Parents: Chris & Kevin Junker

High School: Hastings High School

Extracurricular involvement: FPC Westminster Bell Choir, Sunday School, WNL, Go & Serve, Vacation Bible School, Band, Sunny "D's" HIV/AIDS Peer Educators, Yearbook, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, volunteering at MLC.

Plans after graduation: attend Central Community College and UNK and major in social work.

Most Memorable FPC Event: The hayrack rides.

Most Memorable High School Event: receiving a superior rating at State Band competition this year.

Favorite Scripture: Proverbs 3:6—In all ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. When Courtney was younger and in choir, Mrs. White taught the choir members a song with the words of Proverbs 3:6. Courtney now finds comfort in this scripture and she always remembers Mrs. White when she hears this bible verse.

Emma Redinger

Parents: Bill & Javae Redinger

High School: Hastings High School

Extracurricular involvement: Sunday School, WNL, Go & Serve, Debate, Newspaper, HHS Young Democrats, National Honor Society, Mayor's Youth Council, Youth Leadership Academy, Multicultural Club, DECA, Freshman mentoring program, HHS Leadership Class
Plans after graduation: attend Hastings College and double major in English and Political Science. This will be followed by law school where Emma plans to become an immigration attorney.

Most Memorable FPC Event: helping package food at Hearts and Hands Against Hunger and always having a competition with the other youth groups volunteering.

Most Memorable High School Event: sitting on the stage at Cornhusker Girls State graduation and hearing her name announced to be one of the two girls to represent Nebraska a Girls Nation in Washington, D.C.

Favorite Scripture: 1 Peter 3:11—Let them turn away from evil and do good; let them seek peace and pursue it. "This verse reminds me (Emma) that what is popular isn't always right, and vice versa. It encourages me to always stand up for justice."



Cole Shardelow

Parents: Scott & Diane Shardelow

High School: Hastings High School

Extracurricular involvement: Sunday School, WNL, Cross Country, Track, Debate, Speech, Big Brothers, Freshman Mentor Program, National Honor Society, Boy Scouts

Plans after graduation: attend college (Drake or UNL) and major in physics.

Most Memorable FPC Event: playing baseball in the gym

Most Memorable High School Event: The first Debate Rush event; making it to semi-finals in a Debate tournament.

Favorite Scripture: Proverbs 13:12—Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life. This is Cole's favorite verse because it talks about fulfilling your dreams.

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 2:00 p.m.

Need a ride to church on Sundays? Request a ride by calling Deacon Moderator Jeanne Hastings at 402-462-8460 or the church office at 402-462-5147.

Flowers are given in honor of donors & recipients of *Donate for Life*, given by Carol Harrenstein and family.

Greeters: Paul & Lynette Krieger, Kathy Utter

Ushers: Duane Huber, Steve Illingworth, Brian Johnson, Laurie Johnson, Al Meyer- Captain, Clyde Sachtleben

Acolytes: Jonah Snell, Selah Wenburg

Youth Ushers: Emma Redinger, Grace Redinger

Nursery: Andrea Franzen, Erika Nielsen, Laura Peterson

Prayers for Celia Ganow, Brian Johnson, Larry Nowka and families.

Hastings College **Spring Choir Concert** (The College Choir, HC Singers, Men's Choir, and Spectrum) will perform today @ 3:00p.m. Admission is free. A bake sale will follow. Everyone is welcome!

"Understanding Islam" Educational Series Welcomes Dr. Abla Hasan to Hastings

As the centerpiece of our "Understanding Islam" series, Dr. Hasan will present a talk entitled "What it's Like to Be Muslim in the Midwest in 2017" at the Hastings College French Memorial Chapel. A Syrian-born Muslim, Dr. Hasan is a professor of Practice of Arabic Language and Culture at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she has been teaching for four years.

Friday, April 28, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Check out the Cross Wall!

In the hallway connecting the Memorial Room to the Fellowship Hall, one wall is now adorned with crosses donated by members of our congregation. Each cross is personal and has its own special story. The display will continue to grow as others donate their crosses, so please consider contributing yours as the assortment evolves and grows.

Special thanks to Paula Crozier and Susie Graham for bringing the Cross Wall to life!

Forum Next Week: "'Understanding Islam' Follow-up Discussion"

Discussion class (moderated by Hastings College Chaplain, Rev. Damen Heitmann) based on content from three-part "Understanding Islam" series. All are welcome to this Forum, even without having attended the prior parts of the series.

Sunday, April 30, 9:15 a.m., Parlor

Please join us for **Nathan Jensen's Senior Voice Recital**, Sunday, April 30, 7:30p.m., Perkins Auditorium, Hayes M. Fuhr Hall of Music, Hastings College.

Final Flower Memorial Date

The 2nd Sunday in November is the final open date for a flower memorial at this time. Please contact Mary Olsen if you would like to have this Sunday, or if you would like to have a specific Sunday that's already reserved (since some of the filled dates can have more than one memorial listing.) **Flower memorials are available to all members of congregation and are free of charge.** Mary can be reached at 402-462-2811 or molsen@charter.net.

FPC is proud to offer two scholarship opportunities for 2017/2018 school year:

Ann Binfield Scholarship - This scholarship is for students attending a Presbyterian college or university. Amounts awarded are based primarily on need.

Chip Essex Memorial Scholarship - This scholarship is for any student attending a 2-year or 4-year college. \$500 each semester to one individual.

Applications are available in the church office or by emailing Traci Boeve tboeve@hastings.edu

April is National Donate Life Month. As of today 118,000 people are waiting for a donor, a person is added to the waiting list every 10 minutes, 22 people die each day waiting for an organ, and one organ, eye and tissue donor can save and heal more than 75 lives. 95% of Americans are in favor of being a donor but only 54% are registered. You may register or learn how to give otherwise at <https://www.donatelife.net/>.

Two small recycling bins are available at the back of the sanctuary for **bulletin disposal**. Thank you.



2017 VBS First Presbyterian Church May 22-26 2:00-5:00pm

Everyone welcome! Pre-school through 4th Grade.
Register now at <http://fpchastings.org/vbs-2017/> for the best week of the summer!



2017 VBS Volunteer Sign-Up First Presbyterian Church-- Hastings, NE



We are "gearing up" for another great VBS! This year, we are using the Group: Maker Fun Factory VBS. The kids will discover not only that God made them the way they are, but for a purpose too. Maker Fun Factory is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Sciency-Fun Gizmos, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life--something we call God Sightings.

Our VBS will be held May 22-26, 2:00-5:00pm.

It is our prayer that God has VBS in His plan for your life! We know Jesus will work through YOU at VBS. Would you prayerfully consider serving in VBS? Please register as a volunteer at <http://fpchastings.org/vbs-2017/>. Or paper sign-up forms are located on the glass shelves near the church office. Please contact Stephanie at stephanie@fpchastings.org or 402-462-5147 with any questions.