



**December 2, 2018, 10:30 a.m.
First Sunday of Advent**

HYMN SING Call out your favorite hymn, and we will sing a verse or two!
Pianist Mary Plock

PRELUDE "Avinu Malkenu" Sarah Wolf, Flute
This song is based on a Jewish prayer described as "the oldest and most moving of all the litanies of the Jewish Year. It makes use of two names for God that appear separately in the Old Testament: "Our Father" (Isaiah 63:16) and "Our King" (Isaiah 33:22).

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT "Fum, Fum, Fum" arr. Susan T. Nelson
Alleluia Bells (grades 1 & 2), Directed by Susan Oliver

***HYMN AND PROCESSION OF ADVENT BANNER**
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verse 1) 88

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE Wolford/Launchbaugh family
This is the first Sunday in Advent. Today we light one purple candle. This is the candle of hope. Advent is a time of waiting and hoping.

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness -- on them light has shined..."

For a child will be born for us; authority will rest upon his shoulders; and he will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Today we remember the prophets of old, who dared to speak of a child to come, unexpected liberator of the people, vulnerable incarnation of the Holiest of Holies, a new name for God.

Today we give thanks for the prophets among us, who bring to us surprising new visions of hope, who challenge us to think outside the box, who show us a future we never anticipated, a future full of hope, peace, love, and joy!

On this first Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of the prophets who renew our faith and remind us of what may be.

CANDLE HYMN “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” (verse 1) 82
(As the candle on the Advent wreath is lit, the congregation will sing this hymn.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

It’s starting already, Lord. It is only the first Sunday in Advent, and we are already feeling caught up in the pressures and stresses of the holiday season. There are signs all around us of God’s presence of hope among us. Instead, we’re stressed out and all too often seeing only signs of gloom and doom. Forgive us, merciful God, when we spend so much time stressed out and focused on the negative things in life. Forgive us when we see or seek the darkness of anger and fear and turn our backs on the light of possibilities, hope, and peace. Open our hearts once again to your redeeming love and transforming peace, for we ask these things in Jesus’ name.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Even in the midst of difficult times,
God is with us, bringing us hope and peace.

Receive God’s rich blessing of peace and hope. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and loved!

Alleluia! Amen!

*RESPONSE “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.)

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

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

ANTHEM “I Would Have Been Surprised, Too” Don Schlosser
Alleluia Choir (grades 1-2) and Praise Choir (grades 3-5), Directed by Tim & Teresa Canady
Alice Throckmorton, Accompanist

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your love discover hope; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

1st SCRIPTURE READING – Jeremiah 33:14-16

2nd SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 21:25-36

This is the Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

MESSAGE

“Anticipation and Imagination”

(The Chancel Choir, Directed by Robin Koozer, will sing “Small Dancing Light” by Taylor Scott Davis as part of the sermon.)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Written by Rev. Steve Garnass-Holmes)

We are God's. We belong to The One who creates all things, in whose image all people are made.

We are Christ's. He has loved us, healed us, called us, and anointed us with his Spirit. We belong to his birth, life, death and resurrection, and ministry.

We are the Spirit's. We belong to the church, the Body of Christ. God gives us the gifts of hope, anticipation, forgiveness, resurrection and eternal life, and the gift of participating in the healing of the world by God's grace.

As God's beloved, we devote ourselves to God and to God's will, wholly, joyfully, and with the help of Christ. Amen.

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

OFFERTORY

“Away in a Manger”

arr. John A. Behnke

Praise Bell Choir (grades 3-5), Directed by Susan Oliver

*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bless these gifts, O Lord, and help them to bring the transforming love you have given us into ministries of light, hope, and peace in our world. 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.

(All of the bread is prepared by volunteers with gluten-free ingredients.)

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 "People, Look East" (verses 1-4) 105

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

*CHARGE and BLESSING

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (verse 1) 88

*POSTLUDE 1 "Away in a Manger"
Pre-K & K Bells, Directed by Susan Oliver

*POSTLUDE 2 "The Perfect 10"

(*Indicates the congregation shall stand as they are able.)

COME JOIN US FOR WORSHIP NEXT WEEK &
INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS!

