

First Presbyterian Church Hastings, Nebraska

Head of the Church: Jesus Christ

Ministers: Members of the Church

Pastor: Greg Allen-Pickett

Associate Pastor: Damen Heitmann

Liturgist and Scripture Reader: Chris Schukei

Organist: Linda Vollweiler

August 20, 2017, 10:30 a.m.

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

PRELUDE

“Toccatà in G Major”

William Pachelbel

“Toccatà in E Minor”

Johann Pachelbel

WELCOME

**CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 133 and Psalm 67)*

How very good and pleasant it is when people live together in unity!

May God be gracious to us and bless us.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

May God continue to remind us of our call to love and unity. Come let us worship God!

**HYMN*

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

20

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, in our wanderings we have forsaken fellowship with our families, our friends, and our neighbors; we have not always followed your command to love you with all our heart, mind, and soul and to love our neighbor as ourselves and sometimes we have been selective about who we define as our “neighbor.” We have neglected our communion with you, choosing worldly pleasures and desires over your truth, justice, righteousness and love. Free us from such bondage, that we may truly reveal the presence of Christ in our lives through our love for you and our love for others. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In faith, we call out...

To a loving and forgiving God.

Seeking...

To put aside our old life and put on Christ. God surely answers our prayers.

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

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.)

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.)

INTRODUCTION OF OUR NEW ASSOCIATE PASTOR

COMMISSIONING OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION VOLUNTEERS

(While the children and volunteers are coming down, we will sing “This Little Light of Mine”)

At the celebration of baptism, we pledge to nurture one another in the faith. You, as teachers, carry a particular joy and responsibility. Do you believe in your heart you are called by Christ's church, and therefore by Christ, to this teaching ministry?

Teachers: We do

Do you promise, by the grace of God, to give yourselves to this calling, with energy, intelligence, imagination and love, and to be guided by the Spirit and the Word of God?

Teachers: We do

Children, do you promise to support your teachers by coming to Sunday School and Wednesday Night Live regularly, by listening to them, and by being helpers?

Children: We do

Friends, let us acknowledge the gifts and calling of your sisters and brothers.

Congregation: We receive you as a servants of Christ; we pledge to support you in your service. We will encourage you with our words and our prayers. We will consider ourselves coworkers with you in the service of Christ.

Servants of Christ, accept the service with which you have been entrusted. Do not neglect the gifts that are in you. Present yourselves to God as approved workers, ever faithful to the Spirit of God. Remember always that Jesus called you as friends as well as servants. Attend to prayer, for without God you can do nothing.

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER

O God, giver of all good gifts, we commend ourselves and our brothers and sisters to your constant love and guidance. Bless them with faith, and the ability to share that faith. Bless them with love, a calling to be compassionate in heart to all those who they teach. Bless them with truth, the commitment to justice grown from truth and the courage to respond to an ever-changing world. Bless them with peace, to witness the unfolding souls of their students as they accompany them along their way. Amen!

ANTHEM

Josh Brooks

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 – *Colossians 3:8-17*

2nd SCRIPTURE READING – *Ecclesiastes 3:1-8*

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Summer Sermon Song Series:
“Seasons of Our Lives and a Perennial Call to Love”

*HYMN

“O God, We Bear the Imprint”

759

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From *Unity, Reconciliation, and Justice: A Study Guide for the Belhar Confession* by David Alexander)

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

We believe that Christ’s work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another.

We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ.

We believe that through the working of God's Spirit unity is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought.

We believe that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity, and hatred between people and groups is sin.

We believe that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church or in society, and must be resisted.

Therefore we reject any doctrine that absolutizes natural diversity in such a way that this hinders or breaks the visible and active unity of the church.

We believe that, in obedience to Jesus Christ, its only head, the church is called to confess and to do all these things.

We believe that Jesus is Lord. To the one and only God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be the honor and the glory for ever and ever.

