

First Presbyterian Church Hastings



Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 11, 2018

PRELUDE "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" arr. Edward Broughton
Linda Vollweiler, organist

WELCOME Rev. Damen Heitmann

INTROIT "God is Here Today"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Who are we?

We are the half-asleep and world weary.

Who are we?

We are the wayward wanderers and pilgrim travelers.

Who are we?

We are the bumbling, the haphazard, and the making it up as we go along.

Whose are we?

We are Children of God, the Beloved, the Dust brought to life and loved.

*HYMN "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" 435

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, O God, that we cannot do it ourselves. Which pains us. It really does. We admit that we have nothing to offer. Nothing, that is, that you didn't give us. We depend on all that is around us. We need air to breathe. We require water to drink. We can't make it without others to care for us, and journey with us. And we cannot save ourselves. We need your grace and mercy. Forgive us, O God, for not realizing that we belong to one another. Have mercy for the moments we thought we could do it on our own.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

By Grace we are forgiven and restored.

We are made into new beings.

Let us rejoice in God's covenant mercy.

Let us embrace and reflect the love of God!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE "Glory Be to the Father"

581

*PEACE OF CHRIST

The Peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

(Greet one another by sharing the Peace of Christ with those around you.)

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

(Please pass the Friendship Pads and sign in to let us know you were here this morning.)

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Nancy Grams

ANTHEM

"A Call to Heaven"

arr. Matthew Compton

(Tunes: "Just As I Am" and "Will the Circle Be Unbroken")

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

As your word is read and proclaimed let us perceive it beyond hearing, understand it beyond knowing, and cherish it beyond loving. Amen.

1ST SCRIPTURE READING – John 3:14-21

REFLECTION ON SCRIPTURE

Teresa Canady

2ND SCRIPTURE READING – Ephesians 2:1-8

MESSAGE

"Unbreakable Covenants"

*HYMN

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

438

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

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

OFFERTORY "Prayer" Th. Salome

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Accept these gifts, O God. We offer them in thanksgiving for the gift of grace you have given us. May they bring hope to the suffering, peace to the lost, and joy to all. May they be used to further your work in the world. 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 "Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples" 757

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*POSTLUDE "Festive Voluntary" Henry Purcell

**COME JOIN US FOR WORSHIP NEXT WEEK AND INVITE
YOUR NEIGHBORS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS!
8:30AM – TAIZE-STYLE SERVICE
9:15AM – SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
10:30AM – TRADITIONAL SERVICE**

Covenant *Season of Lent
Sermon Series*

As we journey with Christ to the cross during the season of Lent, we will reflect on the theme of covenant, culminating in the ultimate covenant that God made with us through the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

February 18: God's Covenant with Noah (Genesis 9:8-17)
February 25: God's Covenant with Abraham & Sarah (Genesis 17)
March 4: The Joy of Covenant (Exodus 20:1-17)
March 11: Unbreakable Covenants (Ephesians 2:1-8)
March 18: Marriage Vows (Jeremiah 31:31-34)
March 25: Assumptions - Palm Sunday (Mark 11:1-11)



Help the young women of Pine Ridge Reservation.

Beginning on Women's Sunday, March 4 a special project has come to our attention. Many teenage girls on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, SD are missing up to one week of school each month because they can not afford Sanitary Supplies.

You can help us and these young ladies. A group of FPC women along with the Presbyterian Women's Committee are asking for the congregation to either donate supplies or help with money to purchase products.

We will be doing an ongoing drive for feminine hygiene products for the young women living on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

You can buy the products and bring them to the church or you can donate money and they will buy the products in bulk to be shipped to the reservation.

The supplies can be placed in Memorial Room starting March 4 and continuing in the future by leaving them in the office or leave a check made out to First Presbyterian Church with a note on the memo line Pine Ridge.

If you would like to read more about this concern you can read the Huffington Post IMPACT article from August 25, 2017.

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/what-its-like-to-be-a-teen-in-the-us-who-cant-afford-tampons_us_597216dde4b09e5f6cceddff

For further information contact
Kim Hermann, Margaret Marsh or Georgie Evans.

Announcements

The radio broadcast airs during the 10:30 a.m. service on KICS 1550 AM and is given in memory of Carl Sanderson by the Sanderson family.

Today's service will be broadcast live on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fpchastings and on Channel 181 Tuesday at 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 given in memory of Carl Sanderson by his family.

