

**First Presbyterian Church  
Hastings, Nebraska**

Head of the Church: Jesus Christ  
Ministers: Members of the Church  
Senior Pastor: Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett  
Associate Pastor: Rev. Damen Heitmann  
Liturgist and Scripture Reader: Lanae Hall  
Chancel Choir Director: Dr. Robin Koozer  
Organist: Linda Vollweiler

**October 15, 2017, 10:30 a.m.**

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

PRELUDE "Give Thanks" Henry Smith

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT "*Cantate Domino*" Giuseppe Pitorini  
Chancel Choir

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 106)

Praise the LORD! O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

***God's steadfast love endures forever.***

Who can speak of the mighty works of the LORD, or declare all God's praise?

***We can! That is why we are here today. With joy and gratitude let us worship God!***

\*HYMN "O Day of Rest and Gladness" 393

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***You invite us to your feast, O God, and we do not come. You beg us to give thanks for life, and we fail in our thanksgiving. You have made for us a wonderful earth, and we neglect the gift. Forgive us for what we have done and for abandoning the pathway you desire for us. Be our guide and conscience. Turn our feet and hands to your will, that all we do might give glory to you. Amen.***

SILENT CONFESSION

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The God of peace, who calls all creation to live in unity, hears your plea. In the spirit of feasting and thanksgiving, in the mercy of Almighty God, 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” in the pews and register your attendance with us today.)

## CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Lauren Canady

(As the children are coming forward, the congregation will sing “This Little Light of Mine.”)

## ANTHEM

“If Ye Love Me, Keep My Commandments”

Thomas Tallis

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

***Your word, O God, is a feast you have prepared for us. Let your Holy Spirit open our minds to your call to listen, for we know your holy Word heals and reconciles your people. Amen.***

1<sup>st</sup> SCRIPTURE READING – Matthew 22:1-14

## REFLECTION ON GOSPEL LESSON – Jane Marsh

2<sup>nd</sup> SCRIPTURE READING – Isaiah 25:1-10 (From *The Message* translation of the Bible)

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

***Thanks be to God.***

## MESSAGE

Three-Part Sermon Series: “*Living a Life of Gratitude*”

Part 2: “Moving from Entitlement to Gratitude”

Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett

## \*HYMN

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

367

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From Trinity Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, GA)

***We believe that we are called to serve God with joy and to bear witness to God’s transforming love, made known in Jesus Christ. As a community led by the Spirit, we seek to make God’s Love visible as we give generously.***

***We believe that gratitude and generosity are the only antidotes to fear and scarcity. As stewards seeking to love God and our neighbors, we give generously of ourselves, our time, and our resources in response to God’s generosity toward us. We recognize that we are called to be responsible stewards of all God’s gifts, including our financial and natural resources, our facilities, and the gifts of our staff and members.  
This is our calling. Amen***

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

OFFERTORY “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come” Chesterton/Wells

\*DOXOLOGY “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” 606

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***Creator God, you are our provider. We offer all that we have and all that we are to you, because we belong to you. Bless these gifts, and empower us, your church, that through the work of your Spirit we may be a refuge for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm, and that through these gifts we may provide food for the spiritually and physically hungry. Through Christ, our shield and our stronghold. Amen.***

\*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 “We Give Thee but Thine Own” 708

\*CHARGE and BLESSING

\*BENEDICTION – Congregational and Choir Response

(While the choir sings the benediction, the congregation is invited to come together and hold hands or touch the shoulder of the person standing in front of them as a sign of blessing and family.)

\*POSTLUDE “Take the Name of Jesus with You” Doane/Innes

**Come worship with us next week and invite others on Sunday, October 22!**

**8:30am: Contemporary Style Service with Praise and Alleluia (Children’s) choirs**

**10:30am: Traditional Worship Service with Chancel Choir**

**Sunday School for all ages at 9:15am**

**Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett preaching both services**

# Living a Life of Gratitude

A three week sermon series on *GRATITUDE*  
as part of our month-long focus on  
*STEWARDSHIP* and *GENEROSITY*

**Sunday, October 8**

**Title:** "Moving from Worry to Gratitude"

Our call as people of faith is to let go of worry and let our lives be an expression of gratitude for the grace and blessings we have been given.

