



**December 16, 2018, 10:30 a.m.  
Third Sunday of Advent**

PRELUDE "Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel" Linda Vollweiler, Organist  
arr. John Innes + Burton Bumgarder

WELCOME Greg Allen-Pickett

\*HYMN AND PROCESSION OF ADVENT BANNER  
"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (verses 1 and 5) 88

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE FPC Men's Group  
*(The tradition of First Presbyterian Church is to invite a family to light the Advent candle. Our Christian understanding of family includes all sisters and brothers in Christ who live in fellowship together and take care of one another. This morning, we invite members of our FPC family: Dale Behrens, Rich McKenzie, Jim Wenburg, and John Northrop to light the third Advent candle.)*

This is the third Sunday in Advent. Today, we light two purple candles and the pink candle. These are the candle of hope, peace, and joy.

***"And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.'"***

Today we remember Mary, innocent and powerful, sacred and scared, worried and waiting. She sings boldly when she might be meek; she bears her role in history with the confidence of a warrior; she is the beginning of a mighty revolution as the proud are brought down and the lowly lifted up.

***Today we give thanks for the "Marys" among us; unintended pioneers determined to do as God asks; fearless and fearfully stepping out in faith, and beckoning us to do the same.***

On this third Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of Mary, mother of God, bearer of the Way. Even in the midst of the unknown, with Mary we proclaim: Come Hope! Come Peace! Come Joy!

CANDLE HYMN "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (verse 1) 82  
(As the family lights the candle on the Advent wreath, the congregation will sing this hymn.)

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***It is getting more and more difficult, Lord, for us to keep our attention on the holy things. Our lives are caught up in the planning, parties, gifts, and other such things. The cries of those in need abound and we are overwhelmed by the need. Slow us down again, Lord. Cause us to look at the blossoming of the branch and remind us that your love is blossoming in our lives. This morning, as we hear Mary say "Yes!" to God's good news, help us to remember that God continually calls each of us to be those who will bear the good news to those in need. Forgive us when we forget to do that. Heal our wounds and bind up our spirits. Enable us to go into your world offering our lives, our gifts, and our talents for your glory. In Jesus' Name, we pray.***

### SILENT CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God's love and faithfulness have been at work in us!

***We are healed, forgiven, and loved.***

Rejoice in God's love and blossom.

***Alleluia! Amen!***

\*RESPONSE            "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

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### \*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.)

### BAPTISM

Brooks Willard Borrell

Parents: Jeremy and Kim Borrell

*(While the family is coming up for the baptism and the children are coming to sit around the font, the congregation will sing, "Jesus Loves Me.")*

### BAPTISM QUESTION FOR THE CONGREGATION

Through the act of baptism, this child will be received into Christ's church and this congregation has a role in his nurture. To that end, I ask the congregation, do you promise, with God's help, to support and pray for this child and his parents? And, do you promise to love this child and to assist him in becoming a faithful follower of Jesus Christ? If so, please respond by saying say, "We do." ***We Do.***

### ANTHEM

"Ding, Dong Merrily on High"  
Chancel Bells, Directed by Byron Jensen

arr. Brian Childers

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, peace, and joy; through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 1 and Matthew 25

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

MESSAGE Mary's Vision: Hope, Peace, and Joy!

(The Chancel Choir will sing, "Someday" by Taylor Scott Davis as part of the sermon.)

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Written by Rev. Nathan Nettleton)

**We believe in God, creator and lover of the earth, origin and destiny of us all.**

**We believe in Jesus the Christ— God coming to us in the fragile promise of a baby yet unborn— who emerges as the herald of hope, God's laughter in the face of despair.**

**He broke free the captives, and is leading the way to the land of promise where justice and peace will flourish.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, who implants the seed of truth, brings us to birth as the body of Christ, and empowers us to confront and transform all that is corrupt, degrading, and deceitful.**

**We believe in the coming reign of God. Announced by John the Baptist, and sung about by Mary, it has drawn near to us in Jesus, and will be consummated in the glorious marriage of earth and heaven, when all who have passed through the world's deep sorrow will be raised from the waters, robed in righteousness, and gathered into the joyous fulfilment of God's desire.**

**For the coming of that day on this day, we work and pray: Come, Lord Jesus, Come!**

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

OFFERTORY "What Child is This?"

