

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
Liturgist and Scripture Reader: Chase Johnson
Organist: Linda Vollweiler
Chancel Choir Director: Robin Koozer
Flautist: Sarah Wolf

**January 7, 2018, 10:30 a.m.
Baptism of the Lord Sunday**

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

PRELUDE "Prelude in G Major" Johann Christian Kittel

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT "Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire" Chancel Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 29)

The voice of the LORD is powerful;

The voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

May the LORD give strength to his people;

May the LORD bless his people with peace!

Let us raise our voices and proclaim God's peace;

Come let us worship our God of power and majesty!

*HYMN "Sing of God Made Manifest"

156

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we are here at the start of the New Year, and we are seeking your direction. Like the story we will hear of Jesus' baptism, we know that you look from heaven and see us exactly as we are. Like John the Baptizer, we know that we are not worthy to kneel at your feet, not ready to welcome your way. Forgive us, gracious God. Open our eyes and hearts to see your way of love. In Christ, stoop down to save us; loosen the ties that bind us to sin and set us free to love and serve you; in Jesus' name. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news of the gospel: As a voice from heaven said to Jesus, so God says to each of us: You are my beloved child, and with you I am well pleased. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and loved!

Thanks be to God.

*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 Pads and sign in to let us know that you were here this morning.)

ANTHEM “He Comes to Us” Michael Burkhardt

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Send down your Holy Spirit, O God—tear open the veil of heaven and speak to us as beloved children so that we may hear and believe the good news of your Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

1st SCRIPTURE READING – Mark 1:4-11

REFLECTION ON SCRIPTURE – Chase Johnson

2nd SCRIPTURE READING – Acts 19:1-7

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE “Baptism: Jesus’ reveal, our sign of grace”
Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett

*HYMN “Down Galilee’s Slow Roadways” 164

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From “A Song of Faith” of the United Church of Canada)
We sing of a church seeking to continue the story of Jesus by embodying Christ’s presence in the world. We are called together by Christ as a community of broken but hopeful believers, loving what he loved, living what he taught, striving to be faithful servants of God in our time and place. Our living of the gospel makes us a part of this communion of saints, experiencing the fulfillment of God’s reign even as we actively anticipate a new heaven and a new earth.

Before conscious thought or action on our part, we are born into the brokenness of this world. Before conscious thought or action on our part, we are surrounded by God's redeeming love. Baptism by water in the name of the Holy Trinity is the means by which we are received, at any age, into the covenanted community of the church. It is the ritual that signifies our rebirth in faith and cleansing by the power of God. Baptism signifies the nurturing, sustaining, and transforming power of God's love and our grateful response to that grace.

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

OFFERTORY "Air" from *Piccolo Concerto* Barry McKimm

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We give you thanks, O God, for every blessing and spiritual gift you have poured out upon us. Let the gifts of our lives be a source of blessing in your world, all to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

We thank you, God, for the bread of new creation with which we have been fed. We thank you, for the promise of hope found in this shared meal and the promise of hope in the birth, life, death and resurrection of your Son who taught us to share this meal. Now send us, abounding with your healing grace, to remember, love and serve and never cease until the world fills with Christ's peace.

*HYMN "Spirit of the Living God" 288

(During the singing of the final hymn, we will take a second offering to benefit Big Brothers/Big Sisters. The congregation is invited to come down to the communion table and place their offering in the basket.)

*CHARGE and BLESSING

*RESPONSE "In Christ Called to Baptize" (verse 4) 297

(The Congregation is invited to reach out and hold the hand or touch the shoulder of the person next to them as the choir leads us in the response.)

*POSTLUDE "Fanfare Laudation" Fenton Groden

Come worship with us next week and invite your friends and family!

Sunday, January 14

8:30 a.m.: Celebrate Band

9:15 a.m.: Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m.: Traditional Service with Calvin/Westminster Youth Choirs

Jesus: Man of Mystery

A six-part Epiphany sermon series on who Jesus is

As we explore Jesus' mysterious identity, we may discover more about ourselves and a purpose that causes us to live with a sense of hope and urgency.



- 1) Jan. 7: Baptism – Jesus' reveal, our sign of grace (Mark 1:4-11)
- 2) Jan. 14: "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" (John 1:43-51)
- 3) Jan. 21: An Urgent Mission (Mark 1:14-20)
- 4) Jan. 28: Extra! Extra! Read all about it! (Mark 1:21-28)
- 5) Feb. 4: Secrets (Mark 1:29-39)
- 6) Feb. 11: Exposed! Transfiguration revelation (Mark 9:2-9)



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 Dawna Whitcomb at 402-469-4805 or the church office at 402-462-5147.

Flowers are in loving memory of Dr. Robert Butz.

Greeters: Denny & Carol Storer

Acolytes: Keira Erickson, Laura Kate Oliver

Ushers (Team #5): Dale Behrens, Matt Fong, Gaylon Hermann, Jeff Hermann, Jessica Meeske, Todd Pankratz, Ken Stein

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

Nursery: Kim Bogan, Abby Shetler

Prayers for: Arnie Boehler, Judy Brown, 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.

Grief Healing Group

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings will be facilitating a group for people experiencing grief. The group will meet for six weeks on Tuesdays, 12:30-2PM, starting Tuesday January 16. Below is a brief description of the group written by the facilitator, Lanae Hall:

Life brings us all goodbyes - experiences of change and loss that carry with them grief, whether that is the death of a loved one, the end of a relationship, divorce, major illness, or a season of life coming to an end. Are you seeking spiritual meaning from your goodbye experiences? Looking for healing and wholeness? Find it in community with others who have experienced significant goodbyes, who are also moving through grief.