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

OFFERTORY "Turn! Turn! Turn!" arr. Pete Seeger

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

*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 "In Christ There Is No East or West" 318

*CHARGE and BLESSING

*POSTLUDE "March in C Major" Henry Purcell

Come worship with us next week! Bring a friend! Invite your neighbor!

Sermon title: "Hear the Story, Share the Story, Live the Story"

Sunday, August 27, 10:30a.m.

Sunday School at 9:15a.m.

Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett Preaching

2017/2018 Christian Education Volunteers

Sunday School Teachers

PreK/Kindergarten: Nancy Grams, Kris Horton, Lois Hafer

1st/2nd Grade: Irina Belikova-Erickson, Abigail Shetler, Justin Brader, Tom Ratzlaff

3rd/4th Grade: Jill Kramer & Daveta Brader

5th Grade: Traci Boeve

6th/7th Grade: Steph Brader

8th Grade Confirmation: Dave Cooke

Sr. High: Kraig & Laurie Lofquist

WNL Bible Study & Youth Group Teachers

PreK/Kindergarten: Jane Marsh, Susie Graham, Cheryl Schukei

1st/2nd Grade: Leah Ratzlaff & Kathy Reimer

3rd/4th Grade: Jessica Allen-Pickett & Courtney Junker

5th Grade: Ann Koozer

6th/7th/8th Graders: Erica Brooks

Sr. High: Justin Miller

Other Sunday Volunteers

Children's Moment Leaders: Nancy Grams & Lauren Canady

Nursery: Leah Ratzlaff & Erika Nielsen

Other WNL Volunteers

Table Setter/Decorator/Cooks: Nancy Grams, Bonnie Grams, Lois Hahne

Nursery: Abigail Shetler, Leah Ratzlaff, Erika Nielsen

Recreation: Brady Rhodes & Eric Brader

Napkin Launderer: Carol Grummert

Dinner Dean: Chris Schukei

Table Parents: Abigail Shetler, Richard Brader, Tom Ratzlaff, Leah Ratzlaff, Mike Meyer, Becky Meyer, Courtney Junker, Damen Heitmann

Attendance Recorder: Lynne Friedewald

Adult Sunday School Teachers

Heirs Apparent: Curtis Reimer

Forums: Gary Johnson, Travis Feezell, Tarci Matthews, Jane Bauer, Doug Oakeson, George Howard, Brian Johnson, Jenni Welsch, Nina Meyer, Becky Meyer, Mike Meyer, Nancy Grams, Kathy Duval, Erica Brooks, Darrel Lloyd, Byron Jensen, Don Canady, Greg Allen-Pickett



Dear Stephanie,

On behalf of the Hastings YMCA, I wanted to share our sincere appreciation for First Presbyterian Church's participation w/ the 1st Annual YMCA-VBS. The volunteers that represented your church were outstanding with the youth. It was wonderful to witness the kids from our community learning about how God lovingly creates us and watching them create their very own G.U.T.S.Y. Bear. - a message that these kids at the Y absolutely need to hear. Thanks to all of you that engaged these children - carving out time and resources - it does not go unnoticed.

Until Next Summer -

Gene Ruppert
Membership Director
Hastings YMCA

Our theme for the year is *"Hear the Story, Share the Story, Live the Story."*

The "Story" is the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ! We will focus our programming this year around opportunities for us to:

- Hear the Story told to us from different perspectives and in different voices
- Share the Story of how our lives have been transformed by our relationship with Jesus and our participation in the Body of Christ, the church
- Live the story by proclaiming the Good News of the Gospel in word and deed through our mission and ministry efforts

We hope the members of our church will embrace this opportunity to engage hearts and minds as we learn about, share, and live out our faith!

I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ.
--Philemon 1:6

HEAR

SHARE

LIVE

the Story

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

HEAR

- **Worship:** We are going back to two services EVERY Sunday: 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
 - Our 8:30 a.m. services will alternate between Celebrate services (contemporary worship style) and Taize services (contemplative worship style).
 - Our 10:30 a.m. services will be in the traditional style.
- Visit of Presbyterian mission worker Kurt Esslinger from South Korea on Wednesday, September 20
 - Kurt will share with the kids at Wednesday Night Live and then offer an adult forum at 7:00 p.m.

