



***Forgive us, O God, because we got lost along the way. We'd have been here sooner, but we get side-tracked easily. "It wouldn't hurt," we thought "to stop off for just a bit of gossip. And how much time could a spot of greed really cost us?" Then we got back on the road, following the star and all that, when we noticed what seemed to be an intriguing combination of resentment, arrogance, and good old-fashioned fear. You know it's hard for us to pass those things by. No matter how quickly we want to get here, you know we just can't resist a little bit of sin here and there. Forgive us, O Lord, for the things that keep us from being fully present to you. Have mercy when we delay ourselves and show up a little late to join in the work of building your kingdom.***

## SILENT CONFESSION

*Question for contemplation:*

*What diversions keep you from living fully in the presence of God?*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Praise be to God, whose mercy knows no end.*

***Praise be to God, who lived among us and calls us God's own.***

*In the name of Jesus the Christ, we are forgiven and loved.*

***Alleluia! Amen.***

## \*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

Stephanie Brader

*(While the children come down, the congregation will sing, "Away in a Manger." vs. 1, pg. 114)*

## MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

"Two French Carols"

arr. Brant Adams

Mary Plock, piano; Sarah Wolf, flute

## 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.***

## 1<sup>ST</sup> SCRIPTURE READING – Isaiah 63:7-9

## ANTHEM

"Mary, Did You Know?"

Lauren Canady

## 2<sup>ND</sup> SCRIPTURE READING – Matthew 2:1-12

## MESSAGE

"And You Thought It Was Over"

## \*HYMN

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

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## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

***I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day, he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.***

## OFFERING

## OFFERTORY

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

Men's Chorus: A. J., David, and Kevin Ellerbee

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

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## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***What we place here is an homage, a sign of our deference to you. May the gifts that we bring and the gifts of our lives be dedicated to your service. May they bring aid to the suffering, hope to the lost, and peace to all. 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 "Who Would Think That What Was Needed" (vs. 1-2)

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## \*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*Response "Who Would Think That What Was Needed" (v. 3)

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\*POSTLUDE "Angels We Have Heard on High"

arr. Dale Wood

Linda Vollweiler, organ

*(The postlude serves as a musical blessing for worshipers as they transition out into the world.)*

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

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

8:30 –Contemplative Taizé-Style Service with Communion

9:15 – No Sunday School Today – Christmas Break

10:30 – Traditional Service

### ***First Presbyterian Church of Hastings***

***Sharing the love of Christ from 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

**Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacey

**Ministers:** Members of the Church

**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Damen Heitmann

**Parish Associate:** Kili Wenburg

**Chancel Choir Director:** Dr. Robin Koozer

**Chancel Bells & Calvin/Westminster**

**Bells Director:** Dr. Byron Jensen

**Church Office Administrator:** Jean Matheny

**Facilities Manager:** Tony Calhoun

**Bookkeeper:** Deb Hamburger

## **Mary, did you know?**

Mary did you know,  
that your ancient words  
would still leap off our pages?  
Mary did you know,  
that your spirit song  
would echo through the ages?  
Did you know that your holy cry  
would be subversive word,  
that the tyrants would be trembling  
when they know your truth is heard?  
Mary did you know,  
that your lullaby  
would stir your own Child's passion?  
Mary did you know,  
that your song inspires  
the work of liberation?  
Did you know that your Jubilee  
is hope within the heart  
of all who dream of justice,  
who yearn for it to start?  
The truth will teach, the drum will sound, healing for the pain  
The poor will rise, the rich will fall. Hope will live again  
Mary did you know,  
that we hear your voice  
for the healing of the nations?  
Mary did you know,  
your unsettling cry  
can help renew creation?  
Do you know, that we need your faith,  
the confidence of you,  
May the God that you believe in,  
be so true.