*Scripture:* Philippians 4:1-9 and Matthew 6:24-34

**Sunday, October 15**

**Title:** "Moving from Entitlement to Gratitude"

The parable of the wedding banquet helps us understand that in God's economy, all are welcome. We are called to live our lives in the same way of welcome and abundance.

*Scripture:* Matthew 22:1-14 and Philippians 4:1-9

**Sunday, October 22**

**Title:** "Moving from Greed to Gratitude"

What we have does not belong to us, and that can be difficult to believe and embrace. Ultimately everything we have comes from God and belongs to God. When we can settle into that reality, it counteracts greed with generosity as we share out of our blessings and abundance. *Scripture:* Matthew 22:15-22 and 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

## This Week --- Oct. 16 – Oct. 21, 2017

<b>Mon, Oct. 16</b>	<b>7:00p-9:00p</b>	<b>Boy Scouts Meet</b> in Basement Scout Room	
	<b>7:00p-9:00p</b>	<b>Boy Scouts Meet</b> in Annex Gym	
	<b>Tue, Oct. 17</b>	<b>10:00a</b>	<b>Staff Meet</b> in Pastor's Office
		<b>12:00p-1:00p</b>	<b>Bible Study</b> in Parlor
		<b>1:00p</b>	<b>Quilters Meet</b> in Annex
		<b>4:00p-5:00p</b>	<b>Adult Ed Committee Meet</b> in Parlor
		<b>5:30p-6:30p</b>	<b>Trustees Meet</b> in Anderson Conference (not a typo)
<b>6:45p-7:45p</b>	<b>Deacons Meet</b> in Anderson Conference		
<b>Wed, Oct. 18</b>	<b>7:00a-8:00a</b>	<b>Bible@Breakfast</b> in Parlor	
	<b>1:15p</b>	<b>PW Circle 3 Meets</b> in Library	
	<b>4:00p-6:00p</b>	<b>WNL Activities</b> (Pre-K thru 5 <sup>th</sup> Grades)	
	<b>5:05p-5:50p</b>	<b>Yoga</b> in the Annex Gym	
	<b>6:00p-6:45p</b>	<b>WNL Family Time Meal</b> (All Ages Welcome!)	
	<b>6:00p-6:45p</b>	<b>Chancel Bells Practice</b>	
	<b>6:30p</b>	<b>Wood Carvers</b> in Basement	
	<b>6:45p-7:30p</b>	<b>Chancel Choir Practice</b>	
	<b>6:45p-7:30p</b>	<b>Cal/West Choir Practice</b> (6 <sup>th</sup> thru 12 <sup>th</sup> Grades)	
	<b>7:30p-8:15p</b>	<b>WNL Bible Study/Fellowship</b> (6 <sup>th</sup> thru 12 <sup>th</sup> Grades)	
<b>Thu, Oct. 19</b>	<b>5:30pm</b>	<b>Session Meets</b> in Anderson Conference Room	
	<b>6:30p-7:30p</b>	<b>Spanish Class</b> in NW Classroom, Annex	
<b>Fri, Oct. 20</b>	<b>10:00a</b>	<b>Mahjong Ladies</b> in Youth Activity Room	

## Announcements

The radio broadcast airs during the 10:30 a.m. 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](mailto: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 memory of Ruth and Hayes M. Fuhr.

**Greeters:** Justin & Kili Wenburg

**Ushers (Team #1):** Duane Huber, Steve Illingworth, Brian Johnson, Laurie Johnson, Al Meyer— Captain, Clyde Sachtleben

**Acolytes:** Grace Brader, McKain Ratzlaff

**Nursery:** Kim Bogan, Leah Ratzlaff

October Offerings are for **Peace and Global Witness** with 25% donated to **Hearts and Hands Against Hunger of Hastings** (formerly 'Kids Against Hunger'.)