Calvin Bells (grades 6-9) & Westminster Bells (grades 9-12), Directed by Byron Jensen

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

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\*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, peace, and joy in our 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	“My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout”	100
*CHARGE and BLESSING		
*BLESSING RESPONSE	“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” (verse 1)	113
*POSTLUDE	"Fantaisie" Alexander Guilmant	

*(\*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. – Celebrate Lessons & Carols

9:15 A.M. – Sunday School, all ages

10:30 – Traditional Service

**December 24 – Christmas Eve Services:**

**2:00pm Christmas Eve Service at College View Retirement Home**

**5:30pm Family Christmas Eve Service**

**7:30pm Traditional Christmas Eve Service**

**11:00pm Contemplative Evensong Christmas Eve Service in the Chapel**

***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 16, 2018:**

**The radio broadcast** airs during the 10:30 a.m. service on KICS 1550 AM and is given in memory of Waunita and Don Butler by family and friends.

**Today's service will be broadcast live** on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/fpchastings](http://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](mailto: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.

**Ushers Today (Team #4):** George Howard – Captain, Susie Graham,  
Dan Zabloudil, Vera Zabloudil

Dec. 23 George Howard – Captain, Susie Graham,  
Dixie McDonald, Gale McDonald

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve 5:30 Susie Graham,  
Dixie McDonald, Gale McDonald

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve 7:30 George Howard – Captain, Susie Graham,  
Dixie McDonald, Gale McDonald,  
Dan Zabloudil, Vera Zabloudil

Dec. 30 George Howard – Captain, Susie Graham,  
Dixie McDonald, Gale McDonald

**Greeters Today:** Clyde & Katherine Sachtelben, Mary Kay LaMaster

Dec. 23 Todd Pankratz & Jessica Meeske, Julia Thomsen

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve 5:30 Paul & Belinda Nuss, Eleanor Jorgensen,  
C.L. & Sandra Wimer,  
Don & Marie Rasmussen

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve 7:30 Scott & Willie Kummer,  
Kent & Bonnie Grams,  
Steve & Lisa Cropley

Dec. 30 Flossie Sanderson, Eleanor Jorgensen

**Acolytes:** Tethloach Duang, Tristan Propp

**Nursery:** Kim Bogan, Andrea Franzen,  
Laura Peterson, Leah Ratzlaff



**Don't miss this special church family event!!**

***Christmas Caroling: TODAY!***

Meet in the Fellowship Hall at 1:00 p.m., and then we'll carpool to the Kensington, College View, and Perkins, enjoying fellowship and spreading Christmas cheer.

All ages are welcome; all voices appreciated!

**This Week at FPC --- December 17 – December 23, 2018**

<b>Mon, Dec 17</b>	<b>6:00p-8:00p</b>	<b>Mexican Dance Troupe</b> in FPC Annex NW Classroom
	<b>7:00p-9:00p</b>	<b>Boy Scouts Troop 200</b> in Scout Room
	<b>7:30p-9:30p</b>	<b>Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal</b> in Choir Room
<b>Tues, Dec 18</b>	<b>10:30a-11:30a</b>	<b>Staff Meeting</b>
	<b>12:00p-1:00p</b>	<b>Bible Study</b> in Anderson Room
	<b>1:00p</b>	<b>Quilters</b> meet in FPC Annex
	<b>5:30p-6:30p</b>	<b>Trustees Meeting</b> in Anderson Room
	<b>6:45p-7:45p</b>	<b>Deacons Meeting</b> in Anderson Room
<b>Wed, Dec 19</b>		<b>NO Bible at Breakfast</b> in the Library
	<b>9:30a-10:30a</b>	<b>Circle I</b> (Hostess–Peggy Thomson; Lesson–Gayle Fandry)
	<b>9:30a-10:30a</b>	<b>Circle II at Mary Fisk’s home</b> (Hostess–Mary Fisk; Christmas Celebration)
	<b>12:00p-2:00p</b>	<b>Circle III in the Library</b> (Hostess-Marie Rasmussen, Christmas Celebration)
	<b>4:00p-6:00p</b>	<b>Pre-K thru 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Bible Study, Recreation Time, Choir/Bells (WNL)</b>
	<b>6:00p-6:45p</b>	<b>Family Meal Time (WNL)</b> All are welcome!
	<b>6:30p-8:00p</b>	<b>Wood Carvers</b> meet in Church Basement
	<b>7:00p</b>	<b>Chancel Bells/Choir, Tonight Only at the Barrett Center, Hastings College</b>
	<b>6:45p-7:30p</b>	<b>Calvin/Westminster Middle School and High School Choir (WNL)</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> grades
	<b>7:30p-8:15p</b>	<b>Middle School (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>) Youth Group: WNL Bible Study and Fellowship</b>
	<b>7:30p-8:15p</b>	<b>High School (9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>) Youth Group: WNL Bible Study and Fellowship</b>
<b>Thurs, Dec 20</b>	<b>12:00p-1:00p</b>	<b>Soup Group for Women</b> in the Library
	<b>6:00p-7:00p</b>	<b>Spanish Class</b> in Annex NW Classroom
	<b>5:30p-6:30p</b>	<b>Session</b> in the Anderson Conference Room
<b>Fri, Dec 21</b>	<b>10:00a-12:00p</b>	<b>Mahjong Ladies</b> in Youth Activity Room
<b>Sun, Dec 23</b>	<b>8:30a-9:15a</b>	<b>Celebrate Lessons &amp; Carols</b>
	<b>9:15a-10:15a</b>	<b>Sunday School-All Ages</b>
	<b>10:30a</b>	<b>Traditional Worship Service</b>

Please note...