*Lyrics by Jennifer Henry*

*(inspired by the popular song of the same name by Mark Lowry [lyrics] and Buddy Greene [music])*

**Poinsettias Given In Memory of**

Anne Bohlke  
Paul & Belinda Nuss Family  
Dick & Daveta Brader and family  
Kathy Utter and family  
Brad & Dawna Whitcomb,  
The Nowka family  
The Northrop Family

Carl Sanderson's Family  
Steve & Lesa Cropley  
Hermes, Bliss, and Olsen Families  
The Hafer family

Doug & Marnie Soderquist  
Given by her children  
Marilyn Nielsen  
Shoemaker/Friedewald Family

The McDougal family

The Evans family  
Gale & Dixie McDonald  
Dr. George & Colleen Adam  
Dick & Pat Kleiber  
Sally Smith and family  
The Price family  
George & Jeni Howard  
Pat, Jamie & Bailey Hickok  
Don & Marie Rasmussen  
Richard & Linda Johnson Family  
Byron, Deb, Hannah, Nathan Jensen  
The Kerr family

Loved Ones  
Our loved Ones  
Brandon Brader  
Dennis Utter  
Don & Sally Whitcomb  
Larry Nowka  
Michele Northrop;  
Frank Northrop;  
David Northrop  
Carl Sanderson  
Loved Ones  
Hal Lainson  
Our parents and grandparents:  
Mr. & Mrs. Merle Hafer and  
Mr. & Mrs. Boyd Lemaster  
Our Parents  
Julie Soderquist  
Loved Ones  
Alfred & Dorothy Friedewald;  
Ome & Honor Shoemaker  
O. J. McDougal;  
Jim McDougal  
Charles Evans  
Dixie's brother, Mick Mizner  
In memory of our parents  
Louise, Chester, and Richard Dean Billings  
Loved Ones  
Herb Price  
Darrel Lloyd  
Jamie's Mom, Ginger Neuhart  
Loved Ones  
Our parents and Mike Ellerbee  
Nicole Jensen  
John & Dixie Kerr



**Poinsettias Given In Honor Of**

Hermes, Bliss, and Olsen Families  
The Reimer family  
Mary Northrop

Gretchen Lainson  
Patty Kneale and Rich & Judy Reimer  
John Northrop

## **December 29, 2019:**

**The radio broadcast** airs during the 10:30 a.m. service on KICS 1550 AM and is given by Les & Jo Seiler.

**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 Joan Shaw at 402-460-8195 or the church office at 402-462-5147.

**December Ushers (Team #4):** George Howard: Captain, Susie Graham, Dixie McDonald, Gale McDonald, Ted Schroeder, Lori Schroeder, Andy Barrows, Dick Brader, and Ken Stein

**January Ushers (Team #5):** Ken Stein – Captain, Dale Behrens, Matt Fong, Julie Thomsen, Kathleen Nelson

**Greeters Today:** Melissa Davis, Steve & Lesa Cropley

**Greeters Next Week (January 5):** Erika Brooks Family, Dick & Daveta Brader

**Acolytes:** Harrison Welsch, Tethloach Duang

**Nursery:** Kim Bogan

### ***FPC Prayers for:***

Jim & Mary Jeanne Cooke	Kristine Cook (Katharine Davis' sister)	
Cheryl Ann Elfond	Zachary, Noble, Cale Henderson	Family of Darrel Lloyd
Celia & Wayne Ganow	Irina Erickson's Mom	Janet Schawang
Norm Giesler	Jeff Howard	Joan Shaw and Family
Jim Hahne	Family of Lee Kreager	Alden Talbert (Bill's Dad)
Jim Harrenstein	Gretchen Lainson	Family of Al Behl
Jane Horton	Chris Wheeler (Carol Wheeler's son)	

*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.*

### ***In Memory of***

- ❖ Darrel Lloyd who passed away 11/28/2019.
- ❖ Al Behl who passed away 12/05 2019.

**January Communion Offering** goes to the Sunflower Project, formed in 2019 to inspire hope and contribute to individuals and caregivers affected by Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. Project Sunflower was established by Kelly Bonifas, a NE native who lost her mother to early onset Alzheimer's disease. The project provides education, awareness, emotional support, and funds to those individuals and caregivers fighting Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. They also assist patients and caregivers that reside in Adams County. Assistance is offered for such things as financial assistance for respite care, medications, medical bills, and household expenses.



