

**First Presbyterian Church
Hastings, Nebraska**

Head of the Church: Jesus Christ

Ministers: Members of the Church

Pastor: Greg Allen-Pickett

Liturgist and Scripture Reader: Jane Marsh

Music Leadership: Celebrate Band

Seventh Sunday of Easter: Ascension Sunday – May 28, 2017, 10:00 a.m.

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

PRELUDE

“Come All You People”

tune UYAI MOSE

Celebrate Band

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Live in God’s love!

Let that love be poured out for all God’s people!

Bring hope and peace to all whom you meet.

We are called to be God’s witnesses.

Celebrate and rejoice.

Praise be to God who has called, healed, and given us a ministry of peace. Come let us worship our Lord and our God, our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer!

*HYMN

“We Gather Together”

336

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Almighty God, through Jesus Christ, you revealed to us a power that has no parallel. And you invited us to be witnesses to that power through our worship and our lives. May the eyes of our heart be enlightened to this power and all it has done in our lives. Pour out your Spirit of power upon us, that we may proclaim your glory and your grace. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus Christ, in you we see awesome power. You triumph over death and bring forth new life. You stand over all earthly powers. You are the head of the church.

Yet, we often fail to acknowledge this power in our lives.

We see violence in the world. We see injustice in our communities.

We see hunger and need among our neighbors.

We see longing for something more.

We see failures and faults in our lives.

In all these things, we feel powerless.

Forgive our hesitance to call upon you.

Forgive our propensity to rely upon ourselves.

Forgive our reluctance to acknowledge your power.

Speak your words of power again. Empower us to be your witnesses.

May your will may be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: May God give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation, that the power of Jesus Christ may be visible in your life. That you are forgiven, loved and invited to be a witness!

All Gathered: By the grace of Jesus Christ we are forgiven and empowered to serve. Alleluia! Amen!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines On Me” 582

*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.)

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Ruann Root, CASA

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ATTENDANCE

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

As the children come down, the congregation is invited to sing
"This Little Light of Mine"

ANTHEM

"Glorious Day"

Mark Hall, Michael Bleecker,
& John Wilbur Chapman

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

In these words, may we hear of the power of Christ and the promise of a Spirit of power. May we hear the ancient story come alive in our lives. We seek a spirit of wisdom and revelation in Christ. Amen.

1st SCRIPTURE READING – *Ephesians 1:15-23*

2nd SCRIPTURE READING – *Acts 1:1-11*

*This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.*

MESSAGE

"Jesus' Last Words on Earth"

*HYMN

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

260

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Adapted from a prayer written by Christine Sine)

***Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
We believe a new world has broken into ours—
A world in which justice does come for the poor,
Freedom comes for the prisoners, and healing for the sick.***

***Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
We believe a new community has been formed—
A community that loves and cares for all members,
A family that welcomes all who are abandoned and rejected,
A place where all find a place of belonging.***

***Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
We believe a new creation has begun—
All that was distorted is being restored,
All that is corrupted is being renewed,
All that was broken is being made whole.***

***Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
We believe God's new world has begun.***

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

OFFERTORY “More Precious Than Silver” Lynn DeShazo

*DOXOLOGY “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” 609

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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 “My Country, ‘Tis of Thee” 337

*CHARGE and BLESSING

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE “*This is my Song*” 340
Led by Damen Heitmann and Hannah Jensen, the whole congregation is invited to sing.

*POSTLUDE “Jude Benediction” David Cook,
arr. Mark Hayes

**Come worship with us next week for Pentecost Sunday when we celebrate the
“Birthday of the Church,” a Baptism, and reception of New Members!
Wear Red in celebration of Pentecost and Invite your friends and family!
Sunday, June 4
10:00a.m. Worship with Communion
Offerings to Helping Children: 60% PC(USA) & 40% CASA
Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett Preaching**

Announcements:

The radio broadcast airs during service 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 loving memory of Florence and George Root, and Jane Kuehn McCollum by families.

Greeters: Jane and Dwight Marsh, Wayne and Elaine Specht

Ushers (Team 3): Andrew Barrows, Dave Fisher-Captain, Ed Lockwood, Phil Odom, Rich Portwood, Doug Soderquist

Acolytes: Chudier Duang, Nathan Kerr

Youth Ushers: Grace Canady, Lauren Canady

Prayers for Judy Brown, Celia Ganow, Don Canady and families.

