

First Presbyterian Church Hastings, Nebraska

Head of the Church: Jesus Christ
Ministers: Members of the Church
Senior Pastor: Greg Allen-Pickett
Associate Pastor: Damen Heitmann
Organist: Linda Vollweiler
Accompanist: Mary Plock
Flute: Sarah Wolf

**First Sunday of Christmas
December 31, 2017, 10:30 a.m.**

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

PRELUDE "Auld Lang Syne" arr. Mike Garson

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

When Jesus is born to Mary and Joseph,

God is there.

When Jesus is presented in the temple,

God is there.

When Simeon holds him and Anna recognizes him,

God is there.

In our own histories,

God is there.

This very morning,

God is here.

In the future we cannot see,

God is there.

***HYMN** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

132

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We dedicate our lives to a great many things. We commit ourselves to teams, and shows, and workout routines. We pledge our hearts to jealousy. We surrender our minds to easy answers and convenient thinking. We pledge ourselves to ideologies, economic principles, and political parties. Help us, O God, to renew our dedication to you. Help us to devote ourselves again to your works of love. Forgive us and let us be consecrated to you once more.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The love of God is not hoarded.

It is share freely and with great joy.

We are loved and forgiven.

We are released to love once more.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”
Verses 1&4

143

*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.)

MINUTE FOR MISSION – Big Brothers / Big Sisters

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

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

ANTHEM

“O, Holy Night”

arr. Mike Garson

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

As your word is read and proclaimed, O God, give us hearts receptive to its call. Give us minds amenable to its instruction. Give us wills interested in its challenge. Amen.

1st SCRIPTURE READING – Psalm 148

2nd SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 2:22-40

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

“Dangerous Dedication”

*HYMN

“Who Would Think That What Was Needed”

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*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

OFFERING

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

- OFFERTORY “The First Noel and Silent Night” arr. Mike Garson
- *DOXOLOGY “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” 606
- *PRAYER OF DEDICATION
We dedicated these gifts to you, O God. May they be a reflection of our own hearts. May they bring aid to the suffering, hope to the lost, and peace to all. 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 “Mary and Joseph Came to the Temple” 148
- *CHARGE and BLESSING
- *POSTLUDE “Sing We a Glad Noel” arr. Dale Wood

Sunday, January 7 is Epiphany!
8:30am: Contemplative “Taize” style service with Communion

9:15am: Sunday School for all ages.

10:30am: Traditional Worship Service with Communion
Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett preaching both services.
Sermon Title: “Baptism: Jesus’ Big Reveal”

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.

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.

Greeters: Kathy & Kurt Reimer, Jill Kramer

Acolytes: Jonah Snell, Selah Wenburg

Ushers (Team #4): Susie Graham, George Howard-Captain, Dan Zabloudil, Vera Zabloudil

January Ushers (Team #1): LaVern Franzen, Chuck Hastings-Captain, Jim Hoffman, Roger Sunderman

January 7 Servers:

Communion (Team #3): Martha Boyd, Kay Georgiana, Susan Hoff, Harold Korb, Lynette & Paul Krieger,
Kraig Lofquist, Kathleen Nelson, Chris Schukei

Greeters: Denny & Carol Storer, Georgie Evans

Nursery: Kim Bogan

Prayers for: Arnie Boehler, Judy Brown, Karen Doerr/Mrs. Gilmore, Celia (& Wayne) Ganow, Erlene Gessford, Jan Ham, Irmise (& Elmer) Heeren, Pat Kleiber, Richard & Wanda Langer, Larry (& Carolyn) Nowka, Karla Reese, Elaine & son Jonathan Specht, Audrey Watson, Wilson, Jenni and Ben Welsch and families.

Sunday School for Adults on January 7 - Communion: Familiar Ritual, Mysterious Sacrament

While the familiar motions of this monthly ritual provide comfort and spiritual sustenance, how does communion "work"? This class will provide information about the theology behind the sacrament, the meaning informing various modes of serving, the specific emphases unique to different denominations, and the "rules" defining who can serve and who can receive and so on. Additionally, there will be opportunity for discussion and sharing of freshly-baked bread! 9:15 class led by Pastors Greg and Damen.

"Happy: What it is and How to Find it"

This is the title of the new Heirs Apparent curriculum, which will begin January 7. No matter how hard we try, happiness can seem elusive. Even as we reach our goals, we set new ones, making happiness always out of reach, but this study helps you discover that contentment isn't dependent on the "things" of life. Class meets in Anderson Conference Room at 9:15 on Sunday mornings, under the leadership of Curtis Reimer.

If you purchased a poinsettia (or two or three) feel free to take yours at any time. Salvation Army's Utility Assistance Program will be mailed FPC's donation check after the first of the year - the total of which will be listed in a January Home Page. Thank you for your support!

A copy of *Angels Aware* from December 10th service is available on DVD or Blue-Ray upon request at no charge. Contact Roger or Cheryl Schukei at 402-462-9282 or schukei@kdsi.net.



**American
Red Cross**

The next **Red Cross Blood Drive** in Fellowship Hall will be on Wednesday, January 3rd from 12 noon to 6 p.m. For more information, or to make an appointment, contact Erica Brooks at ericalynn128@gmail.com or 402-469-9285.

This Week --- Jan. 1 – Jan 6, 2018

Mon, Jan. 1	OFFICE CLOSED – HAPPY NEW YEAR!	
Tue, Jan. 2	10:30a-11:30a	Staff Meeting in Pastor's Office
	5:30p-7:00p	W.A.M. Meeting in Anderson Conference Room
Wed, Jan. 3	12:00p-6:00p	Red Cross Blood Drive in Fellowship Hall
	6:30p-8:30p	Wood Carvers in Basement
Thu, Jan. 4	5:30p-6:30p	Christian Education Meeting in Parlor
	6:30p-7:30p	Spanish Class in NW Classroom, Annex
Fri, Jan 5	10:00a-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies in Youth Room-Basement

First Presbyterian Church
621 N. Lincoln Avenue
Hastings, Nebraska 68901
E-mail: fpc@fpchastings.org
www.fpchastings.org
p: (402) 462-5147
f: (402) 462-6818