

**First Presbyterian Church
Hastings, Nebraska**

Head of the Church: Jesus Christ

Ministers: Members of the Church

Organist: Linda Vollweiler

Chancel Choir Director: Dr. Robin Koozer

Liturgist: Karen Doerr

October 30, 2016, 10:30 a.m.

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

PRELUDE "Spirit Song" Wimber/Carter
(The prelude is an opportunity for prayer, meditation, and reflection.)

WELCOME AND PRAYER

INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Sometimes we feel too small and insignificant to be of any notice to Jesus.

Yet the Lord provides a tree for us to climb so that we can see Jesus.

That tree is faithfulness, compassion, love, hope, joy.

We are given the opportunity to witness to the Savior's presence in our lives.

Lord, help us when we forget how much we are loved by Christ.

Open our hearts to receive his invitation this day. Amen.

*HYMN "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"

240

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Holy God, we know we have fallen short.

We turn our backs when we could embrace.

We remain silent when we could speak.

We speak when we could listen.

We close the door when we could fling it wide open.

We judge when we could seek understanding.

We cling when we could give.

Forgive us, O God, for being so very human at times, and help us to continue to grow into the people you created us to be, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

"Glory to God"

582

*PEACE OF CHRIST

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ATTENDANCE

A MOMENT WITH CHILDREN

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.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Paul Caldwell
Ruth Caldwell
Brian Johnson
Laurie Johnson

Gary Johnson
Emily Johnson
Neil Riley
Tarah Sorenson

You have been received into the membership of this congregation. As members of the one, universal church, you do not come to us as strangers, but as people of God. We welcome you to the worship and work of this people of God.

There is one body and one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God of us all.

Do you promise to be a faithful member of this congregation, giving of yourself in every way, and so fulfill your calling as disciples of Jesus Christ?

We Do.

The church is a family of people with varieties of gifts, united by the Spirit revealed in Jesus Christ.

It is the Spirit of caring for one another, of forgiving, of helping each other, of love revealed in the life and death of Jesus.

It is the Spirit of openness to the world and to all people. It is the stirring toward growth and renewal that takes many forms.

The Spirit calls us into a life of service and servanthood.

I present these persons to this community of faith in the hope that God's Holy Spirit might rest upon each of us and all of us together. Let us pray:

O God of hospitality, we praise you for the opportunity to welcome new members among us today. We thank you for their life stories,

their faith journeys, their diversity of gifts. May we who have been here awhile be zealous in our willingness to listen and to learn. Make us open to revised visions and new perspectives, we pray. Help us to provide a nurturing environment for these new friends as we invite them into our church and into our lives. Enable us to take time for one another as we establish a shared faith and a common history. Bless us all, O God, as we worship together and seek to be your servants in the world. Amen.

ANTHEM

“Festival Hymn of Thanksgiving”

arr. Sjolund

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living. Amen.

FIRST READING-Psalm 119:137-144

SECOND READING—2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING-Luke 18:9-14

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN

“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”

661

MESSAGE

“What Did He Hope to See?”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

It is through Christ’s reconciling work that we are the church, united to God and to other believers. As the church, we are the salt of the earth. We are the light of the world. We are entrusted with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ. As the church, we are witnesses by both word and deed. We proclaim the new heaven and the new earth, in which righteousness dwells. As the church, we proclaim that God’s life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered sin and death. God conquers irreconciliation, hatred and bitterness. As the church, God’s life-giving Word and Spirit enable us to live in a new obedience, God opens new possibilities of life for society and the world. We declare ourselves ready to venture out on the road of obedience and reconciliation-- servants of the God who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people.

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 "I Sing the Almighty Power of God" Traditional/Sikes

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" 606

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN "Will You Come and Follow Me" 726

CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

Nominations from Congregational Nominating Committee for 2017

Session: Chuck Bauer, Anne Bohlke, Mary Fisk, Jessica Meeske

Deacons: Dana Odom, Lori Schroeder, Joan Shaw, Lindsay Stout,
Dawna Whitcomb

Trustees: Neal Hoff, Ted Schroeder, Ken Stein

*CHARGE and BLESSING

*POSTLUDE "Prelude and Fugue in F Major" J.S. Bach

Next Sunday, November 6, 2016
9:15 Sunday School
(All Ages Welcome!)
10:30 Worship, Pastor CJ Lowe
11:30 Luncheon with Pastor CJ,
Synod Executive Elona Street-Stewart
7:00p.m. Taize Worship

Announcements:

The radio broadcast airs on KICS 1550 AM and is given in memory of Ardyce Bohlke's birthday by Jon and Anne Bohlke and family.