Ushers: Luke Brooks, LaVern Franzen, Chuck Hastings – Captain, Roger Sunderman

Greeters: Justin & Stephanie Brader, Dick & Daveta Brader

Acolytes: Cooper Feezell, Shannon Canady

Nursery: Kim Bogan, Abby Shetler

Prayers for: Lynn Barrows, Judy Brown, Ruth Caldwell, Fiona (Louie & Kristen) Eckhardt, Stacy Eddleman, Zelma Fobben, Celia & Wayne Ganow, Bonnie Grams, Carol Harrenstein, John Harrington, Irmise (& Elmer) Heeren, Jean Houser (Mary Kay LaMaster's mother), Kathy (& Steve) Illingworth, Linda Johnson, Richard & Wanda Langer, Mary (& Jim) Lewis, Carol Medsker, Bob Nedderman, Larry & Carolyn Nowka, Ramona Shetler, Erv & Betty Lou Siemoneit (Shirley Maul & Sandy Siemoneit's parents), Irva Smith, Elaine & son Jonathan Specht, Steve Thelen (Pamela Lay's brother-in-law), Beth (Peggy Thomson's sister), Audrey Watson and families.

Condolences to Jill Kramer, family and friends. Jill's sister Judy from Wayne, NE, died March 8th after a long battle with cancer. Church services will be held in Wayne and a graveside service in Hastings, to be announced. Prayers for Jill, Judy's close friend Gloria, and Gloria's three great nieces.

Congratulations to grandparents Kenton & Bonnie Grams for the birth of Marion Emilia Baumbart-Grams born March 7th to Brayton and Aaltje of Chicago, Ill.

March communion offerings will be for Sixpence Early Learning Fund: *The Sixpence Early Learning Fund is Nebraska's signature effort to put our state's youngest and most vulnerable children on the path to success in school and life. Sixpence promotes high-quality early care and learning opportunities that help parents guide the healthy development of their infants and toddlers. As public-private collaboration at the state and local levels, Sixpence delivers efficiency, fiscal responsibility and measurable results for our investment in the next generation of Nebraska's citizens.* -- Retrieved from & for additional information visit: <http://www.singasongsixpence.org/>

Easter Egg Hunt Candy Donations Needed: First Presbyterian Church will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 31 at 11:00am for children thru 3rd grade. Donations of individually wrapped candies and/or toys would be greatly appreciated. Drop off your donation in the common office area as soon as possible so that volunteers can begin stuffing eggs. Thank you!

Go & Serve registration forms are due on Wednesday, March 14.

They can be turned into the office along with the \$100 deposit.

ATTENTION: Mandatory Training for ALL First Presbyterian Church Child & Youth Adult Volunteers!!!!

First Presbyterian Church

Child Protection Policy Training

Who: All persons 18 years of age or older who desire to or presently work with the children participating in FPC programs and activities

When: Sunday, March 18; 11:30am–12:00pm (following worship)

Where: First Presbyterian Church–Sanctuary

*First Presbyterian Church seeks to provide a safe and secure environment for the children who participate in our programs and activities. Training of adults working with FPC children is a **MANDATORY** requirement of the FPC Session-adopted policy. Questions? Contact Stephanie at 402-462-5147 or stephanie@fpchastings.org*

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### **Register NOW for 2018 Summer Camp--3<sup>rd</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade, PLUS Intergenerational camps for adults/children age 5-12!**

Benefits of Christian Camping...

- Campers can grow in their spiritual development in a fun, positive environment.
- Camp is an extension of your local church ministry program.
- Campers engage with others—building on the connectional strength of the reformed tradition.
- Child development experts believe that residential camp experiences help children and youth mature socially, emotionally, intellectually, morally and physically. This is supported by research conducted by the American Camp Association.

Calvin Crest and Highlands Presbyterian Camp & Retreat Center Summer Camp brochures are now available on the Child & Youth Announcements Bulletin Board near the church offices. Scholarship Applications are also available.

Please contact Stephanie at [stephanie@fpchastings.org](mailto:stephanie@fpchastings.org) with any questions.

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PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN
EASTER EGG HUNT

Hosted By: First Presbyterian Church

Saturday, March 31 at 11:00am

Located at Alexander Park

(Just north of First Presbyterian church)

Alternate location in case of rain: First Presbyterian Church Annex Gym

Age Divisions: • Age 0-2 years • Age 3-5 years • Kindergarten-3rd Grade

**Please bring your own basket for collecting eggs.



For more information contact Stephanie at
402-462-5147 or stephanie@fpchastings.org

"The Mobile Phone's Impact on the Human Spirit"

A Forum class led by FPC
High School Students
Sun., Mar. 18, 9:15 a.m.



*Which mobile phone uses are enhancing life; which are draining?
Which apps facilitate true community; which foster a sense of aloneness?*

- Basic information on common apps will be provided.
- Reflections on positive and negative effects of phone use will be shared.
- Suggestions of apps to strengthen one's spiritual life will be given.



Thursday, March 15: Moms Group

Discussion topic: *Talking about sex*. Let's discuss ways to handle it when it's time to have "the talk."
Library, 12-1. Free childcare. Bring a sack lunch if you wish.