8:30 A.M. – No Early Service this week

9:15 A.M. – Sunday School, all ages

10:30 – Traditional Service with Choral Cantata

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 and Music Coordinator: Linda Vollweiler

Calvin/Westminster Choir Director: Linda Johnson

Praise/Alleluia Choir Directors: Tim and Teresa Canady

Praise/Alleluia Bells Choir Director: Dr. Susan Oliver

Accompanists: Mary Plock and Alice Throckmorton

Parish Associate and Spiritual Formation: Kili Wenburg

Ministers: Members of the Church

Associate Pastor: Rev. Damen Heitmann

Interim Director of Adult Education & Fellowship: Sharon Brooks

Chancel Choir Director: Dr. Robin Koozer

Chancel Bells & Calvin/Westminster

Bells Director: Dr. Byron Jensen

Church Office Administrator: Jean Matheny

Facilities Manager: Tony Calhoun

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacey

December 2, 2018:

The radio broadcast airs during the 10:30 a.m. service on KICS 1550 AM and is given in loving memory of David E. Northrop by the Northrop 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 Jean in the office at 402-462-5147 or jean@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.

2019 Offering Envelopes are located on the glass shelf in front of the church office and on the welcome stand in the Memorial Room.

December Communion Offering goes to Maryland Living Center

The Communion Offering for December will help our neighbors at Maryland Living Center, just across 7th Street. The Maryland Center is a transitional home for homeless youth, ages 16-21. The program provides guidance for functioning in community life, taking advantage of educational opportunities, preparing for employment and a career, and enhancing individual independent living. As a part of the transition, Maryland helps with apartment start-up items such as: towels, cleaning supplies, laundry baskets, small trash cans, and shower curtains. To donate any of these items, please bring them to a corner of the Memorial Room during December. If you have any gently-used furniture, please contact the Maryland Living Center at 402-834-3180.

Ushers (Team #4): George Howard – Captain, Susie Graham, Dixie McDonald, Gale McDonald

Greeters: Dick & Pat Kleiber, Darrel & Roberta Lloyd

Acolytes: Campbell Schukei, Claire Schwarz

Nursery: Kim Bogan, Andrea Franzen, Laura Peterson, Abigail Shetler

FPC Prayers for:

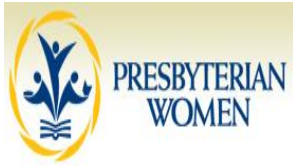
Judy Brown	Family of Jack Osborne	Sharon Harvey
Celia & Wayne Ganow	Elmer Heeren	Katharine Davis
Ryan Barker	Richard & Wanda Langer	Zelma Fobben
Ramona Shetler	John Harrington	Kathy (& Steve) Illingworth
Brett & Dana Miller	Georgette Smidt (Ted Schroeder's sister)	Arlene Kort
Georgie Evans	Linda Vollweiler	Carolyn Nowka
Steve Thelen (Pamela Lay's brother-in law)	Brooks Borrell (infant son of Kim & Jeremy Borrell, grandson of Bev & Ken Stein)	Beth Utley
		Jeff & Ashley Hermann

Please let us know if you would like to be added to, or removed from, the prayer list by calling the church office at 402-462-5147.

This Week at FPC --- December 3 – December 9, 2018

Mon, Dec 3	6:00p-8:00p	Mexican Dance Troupe in FPC Annex NW Classroom
	7:00p-9:00p	Boy Scouts Troop 200 in Scout Room
	7:30p-9:30p	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal in Choir Room
Tues, Dec 4	10:30a-11:30a	Staff Meeting
	12:00p-1:00p	Bible Study in Anderson Room
	1:00p	Quilters meet in FPC Annex
Wed, Dec 5	5:30p-6:30p	WAM Meeting in Anderson Room
	7:00a-8:00a	Bible at Breakfast in the Library
	11:00a-11:45a	PW Coordinating Team in the Library
	11:45a-1:45p	PW Luncheon/Business Meeting
	4:00p-6:00p	Pre-K thru 5th Grade Bible Study, Recreation Time, Choir/Bells (WNL)
	6:00p-6:45p	Family Meal Time (WNL) All are welcome!
	6:30p-8:00p	Wood Carvers meet in Church Basement
	6:45p-7:30p	Chancel Choir
	6:45p-7:30p	Calvin/Westminster Middle School and High School Choir (WNL) 6 th – 12 th grades
	7:30p-8:15p	Chancel Bells
Thurs, Dec 6	7:30p-8:15p	Middle School (6th – 8th) Youth Group: WNL Bible Study and Fellowship
	7:30p-8:15p	High School (9th - 12th) Youth Group: WNL Bible Study and Fellowship
	12:00p-1:00p	Soup Group for Women in the Library
	6:00p-7:00p	Spanish Class in Annex NW Classroom
	7:00p-8:00p	Cub Scout Den Meeting
Fri, Dec 7	10:00a-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies in Youth Activity Room
Sat, Dec 8	9:00a-1:00p	Hands Around the World Annual Christmas Sale
Sun, Dec 9		No early service
	9:15a-10:15a	Sunday School-All Ages
	10:30a	Traditional Worship Service with Choral Cantata