SHARE

- **Invite your friends to worship services**
 - "Blessing of the Pets" service in Alexander Park Sunday, September 17, at 8:30 a.m.
 - "Hastings College Sunday" will feature the HC choir (and celebration of World Communion) on Sunday, October 1, at the 10:30 a.m. service.
 - On Sunday, October 29, we will celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation with special activities during worship followed by a German-themed potluck dinner.
- Bible studies on Tuesdays at 12 p.m. and Wednesdays at 7 a.m. led by Pastor Greg

LIVE

- **United Harvest Distribution August 19 and September 16**
 - Volunteer at either (or both) shifts: 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. or 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- **Volunteer opportunities at Wednesday Night Live**
 - Contact Stephanie Brader for details.

Announcements

The radio broadcast airs during the 10:30 a.m. service on KICS 1550 AM and is in memory of Hal Lainson by the Lainson 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 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 Mr. and Mrs. H.A. Lainson and Hal Lainson by family.

Greeters: Linda and Richard Johnson

Ushers: Bill Boyd, Lynne Friedewald, Jim Harrenstein – Captain, Paul Nuss, Chuck Shoemaker

Acolytes: Ericka Nielsen, Seth Schwarz

August Communion offerings will be remitted to RiteCare Speech, Language and Literacy Clinics.

Prayers for: Judy Brown, Mary Jo Emmons, Zelma Fobben, Celia (& Wayne) Ganow, Jan Ham, Irmise (& Elmer) Heeren, Thomas Johnson (Richard Johnson's brother), Connie Kubicka, Mary (& Jim) Lewis, Clay Mathews (Susan Oliver's brother), Carla Ridout, Wayne (& Elaine) Specht and families.

8:30a.m. worship service begins Sunday, September 10th.

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**Presbyterian Women's meetings resume in September.** They begin with the PW luncheon at 11:45am on the first Wednesday of each month. A program and short business meeting follow the luncheon. All women of the church are welcome and encouraged to come for all or part of the meeting. Call your reservation to your circle telephone chairperson or to the church office by the Monday preceding the PW meeting.

**September 6, 2017** – Program – Kili Wenburg – Preview of Bible Study Lessons for 2017-2018  
Circle 3 – prepare lunch;  
Circle 1 – devotions, table setting and decoration, nametags, cashier

**September 20, 2017** - Circle meetings begin:  
Circle 1 – Hostess – Katherine Sachtleben – 9:30am in Katherine's home  
Bible Study Leader – Gayle Fandry

Circle 2 – Hostess – Eleanor Jorgenson – 9:30am in Eleanor's home  
Bible Study Leader – Flossie Sanderson

Circle 3 – Hostess – Lois Hahne – 1:15pm in the church parlor  
Bible Study Leader – Kathy Duval

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| First Presbyterian Church<br>621 N. Lincoln Avenue<br>Hastings, Nebraska 68901<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:fpc@fpchastings.org">fpc@fpchastings.org</a><br><a href="http://www.fpchastings.org">www.fpchastings.org</a><br>p: (402) 462-5147<br>f: (402) 462-6818 |
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This Week --- Aug 21 – Aug 26, 2017

Mon, Aug 21	7:00p	Boy Scouts Troop 200 Meet
Tue, Aug 22	10:00a	Staff Meeting in Pastor's Office
	1:00p	Quilters Meet in Annex
Wed, Aug 23	4:00p	Wednesday Night Live (WNL) Kick Off!
	6:30p	Wood Carvers in Basement
Thu, Aug 24	6:30p-8:00p	Spanish Class in NW Classroom, Annex
Fri, Aug 25	10:00a	Mahjong Ladies in Youth Activity Room