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.

Flowers are in remembrance of Ardyce Bohlke's birthday by Jon and Anne Bohlke and family.

Ushers: Karen Doerr, Duane Huber, Steve Illingworth, Clyde Sachtleben

Greeters: Neil and Stacy Kerr

Acolytes: Jonah Snell, Tristan Propp

Youth Ushers: Cale Henderson, Noble Henderson

"Our 50th wedding anniversary was made special by all of the good wishes we received from so many. Thank you for your beautiful words and caring thoughts. We have been truly blessed".
-Roger and Cheryl Schukei

"For those who shared in the service for my sister, Joyce Schiffler, and the expressions of condolences, I am truly grateful. She leaves a legacy of touching so many lives in her own special way".
-Sharon Steenbarger

Communion Servers, November 6 – Team 2

Kim Creech, Paula Crozier, Mary Fisk, Mike Hogan, Jeff Howard, Mary Kay LaMaster, Constance Malloy, Carolyn McKenzie, Chad Murrell, Kathy Utter, Rogene Wenburg

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

November Greeters -	Nov 6	Richard and Carolyn McKenzie
	Nov 13	Jim and Linda Donohue
	Nov 20	Peter and Pamela Lainson
	Nov 27	Gaylon and Kim Hermann

November Communion Offering will be for Camp Calvin Crest. The offering will be received Sunday, November 6, following a Minute for Mission by Craig Huffman, Calvin Crest Director.

Mission Committee Team Members delivered 190 diapers + 1 package baby wipes to Catholic Social Services on October 22nd.

Hastings Food Pantry Donations may be placed in the blue totes in the Memorial Room. Your donation helps those in need.

October 2016 United Harvest - On Saturday, October 15, volunteers from FPC and First United Methodist Church distributed more than 20,000 pounds of fresh, frozen, and canned food to 224 families representing 622 individuals. No one was turned away, and both volunteers and recipients deemed the mission a success once again! Glory be to God!

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

A Congregational meeting will be held today following worship service to hear CNC's report and for the election of officers.

Following the congregational meeting, **all are invited to** enjoy fellowship and refreshments in the Memorial Room in observation of Pastor Appreciation Month and in **honor of Pastor Don Canady.**

The Hastings College Choir will perform an Autumn Vespers concert this evening at 6p.m. in the sanctuary. Drinks and desserts in Fellowship Hall will follow.

Langenberg Legacy Lesson Program Grant Application is available online and on a glass shelf in front of the church office. Parent(s) of students in grades 1-12 may apply for up to \$250 per semester to offset the cost of private music instruction. Applicable areas of study include: piano, voice, guitar, or any band/orchestral instrument. Grants are limited to one per child. Parent(s) must be members of First Presbyterian Church and students must be active participants in the church choir/music program. Lessons are verified by Worship, Arts and Music committee members. NOTE: Although grants are renewable, parents **MUST RE-APPLY EACH SEMESTER.** Fall 2016 **submission deadline is November 1.** Please return to Tim Canady's mailbox in the common office area or to Tarci in the office.

Presbyterian Women will meet on Wednesday, November 2, at 11:45 a.m. The Willa Cather Foundation will be presenting the program and Circle 2 is responsible for the meal. Circle 3 will set the tables and provide centerpieces, nametags, and devotions for the day. The coordinating team will meet at 11:00 in the church library. **Please RSVP** to your circle representative or call Tarci in the office at 402-462-5147 **by November 1** if you are able to attend.

Go & Serve Rally Friday, November 4 at 5:30p.m. in the Annex Gym. All 9-12 grade youth are invited to spend the evening welcoming Pastor CJ and discussing details about our upcoming Go & Serve trip for 2017. Meal will be provided. Hope to see you there!

