

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings
Family Christmas Eve Service
Sunday, December 24, 5:30pm



PRELUDE

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

arr. John Innes

WELCOME

Pastor Greg

INTROIT

“Abblasen”

Gottfried Reiche

Louie Eckhardt, trumpet

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Isaiah 9, Luke 2)

Good news! Great Joy!

A great light has burst forth, overcoming the darkness!

A child is born for us! Emmanuel, God with us!

Mighty God! Good Shepherd! Prince of Peace!

Come let us see what God has brought us! Let us see what the Lord has done!

Glory to God in the highest! And on earth, peace and goodwill to all!

*HYMN AND PROCESSION OF ADVENT BANNER

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (Verses 1, 6 & 7)

88

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH AND CHRIST CANDLE Brader Family

Today we celebrate Christmas Eve and the birth of the Christ Child! We light all of the candles on the advent wreath. First, we lit the candle of hope. Next, we lit the candle of love. Then, we lit the candle of joy. Finally, we lit the candle of peace.

Today, we light the center candle which represents Jesus Christ. When we light this candle, we remember Jesus' birth. Our waiting has ended!

When we look at the center candle, we remember that God sent Jesus to give hope, peace, joy, and love to all people.

Outside of Bethlehem the shepherds saw a great light and heard the voices of angels. They traveled to the manger and saw the baby Jesus.

Far away from Bethlehem, wise men saw a star in the sky. They followed the star and were filled with joy when they found Jesus.

Tonight, in this place, we celebrate the birth of Jesus with our family and our community and give thanks that God came to earth for us!

OPENING PRAYER (Isaiah 9)

God of light and love, shine upon us this Christmas Eve and in the year ahead. Guide us out of darkness and into your joyous light. As we listen to this familiar story, may it enliven and renew our faith in you. May our lives reflect your glorious love, that others may see your Christmas Spirit in us, each and every day of our lives. Amen.

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Announcements and Friendship Pads

Minute for Mission – Christmas Joy Offering

Pastoral Prayer & 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.

PASSING THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

(Greet one another by sharing the peace of Christ.)

ANTHEM

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

Church Families Choir

READING 1

Luke 2:1-7

(Announcement of the census that sends Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem; Jesus is born in a manger.)

HYMN

“Away in a Manger” (verses 1 & 3)

115

READING 2

Luke 2:8-14

(The angel appears to the shepherds and invites them to find baby Jesus. Angels sing glory to God!)

HYMN

“The First Nowell” (verses 1 & 2)

147

READING 3

Luke 2:15-20

(The shepherds go to Bethlehem and meet Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus. They return glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen!)

*HYMN

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” (verses 1, 3 & 4)

133

READING 4

Matthew 2:1-12

(The wise men visit Jesus, bring him gifts, and return home.)

HYMN

“We Three Kings of Orient Are” (verses 1-3)

151

MESSAGE	“Who was Jesus Born for?”	
*HYMN	“Joy to the World” (verses 1, 2 & 4)	134
OFFERING		
OFFERTORY	“Fantasia on a French Carol”	arr. Dorothy Wells
*DOXOLOGY	“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” (verses 1 & 3)	119
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION		
	<i>Holy God, your love is magnified in the gift of your Son, whom you so freely share with us. Bless these gifts that we offer to lift up the lowly and fill the hungry in your coming reign of justice and peace; in Christ’s name. Amen.</i>	
*PASSING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST		
	(To avoid dripping wax, please tilt the unlit tip of your candle to the flame.) <i>Ushers will light their candles off of the Christ Candle from the Advent Wreath. It will be passed down the aisles until all candles are lit. During the lighting, we will sing the hymn “Silent Night” and dim the lights in the church. Bask in the warm glow of the Light of Christ and raise your voices and candles on the last refrain.</i>	
*HYMN	“Silent Night, Holy Night!”	122
*CHARGE and BLESSING		
*CLOSING HYMN	“Go Tell It on the Mountain!”	136
POSTLUDE	“Go Tell It on the Mountain!”	arr. Mark Hayes

