

First Presbyterian Church Hastings, Nebraska

Head of the Church: Jesus Christ

Ministers: Members of the Church

Pastor: Greg Allen-Pickett

Liturgist and Scripture Reader: George White

Organist: Linda Vollweiler

July 9, 2017, 10:00 a.m.

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

PRELUDE

“Italian Hymn”

arr. Travis

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God’s promises are awesome!

In the midst of difficulty, God gives us a word of hope.

Something new is coming!

We stand eagerly awaiting God’s new creation.

Prepare your hearts to receive God’s mighty blessings.

Guide our hands and feet to work with God to usher in a new kingdom.

Help us to dream the impossible dream of a world of peace and justice, and then work to make that world a reality.

Open our spirits and our hearts, Lord, to be ready to receive all that you have to offer. Let us worship God!

*HYMN

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

366

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we come before you this day as those who are often afraid to confess all the many ways in which we have disappointed and betrayed you. You have given us continual opportunities to serve and love others, but often we have withdrawn instead. We have turned our backs on others in need. We have denied the gifts you have given us. Where can we turn now that we have run from you? Your voice calls to us to come home, to come to you unafraid, to receive forgiveness and healing. Open our hearts this day to receive these magnificent blessings. Help us understand the many ways in which you love us, and help us share that love with all those whom we meet. For we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Even though we have turned away from God,

God is faithful to us.

All of us are beloved children of God;

We are recipients of God's love and blessings.

Rejoice, children of God! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Alleluia! AMEN!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE "Glory to God" (We will sing 2 times through) 583

*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

(Please pass the "Friendship Folders" found in the pews and sign in to let us know of your presence here. If you are new here, please share your phone number or email so we can reach out to you.)

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Nancy Grams

ANTHEM

Grace Canady

Through the generous legacy of the Langenberg family, our church provides scholarships for music classes to children of members. Each Sunday this summer, we will hear a song offered by a recipient of the Langenberg Scholarship Funds.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O God, open our hearts and minds and souls to hear your word as if for the first time. Help us experience anew the surprise and joy that your presence in the word can bring us. Amen.

1st SCRIPTURE READING – *Isaiah 65:17-25*

2nd SCRIPTURE READING – *Revelation 21:1-7*

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Summer Sermon Song Series:

"The Impossible Dream: Living between the 'now' and the 'not yet'"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From the Reformed Church of South Africa)

It is not true that this world and its inhabitants are doomed to die and be lost;
This is true: for God so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him shall not die, but have everlasting life.

It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction;

This is true: I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

It is not true that violence and hatred shall have the last word, and that war and destruction have come to stay forever;

This is true: for to us a child is born, to us a son is given, in whom authority will rest, and whose name will be Prince of Peace.

It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil that seek to rule the world;

This is true: To me is given authority in heaven and on earth, and lo, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the prophets of the church, before we can do anything;

This is true: I will pour out my Spirit on all people, and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young people shall see visions, and your old folk dream dreams.

It is not true that our dreams of liberation of humankind, our dreams of justice, of human dignity, of peace, are not meant for this earth and its history;

This is true: The hour comes, and it is now, that true worshippers shall worship God in Spirit and in truth.

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

OFFERTORY “The Impossible Dream” arr. Elder

*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.

*CHARGE and BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

“Recessional in C”

Wagner

Come worship with us next week! Bring a friend! Invite your neighbor!
Summer Sermon Song Series:
Lynyrd Skynyrd “Simple Man,” Matthew 22:35-40 and 2 Corinthians 1:12-14
Sunday, July 16, 10:00a.m.
Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett Preaching

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This summer, Pastor Greg is preaching a **Summer Sermon Song Series** on songs from popular culture. Below is the tentative schedule. If you have a family member, friend or neighbor who likes any of these groups, songs, or music, invite them to church this summer!

- 7/16/17: Sermon on Lynyrd Skynyrd song “Simple Man” and Matt. 22:35-40, 2 Corinth. 1:12-14
- 7/23/17: Sermon on Barry Manilow song “One Voice” and Romans 15:1-13
- 7/30/17: Sermon on J. Paul Williams “Creation Shall Be at Peace” and Isaiah 11:1-10
- 8/6/17: Go & Serve Sunday. “Seasons of Love” from Rent, 1 John 3:1-3, 16-22
- 8/13/17: David Johnson, Guest Preaching
- 8/20/17: Sermon on The Byrds “Turn, Turn, Turn” and Ecclesiastes 3

Please note, the **Go & Serve Celebration Sunday is changed to August 6.** This includes the youth leading in worship and the lunch and program following worship for the Stockholders who donated in support of Go & Serve.