## 2020 Offering Envelopes are Now Available

They can be found on the wood shelf in the hall outside the office as well as on the Welcome Stand in the Memorial Room.



## Taking Down the Greens

The joy of Christmas continues with fellowship on Saturday January 11, 2020, with the busy task of taking down the “greens” and getting all stored away for another year. Please mark your new 2020 calendar for this important morning of dedicated service with your church family. We will start at 9:00 am, bring a treat to share!

## This Week at FPC --- December 30, 2019 – January 5, 2020

<b>Mon, Dec 30</b>	<b>8:15a-9:15a</b>	<b>Walkers</b> in PEACE Center
	<b>1:00p-3:00p</b>	<b>Pickle Ball</b> in PEACE Center
	<b>6:00p-8:00p</b>	<b>Mexican Dance Troupe</b> in PEACE Center
	<b>7:00p-9:00p</b>	<b>Scout Troop 200-Boys/Girls</b>
	<b>7:30p-9:30p</b>	<b>Chorus of the Plains</b>
<b>Tues, Dec 31</b>	<b>8:15a-9:15a</b>	<b>Walkers</b> in PEACE Center
	<b><del>10:30a-11:30a</del></b>	<b>NO-Staff Meeting</b>
	<b><del>12:00p-1:00p</del></b>	<b>NO-Bible Study</b> in Anderson Room
	<b>1:30p-4:00p</b>	<b>Quilters</b> meet in P.E.A.C.E. Center
	<b>5:30p-8:00p</b>	<b>Pickle Ball</b> in P.E.A.C.E. Center Gym
<b>Wed, Jan 1</b>		<b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b>
	<b><del>8:30a-4:30p</del></b>	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>
	<b><del>7:00a-8:00a</del></b>	<b>NO-Bible @ Breakfast</b> in the Parlor
	<b>8:15a-9:15a</b>	<b>Walkers</b> in PEACE Center
	<b><del>9:30a-10:10a</del></b>	<b>NO-HC Chapel at French Memorial Chapel</b>
<b>Thurs, Jan 2</b>	<b><del>4:00p-8:15p</del></b>	<b>NO-WNL Activities</b>
	<b><del>7:00a-8:00a</del></b>	<b>NO-Retreat in the Real World</b> in Adult Ed Room
	<b>8:15a-9:15a</b>	<b>Walkers</b> in PEACE Center
	<b>12:00p-1:00p</b>	<b>Soup Group</b> in the Library
	<b><del>5:30p-6:30p</del></b>	<b>NO-Christian Ed Meeting</b>
	<b>5:30p-8:00p</b>	<b>Pickle Ball</b> in P.E.A.C.E. Center Gym
	<b>6:00p-8:00p</b>	<b>Mexican Dance Troupe</b> in PEACE Center
	<b>6:00p-7:00p</b>	<b>Spanish Class</b> in P.E.A.C.E. Center, NW Classroom
	<b>7:00p-8:00p</b>	<b>Cub Scout Den Meeting</b> in Fellowship Hall
<b>Fri, Jan 3</b>	<b>10:00a-12:00p</b>	<b>Mahjong Ladies</b> in the Youth Room
<b>Sun, Jan 5</b>	<b>8:30a-9:30a</b>	<b>Taizé-Style Worship</b>
	<b><del>9:15a-10:15a</del></b>	<b>NO Sunday School</b>
	<b>10:30a-11:30a</b>	<b>Traditional Worship Service</b>



## Presbyterian Women

**The next PW luncheon will be held February 5, 2020**

- ✓ Circle I will meet January 15-9:30am
- ✓ Circle II will meet January 15-9:30am
- ✓ Circle III will meet January 15-12:00 pm in the Library



**The next Red Cross Blood Drive will be Tuesday, January 6, 2020**, 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).

## Shop Hands Around the World



Our products come from artisans who live in poor areas around the globe. Purchasing their goods helps them to feed their families, send their children to school, and improve their lives by allowing them to become economically self-sufficient. Handicrafts include baskets, scarves, jewelry, woolen hats and mittens, holiday decorations, gourmet chocolates, spices, teas, coffee, and more. Purchasing products from the store also supports our local mission, United Harvest. We give \$100.00, from the store each month to this outreach, which helps to feed those in need in our community. We are open from 9:00-12:00 every Sunday.