Hastings College Music Department “Christmas Extravaganza” is today, December 2, at 5:00 p.m. at the Masonic Auditorium. Performances will include the HC Choir, Band, Music Theater Ensemble, and Handbell Choir. The concert is free to the public followed by a holiday treats reception.



DECEMBER 5, 2018 LUNCHEON
PROGRAM: Adams Central High School Madrigals
Directed by Linda Johnson

Prepare Lunch, Kitchen Helpers - Circle 1

Set Tables, Centerpieces, Devotions, Nametags, Cashier, Huger Cups - Circle 2

Presbyterian Women's (PW) luncheons are at 11:45 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. A program and short business meeting follow the luncheon. All women of the church are welcome and encouraged to come for all or part of the meeting. Call your reservation to your circle telephone chairperson or to the church office by the Monday preceding the PW meeting.

Opportunities to Volunteer:

1) Christmas Eve Services: Additional Ushers and Greeters Needed

- Usher Team #4 will need additional volunteers for both the 5:30 and 7:30 services. Please contact Team Captain George Howard if you will be available to help.
- Additional Greeters will also be needed for both services. Please contact the church office if this is something you can help with.

2) WNL Recreation Time: Adult Volunteer(s)

We are in need of at least 1 adult volunteer for our PreK-1st Grade WNL Recreation Time. Recreation Time is held from 4:00-4:30 pm each Wednesday. Volunteers are asked to be at the church, ready to go at 3:55. This age group meets in the same area as the 2nd through 5th Grade group, but participates in their own activities. Below is a brief description of the WNL Recreation Leader role.

- Leads the recreation/craft/hobby activities that are to be offered.
- Encourages and affirms volunteers.
- Plans carefully for each session.
- Relates to the young people as a leader, friend, and role model.
- Prays regularly for each student and leader by name.

Please consider helping out with WNL Recreation Time. Any help, from weekly, bi-weekly, to once a month would be helpful. Contact Stephanie by email stephanie@fpchastings.org or phone 402-462-5147.

Meal Train for Kim, Jeremy, Briella and Brooks Borrell!!

Dear First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, NE family: We are so excited to welcome the newest member of our church family, Brooks! Mom is Kim Stein Borrell, Dad is Jeremy Borrell and Brooks' sweet big sister is Briella. Sign up on Facebook to bring the family a meal, or go to the following link www.mealtrain.com/trains/2orko8

Upcoming Forum Classes

❖ December 9 & 16: Christianity in the Middle East

This Advent, we recall that the Middle East was the birthplace of Christianity, and we consider what life is like for Christians living there today. Drawing upon his time spent in the Middle East and his work as General Manager of Presbyterian World Mission, Pastor Greg will illuminate the religious, political, and cultural context of today's Middle Eastern Christians.