Come worship with us next week for the First Sunday After Christmas!
Sunday, December 31
(No 8:30am service and no Sunday School)
10:30am Service with special music, Pastor Damen Preaching

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings

Head of Church: Jesus Christ
Senior Pastor: Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett
Director of Children & Family
Ministries: Stephanie Brader
Organist: Linda Vollweiler
Chancel Choir Director: Dr. Robin Koozer
Calvin/Westminster Choir Director: Linda Johnson
Praise/Alleluia Choir Directors: Tim and Teresa Canady
Praise/Alleluia Bells Choir Director: Susan Oliver
Accompanists: Mary Plock and Alice Throckmorton

Ministers: Members of the Church
Associate Pastor: Rev. Damen Heitmann
Director of Adult Education & Spiritual Formation: Kili Wenburg
Parish Associate: Rev. Don Canady
Chancel Bells & Calvin/Westminster Bells Director: Dr. Byron Jensen
Music Coordinator: Tim Canady
Administrative Specialist: Tarci Matthews
Facilities Manager: Tony Calhoun

A note of **welcome** and an **invitation** from **Pastor Greg** and the **First Presbyterian Church Family**:

We are so happy that you are here worshipping with us on Christmas Eve! Thank you for being here to share in this joyful celebration!

We are a community that is deeply committed to sharing the **love of Christ** in Hastings and beyond. We hope you feel some of that love tonight, and we invite you to become part of our **family**. If you are already part of our community, we invite you to get more involved in the coming year!

Our church is actively engaged in **local ministry and mission** including the United Harvest Mobile Food Pantry, Open Table, and support of many local organizations including Habitat for Humanity, SASA Crisis Center, Revive Ministries, Crossroads Rescue Mission, and more. Every summer we offer a week-long Vacation Bible School for the whole community, including one for children with special needs. All of these activities and ministries provide **volunteer opportunities** for you to **share the love of Christ** and see where God is at work in Hastings!

We also participate in **national and global mission**. In 2018, we are planning:

- A hurricane relief trip to Texas over Spring Break for youth, college students, and adults;
- A summer youth mission trip to "Camp Courageous" to work with children with special needs;
- An adult mission trip in the fall to the US-Mexico Border.

These trips provide more opportunities for you to **share the love of Christ** and learn where God is at work around the world!

Our church seeks to engage our **hearts** and our **minds**, so we offer **amazing learning opportunities**. Come to **Sunday School** for all ages at 9:15am to hear engaging speakers and dig into the Bible to learn about what it means to you. We always have at least two **classes for adults** to deepen your faith and expand your mind, in addition to classes for children and youth. Come to our "**Wednesday Night Live**" program for 4-12 year olds from 4-6:45pm for bible study, rec time, music and dinner. We also have an **active youth group** for 6th-12th graders from 7:30-8:15pm every Wednesday night.

Do you like to make **music**? Come join our Chancel Choir, play in the handbell choir, join the praise band, or bring your kids to our children and youth choirs or handbell groups.

Join us for **Sunday morning worship** at 8:30 for a service which alternates between a contemplative "Taize-style" worship and a contemporary "praise-style" worship. Or join us at 10:30 for a more traditional worship experience with our glorious Chancel Choir, organ music, and **engaging bible-based preaching**.

At First Presbyterian Church of Hastings, we are a **community of hope** where you will always hear a message of hope proclaimed. Come engage your **hearts, hands, and minds** and help us share the **love of Christ** in Hastings and beyond. Reach out to any of our staff or volunteers to ask about how to get involved, or you can email Pastor Greg at greg@fpchastings.org

We look forward to seeing you in 2018!

Your Servant In Christ,



POINSETTIAS

The Global Mission and Local Social Witness Committee
approved the purchase and sale of poinsettias
for the excess moneys collected to be donated to
the Salvation Army Utility Assistance Program.

With these poinsettias, we remember and honor our loved ones.