## Food from the Heart

The women of our church have started a mission of giving to our friends and families. This mission is called Food from the Heart. Our plan is to get together on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month at 2:00pm to prepare the food for casseroles to be placed in the church freezers. Everything will be ready to go when volunteers arrive. It would be nice to have 5-6 people help prepare the meals.

Casseroles are available to give to anyone who just needs some “Food from the Heart.” To let Nancy Grams know you are coming to help prepare the casseroles or if you have any questions, call or text her at 402-705-8179



**Love to Walk?** The First Presbyterian Church PEACE Center gym is a great place to walk during the winter months. Shut out of the Mall? The Walkers are your solution from 8:15 to 9:15 Monday through Thursday.

No lectures here about your need to stay fit by walking as you all know that story by now. Afterwards, we have fabulous Café Justo and good conversation, but, hey, that's the bonus option.

And during the spring through the early fall, we walk in the beautiful Heartwell Park, which provides about a one-mile loop – and second loops are available at no extra charge. Interested? Call or text Denny Storer at 402 460 8804.



Sponsored by:  
First United Methodist Church  
First Presbyterian Church

Third Saturday of the Month  
Annex Building  
Lincoln and 7th St. Hastings

A mobile pantry is a traveling food pantry that delivers food to families in need through a one day distribution. Our goal is to provide food where there is a high need, but resources are limited. The mobile food pantry is available to all free of charge. The institutions providing the food are equal opportunity providers.

January 18, 2020		
M,N,O	May park and get number starting at:	9:45 AM
P,Q,R	May park and get number starting at:	10:00 AM
S,T,U	May park and get number starting at:	10:15 AM
V,W,X,Y,Z	May park and get number starting at:	10:30 AM
A,B	May park and get number starting at:	10:45 AM
C,D,E	May park and get number starting at:	11:00 AM
F,G,H	May park and get number starting at:	11:15 AM
I,J,K,L	May park and get number starting at:	11:30 AM

Those interested in receiving food should bring boxes or bags. Those interested in volunteering with the event should simply show up on the date of the next distribution and check in at the volunteer sign-in table. Volunteer shifts are 9:30-12:00 and 12:00-2:00. Plastic bags can be brought to the church office and donated to the cause.



**Soup Group for Women** meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, 12:00-1:00pm in the Library. Bring a sack lunch if you wish.



**Heirs Apparent Adult Sunday School** meets during the Sunday School hour in the Anderson Conference Room. Grab a cup of coffee and join us.



**Forum Adult Sunday School Class** meets at 9:15am in the Adult Ed Room

❖ January 12, 2020: Israel Trip Part 2



**Bible @ Breakfast** meets every Wednesday at 7 a.m. (except on Christmas Day) in the Parlor. Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh will be leading a study on the "Rise of the Apocalyptic Imagination." There is no specific study book designated at this point.



**Knitters and Crocheters** If you like to knit and/or crochet, join us for our knitting/crocheting *fellowship group*, the **Knit Wits**. We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month, 7:00-8:00/8:30 p.m. in the Parlor. Bring whatever project you're currently working on or stop in for pointers on how to get started. Join us for refreshments, fellowship, and fun!



**Donation Station Has Moved** Looking to donate items to Hastings Food Pantry, Happy Nappies, Pine Ridge, Brooks' Bookshelf, and/or SASA? The Mission committee has moved the ongoing collection tubs for these projects into the fellowship hall. If you stop by to take a look, you'll find clearly marked bins with lists of the items for which these agencies are looking. Thank you for your continued support of these vital ministry partners.



**First Presbyterian Church-Hastings has an "APP" for you!** Our directory of names, contact information, and corresponding family photos is ready for you to create your login at <http://instantchurchdirectory.com>. You will use the email address from

your 2018 listing to gain access. Only members will be able to create a login and load an app (from the app store) on their phones.