June Ushers (Team 4): Susie Graham, George Howard-Captain, Dixie McDonald, Gale McDonald, Dan Zabloudil, Vera Zabloudil

Communion Servers, June 4 (Team 3):

Kay Georgiana, Susan Hoff, Jeni Howard, Harold Korb, Lynette Krieger, Paul Krieger, Kraig Lofquist, Kathleen Nelson, Chris Schukei, Kym Warner

June Communion Offerings will be remitted to Helping Children: 60% to PC(USA); 40% to CASA



American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Adams County

Friday, June 2, 6:00 - 11:00 PM

Hastings High School Track

Relay for Life is the nationwide, signature event of the American Cancer Society. It is a community event in the fight against cancer, and as part of the ceremonies, volunteers and survivors line the track with luminaria (lighted candles in weighted, white bags) inscribed with an individual's name. At sunset, everyone is invited to participate

in the incredibly moving Luminaria Ceremony and observe a heart-felt moment of silence as the candles are lit. Each luminaria is lit in honor of someone who has survived cancer or in memory of someone who has lost his or her battle to cancer. Donations for luminaria are \$10 each. All money goes to the American Cancer Society mission to help others Stay Well, Get Well, Finding Cures and Fight Back.

First Presbyterian Church Team again will be participating this year. Luminaries are available this Sunday in the Memorial Room or in the church office during the week. Susie Graham may also be reached thru June 2nd at 402-469-2638. Donations can be made via the website: www.RelayForLife.org.

The **Summer Book Club** will read and discuss Walter Brueggemann's book *Money and Possessions* on Wednesdays, 12:00-1:00 beginning June 14 under the leadership of Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh. Order your copy from your favorite book seller today!

Church in the Park: June 11

Mark your calendars now to head over to Alexander Park for 10:00 worship on Sunday, June 11. Bring a lawn chair and a dish to share, as lunch will follow worship in the Fellowship Hall. Main dish will be provided (free will offering); please bring side dish (for those with last names beginning A-N) or a dessert (for those with last names beginning O-Z).



Synod School, an annual midsummer ministry of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), is for laity, clergy, families, and singles. It's fun and mind-stretching courses, worship and singing you'll long remember, and times for both fellowship and private reflection. Discover Synod School and you'll know why so many people keep returning.

Choose among 70+ courses. Examples include Bible studies: *Horizon's Bible Study, Exodus, Minor Prophets, Jesus' last days*; body and mind renewal classes: *Yoga, Silk Effects, Zumba, Folk Dancing, Clearing Clutter in our lives, Repertoire for church choirs, and Living a Life of Loving Attention to God*; classes for living faithfully in the world: *Addressing the impact of adverse childhood experiences, White Privilege, Syria, LGBTQ folks and friends, Interfaith relations*; classes for leader development: *The Productive Pastor, Start with Why, Thriving as a Church Educator*.

Convocation speaker **J. Herbert Nelson**, the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), will speak on themes from Amos 5:24. Evening worship will be led by **Claudio Carvalhaes**, Associate Professor of Worship at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. Morning worship will be led by **Erin Kaye** of First Presbyterian Church in Camden, AR and **Rachel Corpus** of Plymouth UCC in Des Moines.

July 23–28, 2017

Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, Iowa

Discover Synod School!

www.lakesandprairies.org/SynodSchool
800-328-1880, ext. 207

Let Justice Flow

A copy of Sunday service is available on DVD disc upon request at no charge. Contact Tarci at 402-462-5147 or tarci@fpchastings.org.

Lost: Looking for a 9-patch quilt top, blue hue. If found, please contact the church office.

Found: A gold-colored, rope style bracelet in the parking lot. Please call or come to the office to claim.

The office will be closed Monday, May 29 in observance of Memorial Day.

Tarci will be out of state at an APA Conference thru the week. Please be as kind to the gracious volunteers as you are to her.

See you in the Fall!

It's been another great year working with and for you, FPC Family! Starting this week, I will be taking the summer off to focus on my role as mom, but I look forward to re-joining the staff this Fall when the 2017-2018 program year gets underway. Have a great summer!! --Kili Wenburg

This Week --- May 29 – June 4, 2017

Mon, May 29

OFFICE CLOSED

Tue, May 30

1:00p.m.
5:00-8:30p.m.

Quilters in the Annex
Boy Scouts Troop 200 Scouts of Honor Dinner
In Fellowship Hall / Kitchen

Wed, Jun 1

7:00a.m.
6:30p.m.

Bible@ Breakfast in the Parlor
Wood Carvers in Basement

Thu, Jun 2

5:30p.m.
6:00-8:00p.m.

Christian Education Committee Meeting in Kessler
Spanish Class in the NW Classroom, Annex

Fri, Jun 3

10:00a.m.

Mahjong Ladies in Youth Activity Room

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