The group will use the book 'Praying Your Goodbyes' as a guide on our journey together. This journey will be gentle, safe, and rich with reflection, prayer, and healing. If you have any questions or would like to talk, please contact Pastor Greg.

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

This is the title of the new Heirs Apparent curriculum, which began today. 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.*

"Un-Hanging" of the Greens

We had **an amazing group** of workers turn out to "Hang the Greens," and the work went faster than ever! (THANK YOU!!) Let's see if we can get that same great turn out of workers to "un-hang the greens" so that this task can be fun and easy as well! We'll gather at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 13, and we'll celebrate the completion of our efforts with pizza, provided by the church. SEE YOU THERE!

Spanish Classes Continue on Thursday Nights

Anyone interested in learning Spanish is welcome to join in the fun on Thursday evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Annex. The classes are free, and all levels of Spanish knowledge are welcome. Invite a friend and try it out!

Make 2018 Your Year to Learn More about the Bible!

The beginning of a new year offers a great opportunity to bring intentionality to our lives. As you consider those New Year's resolutions for achieving better health, relationships, and career success, don't forget to consider ways of enhancing the spiritual part of your life as well! At FPC, we offer two weekly Bible studies: Tuesdays at noon, and Wednesdays at 7 a.m. Both studies are led by Pastor Greg, and both focus on the scriptures to be used in the upcoming Sunday's worship service. (The Wednesday morning group also provides free breakfast!) Check out either or both of these welcoming groups, and make 2018 your year to learn more about the Bible!

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.

This Week --- Jan. 8 – Jan 13, 2018

Mon, Jan. 8	12:00p-3:00p	PEO Ch GK Founders Day Dinner in Fellowship Hall
	5:00p-6:00p	HSO Meets in Anderson Conference Room
	7:00p-9:00p	Boy Scouts Meet in Basement Scout Room
Tue, Jan. 9	10:30a-11:30a	Staff Meeting in Pastor's Office
	12:00p-1:00p	Bible Study in the Parlor
	1:00p	Quilters Meet in Annex
	4:15p-5:15p	Global Mission Meeting in Kessler
	5:30p-6:30p	Congregational Life Meeting in the Parlor
	5:30p-7:00p	Trustees Meeting in Anderson Conference
Wed, Jan. 10	7:00a-8:00a	Bible@Breakfast in the Parlor
	4:00p-6:00p	WNL Activities (Pre-K thru 5 th Grades)
	6:00p-6:45p	WNL Family Time Meal (All Ages Welcome!)
	6:30p	Wood Carvers in Basement
	7:00p-9:00p	Deacon's Admin Meeting in Anderson Conference
	6:45p-7:30p	Chancel Choir Practice
	6:45p-7:30p	Cal/West Choir Practice (6 th thru 12 th Grades)
Thu, Jan. 11	7:30p-8:15p	Chancel Bells Practice
	7:30p-8:15p	WNL Bible Study/Fellowship Jr./Sr. High (6 th thru 8 th Grades)
	5:00p-6:00p	Personnel Committee Meeting in Kessler
	6:30p-7:30p	Spanish Class in NW Classroom, Annex
Fri, Jan. 12	7:00p-9:00p	Boy Scout Troop 200 Pack Meeting in Fellowship Hall
	10:00a	Mahjong Ladies in Youth Activity Room
Sat, Jan. 13		Home School Basketball Tournaments in the Annex

Hear, Share, Live the Story!

JANUARY



The stories of the *past*...

In January, the Forum continues to explore the annual "Hear the Story; Share the Story; Live the Story!" theme, this month featuring stories of local, national, and world history.

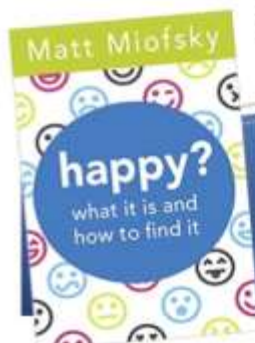
First, Rev. Bill Nottage-Tacey, Pastor Emeritus, will offer an historical, Biblical, and theological reflection on responses to life's disasters, with reference to local fires as well as the fire that destroyed the Jerusalem Temple and the two towers fires of 9/11.

As a follow-up to our celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we'll consider the Reformation's impact on Michelangelo, who painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel just prior to Luther's hanging of the 95 Theses. Later, when the shock waves of the Reformation were being felt in Rome, Michelangelo painted the altar wall of the Sistine Chapel. Comparison of these two works shows a marked change in the mood and spirit in the Church of Rome.

Finally, in observation of Martin Luther King, Jr., Day (January 15), we'll honor this famous preacher by exploring the role of churches in the 1960s Civil Rights movement. Churches have long felt the call to help shape a world in accordance with their understanding of God's will and to change unjust laws when they do not square with the moral universe. This talk is an historical examination of the roles churches played in the 1960s Civil Rights struggles in order to provide comparison with the role churches currently play in the context of contemporary racial inequality and unrest.

Forum Schedule

- 01-14-18 *The Phoenix Church: The Great FPC Fire of 1910 and its Aftermath*
Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacey
- 01-21-18 *Impact of the Reformation on Michelangelo's Works*
Dr. Turner McGehee
- 01-28-18 *Religion, Love/Hate, and Justice: The Role of Churches in the 1960s Civil Rights Movement*
Dr. Michella Marino



Heirs Apparent Class

No matter how hard we try, happiness can seem elusive. Even as we reach our goals, we set new ones, leaving happiness always out of reach. This study helps you discover that contentment isn't dependent on the "things" of life.

Sunday mornings at 9:15, Anderson Conference Room; Curtis Reimer, leader