*The Church office will be closed at noon, Monday, December 24, Christmas Eve Day through Tuesday, January 1, 2019.*

*We will be checking phone messages and email.*

## 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)	Robin Koozer & Family
		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.*

## Opportunities to Volunteer:

### 1) Christmas Eve Services: Additional Ushers 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.

### 2) WNL Recreation Time: Adult Volunteer(s)

We are in need of at least 1 adult volunteer for our PreK-1<sup>st</sup> Grade WNL Recreation Time held from 4:00-4:30 pm each Wednesday. Volunteers are asked to be at the church, ready to go at 3:55.

Contact Stephanie by email [stephanie@fpchastings.org](mailto:stephanie@fpchastings.org) or phone 402-462-5147.

## Go and Serve Fundraisers...

- ❖ Cinnamon Rolls can be picked up TODAY, December 16 in the Kitchen. (If you cannot make this work, please contact Tammy Nowka to arrange an alternative time.)
- ❖ Bid Board Silent Auction ends TODAY! Be sure to check out the auction in the Parlor for a final chance to enter a bid.
- ❖ Bake Sale in Fellowship Hall TODAY!

## Soup Group for Women

- ❖ Dec. 20 – Wrapapalooza! We'll eat lunch together and enjoy conversation. *12:00-1:00pm in the Library. Bring a sack lunch if you wish.*

## Heir's Apparent Adult Sunday School

A new three-week series, through the month of December, "Who needs Christmas?" confirms that we still need Christmas and the world, indeed, needs Christmas. Even if you missed last week, please feel free to join when you can!



**The next Red Cross Blood Drive** will be Tuesday, **Jan 8, 2019**, from 12 noon – 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendar now! To donate or volunteer your time, please call Erica Brooks, FPC Parish Nurse, at [402-469-9285](tel:402-469-9285) or sign up at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).



**Presbyterian Women's (PW) Cookbooks** are once again available just in time for that last minute Christmas present or as a keepsake memento of your church family! Cookbooks are located in the Memorial Room for the low, low price of \$5.00.

## 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 16: Christmas Caroling at 1:00pm TODAY!
- ❖ 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

**\*\*Complementary Advent Devotional guide** for 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 in the Memorial Room or during the week in the church Office.*

### Youth Special Attendance Recognition for November

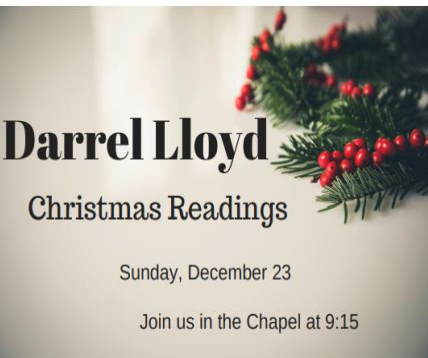
Children who routinely attend Sunday School and Wednesday Night Live will get a chance at a worship leadership role. Each month, all children preschool thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade with 100% Sunday School or Wednesday Night Live attendance will be entered into a drawing. Two children will be chosen each month. The children will get a chance to extend their faith growth to others by choosing to serve in one of the following worship roles:

- Acolyte (if under 4<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Usher
- Music soloist
- Call to Worship leader
- Prayer leader
- Children's Moment leader or helper

During the month of November, thirteen (13) children had 100% Sunday School attendance. Twenty-six (26) children had 100% Wednesday Night Live attendance. The two children whose names were drawn for November's recognition are Keira Erickson (Sunday School) and Faith Brader (WNL). Thanks be to God for our faithful attenders!

***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 return the gifts to the tree TODAY, Sunday, December 16.* (They will be distributed Monday, December 17.) 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



### Upcoming Forum Class

❖ December 23, 9:15 am /Chapel: *Christmas Readings*  
Selections from multiple genres will provide opportunities to laugh, reminisce, and more deeply engage with the experience of Christmas. This year's readings will feature writers from outside the United States.

*Presenter: Darrel Lloyd*