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This Week --- July 10 – July 15, 2017

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| Mon, July 10 | 5:30p 7:00p | HSO Meeting in Anderson Conference Boy Scouts Troop 200 Meet |
| Tue, July 11 | 4:15p | Global Mission Meeting in Parlor |
| Wed, July 12 | Open Table Cooking in the Kitchen 12:00p 6:30p | Summer Book Club in Parlor Wood Carvers in Basement |
| Thu, July 13 | 6:30p-8:00p | Spanish Class in the NW Classroom, Annex |
| Fri, July 14 | 10:00a | Mahjong Ladies in Youth Activity Room |
| Sat, July 15 | Go & Serve Returns 10:00a-12:00p | United Harvest Food Distribution in Annex |

Open Table's Sack Lunch Program

One sack lunch, per person, per day, no questions asked.

Join our congregation in celebrating fourteen years of support for the Open Table Sack Lunch Program. Beginning today, we will be assembling 1200 lunches on each of the next four Sundays in Fellowship Hall immediately following the worship service. This tradition in our church has been a blessing for the people receiving the lunches, and the people preparing them.

Volunteer opportunities include:

Sundays

Setting up before Sunday morning services at 9:00 am.

Assembling lunches in Fellowship Hall following services.

Transporting lunches to Catholic Social Services on Sunday following assembly.

Mondays

Assist in loading sacks from Church onto CSS truck, and helping unload at CSS.

Tuesdays

Transporting bananas from Russ's IGA to Catholic Social Services

Wednesdays

Organizing a hot lunch or special meal.

Joining cooks in our church kitchen to prepare a chef salad or hot lunch to serve on the next day.

Thursdays

Assist in serving special lunch at Catholic Social Services.

Fridays or Saturdays

Transporting bread, meat or other foods. (Larger vehicle helpful)

Donations of cash or food are always welcome and needed.

Prayers!!!!

Thanks for your generous and enthusiastic support of this ongoing mission.



Announcements

The radio broadcast airs during the 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.

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

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 Dr. and Mrs. G. Paul Charlton.

Greeters: Dixie and Gale McDonald, Jane Foote

Ushers (Team #5): Dale Behrens, Matt Fong, Ken Stein

July Communion offerings will be collected throughout the month and remitted to SASA (Spouse Abuse Sexual Assault) Crisis Center.

Prayers for Judy Brown, Mary Jo Emmons, Chuck & Georgie Evans, Zelma Fobben, Celia Ganow, Thomas Johnson (Richard Johnson's brother), Wayne & Elaine Specht and families.

Deacon's delivered 3 bags with 28 items to the Hastings Food Pantry last Wednesday.



Congratulations to grandparents Chuck and Jeanne Hastings and Lonnie and Pat Tourek for the birth of **Emery Blair Tourek**. She was born June 16, 2017 to Kris and Beth Tourek.

As a ministry of hospitality, the **deacons organized meal delivery to the Stout family**. You can sign up to deliver a meal by visiting the following webpage: <https://mealtrain.com/e73e60> ("o" not zero) If you can't access the webpage, please come into the office to let Tarci or Greg know when you would like to deliver a meal, and they will share the details with you. Meal delivery will be Mondays and Thursdays thru August 7. That means there are several opportunities to sign up! The family is two adults and one precious 2 year old. There are no dietary restrictions. Thank you for participating in this vital ministry of hospitality as we welcome the newest member of our First Presbyterian Church family!

Volunteers are needed thru July for a church office project! Decades of meeting minutes are to be digitized for permanent archiving by scanning the hardcopies thru the copier machine. Two hour shifts are available 9 am - noon & 1 - 4 pm Mon-Thu as convenient for you. Contact Tarci at 402-462-5147 or tarci@fpchastings.org.

NEEDED: Scrapbook Skills

If you are (or used to be) a "scrapbooker," please consider sharing your skills to create a book showcasing each of the crosses on the Cross Wall (the wall in the hallway connecting the Fellowship Hall and the Memorial Room). This is a short term opportunity to serve the church in a much-needed and much-appreciated way!! Please contact Kili Wenburg (402-461-6374 or kili@fpchastings.org) if you can help.

United Harvest Free Food Distribution will be Saturday, July 15 from 10 a.m. - 12 noon in the church Annex. Volunteers are always needed. If you are interested in volunteering, please choose one shift and report to the Annex at the start of your chosen time: 9:30 a.m. - 12 noon and 12 noon - 2:30 p.m. If you are willing and able to deliver boxes to home-bound recipients, please contact Tarci in the church office: 402-462-5147.