

*First Presbyterian Church of Hastings*

*Communion Christmas Eve Service*

*Sunday, December 24, 7:30pm*



PRELUDE

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

arr. John Innes

WELCOME

Pastor Greg

CHORAL INTROIT

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!”  
Josh Brooks, trumpet

Family Choir

\*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! Wonderful Counselor! 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 Stein/Borrell 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

## PASSING THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you!

***And also with you!***

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

## ANTHEM

"He Comes to Us as One Unknown"  
Family Choir

Michael Burkhardt

## READING 1

Luke 2:1-20

(Announcement of the census that sends Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem; Jesus is born in a manger. The angel appears to the shepherds and invites them to find baby Jesus. Angels sing glory to God. 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

"Away in a Manger" (verse 1)

115

## HYMN

"The First Nowell" (verse 1)

147

## HYMN

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" (verses 1 & 3)

133

## READING 2

Matthew 2:1-12

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

## HYMN

"We Three Kings of Orient Are" (verse 1)

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**

*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.*

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

**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.*

**COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

Take and eat the bread when it is passed to you. Take the cup and hold it until the entire congregation has been served. We drink the cup together as a sign of unity in the Body of Christ.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**\*PASSING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

(To avoid dripping wax, please tilt the unlit tip of your candle to the flame)

*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.*

**\*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

***First Presbyterian Church of Hastings  
Sharing the love of Christ in the heart of Hastings since 1873***

**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 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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 Crophy  
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  
Emma & Emory Holloway

## 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 Crophy  
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 Crophy  
Marcia & Michael Hogan  
Byron, Deb, Hannah & Nathan Jensen

**In Loving Memory Of:**

Nicole Jensen  
William & Claudina Jensen  
Jerry  
John & Dixie Kerr  
Dr. Gerald & Gladys Kuehn  
Hal Lainson  
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  
George & Inez Payne  
Hubert & Betty Payne

**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 Crophy  
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  
Payne Family  
Payne Family

**In Loving Memory Of:**

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:**

3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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

Staff at First Presbyterian Church

**Given By:**

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

Dr. George & Colleen Adam