Saturday, November 5 is the **Veteran's Parade** at 10:00 a.m. Veterans are invited to gather at the church with family and friends @ 8:45 a.m. for coffee, tea, hot cocoa and donuts, and will be transported to the parade line by 9:30 a.m. Youth are invited to carry flags during the parade with parents/members who wish to join. This is a wonderful opportunity to show our love and support to our veterans.

Do You Know Any Veterans Who Are Associated With Our Church?

The Congregational Life Committee sincerely wants to identify our beloved veterans, that we might personally invite them to participate in the November 5 Veteran's Parade. Please help us out by calling the church office with names and contact information for veterans you know. Thanks! ~the Congregational Life Committee

Please offer a warm Hastings welcome to our visiting Synod Executive!

All the way from the Twin Cities, Elona Street-Stewart, executive of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, will be visiting Hastings on **Sunday** morning, **November 6.** A member of the Delaware-Nanticoke tribe, Elona is coming for the sole purpose of teaching a special Forum class entitled "How Do Christians Respond to the Concept of White Privilege?" This is the finale in our series of educational events addressing racial inequality.

****Please make plans now to attend this Forum class held in the CHAPEL both to learn about this critical social concern and also to show hospitality and warmth to our guest!**

Nothing says "thank you" like sweets!

Committee Appreciation Night is Tuesday, November 8. That night, from 5:30-7:00 p.m., the Congregational Life Committee will be distributing trays of "thank you" goodies to church committee meetings. If you serve on a committee that does not meet on the evening of Nov. 8, you are still invited to stop by the Fellowship Hall that evening from 5:30-7 and enjoy a treat with the Congregational Life Committee as we thank you for your service!!

Calvin Crest Camp FEAR NOT Youth Retreat Friday, November 11 at 6:30p.m. thru Saturday, November 12, at 2:00p.m. Come out for an overnight retreat at Calvin Crest with special guest Michelle Phillips. Open to Middle School and High School youth. Start with supper at 6:30 in the Calvin Crest Dining Hall. We'll have worship, sessions, games and more food at this youth retreat. We'll finish the retreat after lunch on Saturday.

For more information and to register go to <http://www.calvincrest.org/1112-111316-fear-not-youth-retreat/> or contact Calvin Crest Camp, Conference and Retreat Center 2870 County Road 13, Fremont, NE 68025 at (402) 628-6455. Retreat fee is \$35.

During worship service on Sunday, November 13, a **Buildings and Grounds Improvement Video led by Trustee Mike Hogan** will be presented. Mike has served two consecutive terms as one of the Buildings and Grounds Trustees, and represents all Trustees who would like congregation to see the last 6 years of improvements made to the church.

Thanksgiving Harvest Dinner. Join us on **Sunday, November 13**, following the 10:30a.m. worship service in Fellowship Hall for a delicious, traditional turkey dinner while enjoying fellowship with the congregation and offering of thanks for the many blessings we enjoy! This meal is open to anyone who wishes to attend. Tickets may be purchased before/after service October 23, October 30, and November 6th, and during the week in the church office until Friday, November 11th. Adults: \$10, Kids 6-12: \$7.

Zach Spurgeon has enrolled as a student at Dubuque Seminary this fall, where he is on track to work toward a Master of Divinity degree. Session approved assistance for tuition, fees, and books at the end of each successfully completed semester, up to \$8,755 per semester. For those who desire to contribute to this assistance, a **special offering** will be taken on **Sunday, November 13**, as part of the Harvest Dinner, which directly follows the 10:30a.m. worship service.

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.

Have a safe and happy Halloween!

This Week --- Oct 31 - Nov 5, 2016

- Mon, Oct 31** **10:00a.m.** **Staff Meeting** in Pastor's Office
- Tue, Nov 1** **1:00p.m.** **Quilters** in the Annex
- 5:30p.m.** **W.A.M. Meeting** in Anderson Conference
- Wed, Nov 2** **7:00a.m.** **Bible@Breakfast** in Parlor
- 11:45a.m.** **PW Luncheon** in Fellowship Hall
- 4:30p.m.** **WNL!**
- 6:45p.m.** **CANCEL CHOIR rehearsal** in Choir Room
- Fri, Nov 4** **5:30p.m.** **Go & Serve Rally** in Annex Gym
- Sat, Nov 5** **8:45a.m. - 9:30a.m.** **Gathering before Vet Parade** in Fellowship Hall

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