In Loving Memory Of:

Judy Anderson
Brandon Brader
Dale & Dorothy Brader
W.G. Cambridge
Raymond & Maxine Champoux

Eleanor Clawson
Mel Cropley
Lyle Davis
Mary Jo & Frank Emmons
Charles H. Evans
Chuck Evans
Bob Foote
Alfred & Dorothy Friedewald
Mary & Anson Gray
Demas & Twilia Griess
Merle & Annabelle Hafer

Wanda Hesalroad
Alice & Howard Hogan

Given By:

The Hermann Family
Richard & Daveta Brader
Richard & Daveta Brader
His Family
Jacki & Ed Champoux,
Christian & Rebecca Champoux,
Jeff & Kasey Champoux
The Redinger Family
Steve & Lesa Cropley
From Stein's, Davis' & Borrell's
Marcia & Michael Hogan
Georgie Evans & Family
Carole & Denny Storer
Jane and Our Family
Shoemaker / Friedewald Family
Carole & Denny Storer
Paul & Belinda Nuss & Families
Their Children, Grandchildren &
Great-Grandchildren
Steve & Lesa Cropley
Marcia & Michael Hogan

Emma & Emory Holloway

In Loving Memory Of:

Nicole Jensen

William & Claudina Jensen

Jerry

John & Dixie Kerr

Dr. Gerald & Gladys Kuehn

Hal Lainsou

Boyd & Mary Lou Leymaster

Loved Ones

Loved Ones

Loved Ones

Jane Ann (Kuehn) McCollum

Jim McDougal

O.J. McDougal, Jr.

Walter & Lenora Meyer

Darrell J. Nelson

David Northrop

Frank Northrop

Michele Northrop

Gideon & Ralph Nuss

Joyce & John Ohlsen

Our Parents

Our Parents

Our Parents

Our Son Jeremy

& Our Grandson Liam

Byron, Deb, Hannah & Nathan Jensen

Given By:

Byron, Deb, Hannah & Nathan Jensen

Byron, Deb, Hannah & Nathan Jensen

Family

Rob, Michelle, Ethan, Thomas, Abbie Kerr

Brad & Dixie Kuehn

Hermes, Bliss & Olsen Families

Their Children, Grandchildren &

Great-Grandchildren

Steve & Lesa Cropley

Marilyn Nielsen

Don Whitcomb

Brad & Dixie Kuehn

The McDougal Family

The McDougal Family

Richard & Daveta Brader

Kathleen, Steve & Andrew Nelson

The Northrop Family

The Northrop Family

The Northrop Family

Paul & Belinda Nuss & Families

Marcia & Michael Hogan

Dr. George & Colleen Adam

Cal & Jane Johnson

Doug & Marnie Soderquist

Rev. Bill & Janey Nottage-Tacey

George & Inez Payne

In Loving Memory Of:

Hubert & Betty Payne

Paul Payne

Ira & Edna Perry

Marilynn Sachtleben

Ome & Honor Shoemaker

Dr. Robert C. Smith,

Our Parents & Siblings

Grandma Julie Soderquist

Willard & Della Stein

Mary & Al Storer

Dennis Utter

Thelma & Milton Venter

In Honor Of:

3rd & 4th Grade Sunday School Kids

& Daveta Brader

Andrea

Steph Brader

FPC's Pastors and Staff

Margaret & Charles Hermes

Gretchen Lainson

My Family

Mary & Jorn Olsen

Our Family

Our Grandchildren

Pastor Greg & Staff

Payne Family

Given By:

Payne Family

Payne Family

Shirley Johnston & Family

Clyde Sachtleben Family

Shoemaker / Friedewald Family

Sally Smith

Nolan, Clara, Calvin

From Stein's, Davis' & Borrell's

Carole & Denny Storer

His Family

Jacki & Ed Champoux,

Christian & Rebecca Champoux,

Jeff & Kasey Champoux

Given By:

Jill Kramer

John, Sharon, Matthew, Michael Brooks

Jill Kramer

Rev. Bill & Janey Nottage-Tacey

Bliss & Hermes Families

Hermes, Bliss & Olsen Families

Flossie Sanderson

Chris Olsen & Erica Olsen

Cal & Jane Johnson

Don & Marie Rasmussen

Brian & Laurie Johnson

Staff at First Presbyterian Church Dr. George & Colleen Adam