Houston Service Trip

An inter-generational service trip is heading to Houston, Texas March 18-24. Open to both college students and members of First Presbyterian Church, we'll travel by van to Houston. Once there we will partner with the Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church in their Hurricane Harvey recovery efforts. They have recovery efforts going in 15 different counties in the Houston area which we will assist as best we are able. We will be hosted at a church and provided access to showers, a kitchen, and a place to sleep. Most likely that means air mattresses though there is a slight possibility that other arrangements could be made if necessary. Also, we will probably be participating in more physical labor kinds of tasks but we'll know more about what we'll be asked to do in the next couple of weeks. In order to cover costs and make a donation to our service partners we are asking folks to contribute \$200 to participate in the trip. There is scholarship funding available and the cost includes meals, gas, and funds for a fun day before we leave Houston. Some have already indicated their interest but if you are interested or have other questions please contact Pastor Damen.

Mark Your Calendars: Parenting Workshop on April 14

Children don't come with instruction manuals, but expert advice, instruction, and encouragement is on the way! Make plans now to attend (and invite any community parents you know) our parenting workshop on Saturday, April 14, 1-5 p.m. The workshop will be led by Dr. Nancy Foster, professor and clinician specializing in pediatric psychology. Presented by the FPC Adult Ed Committee.



Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings – March 21st

Circle I – 9:30am: Hostess - Jean Barber; Lesson - Mary Jeanne Cooke

Circle II – 9:30am: Hostess - Mary Fisk; Lesson - Susie Graham

Circle III – 1:15pm: Hostess - Marie Rasmussen; Lesson - Katharine Davis

United Harvest: Offering Food and Raising Awareness

As we prepare for Saturday's United Harvest distribution, please remember three things:

1. Food is available, no questions asked, to anyone in need. Bring boxes or bags to receive.
2. Volunteers are needed! Last month, we were short on volunteers. Most are needed during the primary shift (9:30-12:00), but many are also needed for the clean-up shift (12:00-2:00). Your help is appreciated!!
3. United Harvest distributions are a venue for spiritual and personal growth.

Please consider the following thoughts, shared with us by a friend from FUMC.

"Language and how we use it matters, especially within the Christian community where the context is transforming lives. Language is constantly changing with the times. That should lead us to challenge and listen to each other because what has been normative in the past may not be acceptable today. Communication styles likely vary widely among the diverse group of volunteers and guests who make up the United Harvest ministry. Thus, with patience and awareness, we should all strive to avoid language which exhibits racial bias, labels people by what they lack, or indicates gender-based judgments or preconceptions. Such language would demonstrate failure to love our neighbor. An example from my educational background in the scientific arena fifty years ago illustrates how what once was normative is now considered sexist. The statement "A scientist should carefully document his experiments" would today more likely be written as "Scientists should document their experiments." When we label someone as "poor," do we emphasize their financial poverty and dismiss their value? When native English speakers hear Spanish being spoken locally, do we respond with curiosity or with judgment? In all matters which threaten to divide us—race, language, gender, financial standing, etc.—may we use language that instead brings to light the unity of Spirit which we have through God who created us all."

Langenberg Legacy Lesson Program Applications for Spring 2018 are now available on the glass shelf in front of the church office or online at www.fpchastings.org. Call the office if you'd like a copy mailed.

Mission Committee delivered 213 diapers to Catholic Social Services on March 8th.

2018 Directory is available 3-hole punched or as a stapled booklet and may be found in the church parlor or on the wooden table in the common office area. It is also available in .pdf format. Please contact Tarci at 402-462-5147 or tarci@fpchastings.org if you'd like a copy mailed or emailed.

This Week --- Mar. 12 – Mar. 17, 2018

Mon, Mar. 12	5:00p-6:00p	HSO Meeting in Anderson Conference Room
	7:00p-9:00p	Boy Scouts Meet in Basement Scout Room
Tue, Mar. 13	10:30a-11:30a	Staff Meeting in Pastor's Office
	12:00p-1:00p	Bible Study in Anderson Conference Room
	1:00p	Quilters Meet in Annex
	5:30p-6:30p	Congregational Life Meeting in the Parlor
	5:30p-6:30p	Trustees Meeting in Anderson Conference room
	5:30p-6:30p	Life Source Dance Class in NE Classroom, Annex
	6:30p-8:00p	Financial Peace University in the Parlor
Wed, Mar. 14	7:00a-8:00a	CCC Dog Obedience Class in NE Classroom, Annex
	7:00a-8:00a	Bible@Breakfast in the Parlor
	6:30p-8:00p	Wood Carvers Meet in Basement
	6:45p-7:30p	Chancel Choir Practice
Thu, Mar. 15	7:30p-8:15p	Chancel Bells Practice
	12:00p-1:00p	Women's Group Meets in the Parlor
	5:30p-6:30p	Session Meeting in Anderson Conference room
Fri, Mar. 16	6:30p-7:30p	Spanish Class in NW Classroom, Annex
	10:00a-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies in Youth Activity Room
Sat, Mar. 17	6:00p	Jr. High Lock-In begins
	UNITED HARVEST FOOD DISTRIBUTION at the Annex	

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
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacey

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