Presenter: Pastor Greg

Advent Season at First Presbyterian Church

Together we will pray, shout and sing, "Come, Lord Jesus!" We invite you to participate in the life of the church throughout this holy season:

- ❖ December 2: First Sunday of Advent. Communion worship services at 8:30 and 10:30am.
- ❖ December 9: Second Sunday of Advent. One worship service at 10:30 for the Choral Cantata.
- ❖ December 16: Third Sunday of Advent. Worship services at 8:30 and 10:30am.
Christmas Caroling at 1:00pm
- ❖ December 23: Fourth Sunday of Advent. Service of "Lessons and Carols" at 8:30 and 10:30am.
- ❖ December 24: Christmas Eve Services: 2:00pm at College View Retirement Home with Choir, 5:30pm Family Service, 7:30pm Traditional Service, 11:00pm Evensong Service in the Chapel



The Choral Cantata on December 9 is a new work called *Small Dancing Light*. It is an original text that focuses on the themes of anticipation and revelation, built around the historical advent themes of hope, joy, love and peace. The author creates images of these themes in each of the texts, pointing toward the small dancing light in the manger. This Cantata includes congregational hymn singing of Christmas Carols as

part of the music, so come planning to sing and be moved on your advent journey. Each Sunday of Advent, the choir will share one song from the Cantata as well, so we will have the chance to really immerse ourselves in the music.

***We will also be distributing an Advent Devotional guide to each family, written by the composer of the cantata. So as a church, we will walk through the season of Advent studying, praying and worshipping together. Please pick up your family's copy following worship.*

Heir's Apparent Adult Sunday School

A new three-week series, starting today, December 2, "Who needs Christmas?" confirms that we still need Christmas and the world, indeed, needs Christmas.

Hastings Food Pantry Donations

During this time of the year, donations of paper products, soup, pasta, and canned fruit are much appreciated. The Food Pantry has been in operation since 1982 as an all-volunteer organization providing Hastings and the surrounding area with emergency provisions. The first Sunday of each month is a great time to fill up our boxes in the Memorial Room.

New Sock Drive

FPC is partnering with area churches to collect new socks for folks recovering from the fires in California. The shipment will be sent very soon, so help us fill our Sock Bin (all sizes welcome) by December 13. Please bring your sock donations to the designated bin in the Memorial Room. Thank you!

Hands Around the World Store - Christmas Fair Trade Sale

Saturday, December 8th, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.



All our Fair Trade products come from artisans who live in poor areas around the globe. Purchasing their goods helps them to feed their families, allows them to send their children to school, and helps improve their lives by becoming economically self-sufficient. Handcrafts for sale include: baskets, scarves, woolen hats and mittens, holiday decorations, gourmet chocolates, spices, teas, coffee, and much more. Purchasing products from the store also supports our

local mission, United Harvest. We give \$100 from the store, each month, to this outreach, which helps to feed those in need in our community.

Please help support the Go & Serve Mission trip.

The Bid Board Silent Auction, located in the Parlor, starts Dec. 2 and continues through Dec. 16. The items range from gift baskets to quilts. Check it out! Your support is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

The Giving Tree

The tags are on the Giving Tree! The Giving Tree is in the Memorial Room and supports clients of Assertive Community Treatments (ACT), people with severe and persistent mental illness and living in our community. Most are without family support and live on disability or nothing.

Please help support these people by taking a tag from the tree and returning gifts to the tree by Sunday, December 16. The gifts should be wrapped and the tag placed back on them. Monetary donations may also be given to the church office, with checks payable to ACT.

Sponsored by the Mission Committee

Come let us
Adore
Him





POINSETTIAS

Poinsettias may be purchased in honor of or in memory of a loved one. The cost is \$15 each. Money raised over the cost will be donated to Salvation Army Utility Assistance Program, which provides money to individuals and families, including children and elderly, towards utilities assistance for necessary electricity, water and gas.

As with all of The Salvation Army's programs, utilities assistance is an emergency service. To qualify, individuals and families must have received a disconnect notice and meet qualifications of need.

Your donation makes a difference. Please return your order form to the church office as soon as possible.

Poinsettia in memory of:

Poinsettia in honor of:

Given by:

I will take my poinsettia home after the Christmas Eve services: Yes No

I will leave my poinsettia at the church: Yes No

Homemade Cinnamon Rolls



Go & Serve Fundraiser

This year we are offering something new. You can pick up a pan of 6 baked fresh rolls OR you can request to have your rolls frozen and you can bake when you would like!

****If you request yours to be frozen, you will get a package of 6 rolls along with a bag of frosting.**

****All orders will be ready for pick up in the Church kitchen Sunday December 16th.**

****If you can not make that date let us know and we can make other arrangements.**

6 Cinnamon Rolls \$12 (one pan). Total number of pans _____

Baked _____ or Frozen _____

Name _____ Phone # _____