**Prayers for:** Judy Brown, Celia (& Wayne) Ganow, Jan Ham, Irmise (& Elmer) Heeren, Thomas Johnson (Richard Johnson's brother), Nancy Langford, Mary (& Jim) Lewis, John & Mary Northrop, Audrey Watson and families.

"Intro to Yoga" Series continues this week. All are welcome at the Annex on Wednesday at 5:05 p.m. for a free, 45-minute class. This week's installment is "Yoga Nidra" taught by Jenni Welsch of Grounded Sky.

Forum next week features **reflections on giving** by Brian Johnson and Mike Karloff. Have you ever wondered how other people make their financial giving decisions? (How much should I give? To whom should I give? Why do I give?) . Come hear real stories from real people as well as statistics about this important aspect of lived faith. *Fellowship Hall, 9:15 a.m.*

"Defying Gravity: Break Free from the Culture of More" is the title of the new study in the Heirs Apparent class. Join anytime! *Anderson Conference Room, Sundays, 9:15 a.m.*

**Mariners moms group is discussing resilience in kids** this Thursday at noon in the Parlor. Bring a sack lunch and enjoy the fellowship and information sharing. *Free childcare is provided!*

**CORRECTION to Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings for October 18, 2017:** Circle 1 will meet in Gayle's home at 1214 North Minnesota in Hastings, NOT the church parlor.

**Circle 1** – Hostess – Gayle Fandry – 9:30am in Gayle's home  
Lesson Leader – Pam Lay

**Circle 2** – Hostess – Jane Bauer – 9:30am in Jane's home  
Lesson Leader – Jane Foote

**Circle 3** – Hostess – Katharine Davis – 1:15pm in the church parlor  
Lesson Leader – Jill Kramer

We are delighted by the newest member of our family of faith. Louie and Kristen Eckhardt (and her little brother Malcolm) welcomed Fiona into the world last week. **Let's share some love and hospitality** as the Eckhardts adjust to life with a newborn! You may go online to sign up to deliver a meal: <https://mealtrain.com/Onry05>

## CHURCH OFFICER NOMINATION FORM

First Presbyterian Church, 621 North Lincoln Avenue, Hastings Nebraska 68901

The Congregational Nominating Committee invites your suggestions for persons to serve as church officers for three year terms beginning January 2018. Our church needs **five Deacons, four Elders and three Trustees** to serve the congregation.

**Deacons** are primarily caregivers, entrusted with the ministry of compassion to the sick, the homebound, and those who are in special need. People who are called to this ministry write cards, deliver flowers, make phone calls, and visit people in their homes, often with the pastor. Deacons also need a desire to share the sense of fellowship, camaraderie, compassion among the Deacons.

**Elders** who serve on the Session are responsible for the overall ministry of the congregation, including worship, leadership on church committees, establishing priorities for the year, establishing the annual budget, and working with the church staff. Elders are called to provide faithful and non-anxious leadership for the whole church which includes prayerful discernment and discussion leading to shared decision making and support of decisions made.

**Trustees** are responsible for the physical plant, financial oversight, and the grounds of the church. People with interests and skills in the areas of business and finance and abilities to work on the building and work with contractors and other providers are especially suited to the Board of Trustees. Trustees help the pastor manage the corporate responsibilities of the church.

Church officer training is provided by the pastoral staff so that every member who is called to serve as a church officer is given opportunity to be knowledgeable about the government of the Presbyterian Church, and his or her responsibilities, and so better equipped to serve. As a part of church officer training, new officers are also invited to explore their personal faith.

God has given each of us certain talents and gifts that are to be utilized for the glory of Jesus Christ and for the common good within the church. Please consider the gifts and talents of our church community and recommend those who you feel are qualified for these offices. You may also recommend yourself. All active members of the church are eligible.

Please talk to one of these nominating committee members if you have any questions: Sharon Brooks (Moderator), Kim Creech, Paula Crozier, Mark Hemje, Vonda Essex, Richard Johnson, Al Meyer, Tammie Nowka, Sally Smith

Nominee:

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Office: (circle any that apply):          Session                  Deacon                  Trustee

Name of person submitting nomination:

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Phone number or email where the Nominating Committee can reach you if they have questions: