

March 29, 2020 Fifth Sunday of Lent

PRELUDE

"Meditation" Linda Vollweiler, organist

William Faulkes, op. 133, No.3

(The prelude is an opportunity to worship God, a time of prayer, meditation, and reflection.)

WELCOME

-<u>x</u>

Greg Allen-Pickett

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Damen Heitmann

Coming together virtually this morning from places that have seen better times, God bids us to celebrate this day, a day full of new possibilities. Coming with our breath taken away by grief, The Holy Spirit breathes new life within us, Renewing our connection with God And with one another. Coming to worship, we seek a hope that will endure. Christ unbinds the fetters that hold us in fear, speaking to us now. May our worship build up our community for holy service. Come let us worship our God, who has helped us in ages past, who helps us today, and who promises to help us in the future!

OPENING HYMN	"Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"	687
	Erika Nielsen, worship leader	

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of life, present and promised, you are the One to whom we call, for you are the One who hears, and you are the One who acts, bringing us new life with your grace and love and power.

Forgive us when we allow our minds to drift and stay in places where hope seems far away. Forgive us when we forsake lively and risky faith. Call us to be agents of change in our world, for the bland conviction that all will be well. Remind us that you have called us to be the ones who will work with you to make it well. Renew us with your grace and ground us with your Spirit that we might be empowered to live, in word and deed, as testimonies to the power of your love over the grave.

SILENT CONFESSION

Questions for contemplation: When have I forgotten or ignored God's promises this week? When have I failed to let God work through me to make the world a better place?

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The God we serve is the God of life,

The God of hope, the God of new beginnings— even for dried-up bones and shattered dreams.

That rattling of bones in Ezekiel's vision may be heard as the shackles that once held us down in fear, sin, prejudice, and guilt.

With the power of life, God defies these deadly entanglements!

This we trust, and by this we live. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and loved!

582

Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE	"Glory to God"	
	Erika Nielsen, worship leader	

*PEACE OF CHRIST The Peace of Christ be with you! *And also with you!*

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TIME WITH CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

In unsettling times, let us rest upon your eternal word. In an uncertain hour, let us receive again your wisdom and truth that light our path and serve as a lamp unto our feet.

1ST SCRIPTURE READING – Psalm 130

SOLO

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" *Lucy Nielsen, flute*

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

The Psalmist says, "Out of the depths, I cry to you O Lord… I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word, … I hope;" What am I crying out to God this week, or where have I found hope?

(During the anthem, a prompt will display on the screen. You are invited to respond to the prompt via the comments section on the livestream. Those comments or stories will then be incorporated into the prayers of the people later in the service.)

2 ND SCRIPTURE R	EADING – Ezekiel 37:1-14	
MESSAGE	"When All Hope Seems Lost, God Revives"	Greg Allen-Pickett
*HYMN	"Breathe on Me, Breath of God" Erika Nielsen, worship leader	286

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From the PC(USA) Brief Statement of Faith, 1991)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all people to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of people long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY	"Be Thou My Vision" Irish Melody/arr. Edward Bro	oughton
*DOXOLOGY	"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" Erika Nielsen, worship leader	606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

From your hands, O God, come the blessings that make life possible, even the very gift of life itself. In gratitude and thanks, receive from our hands this portion of our labors.

By your Spirit's leading, may we use these gifts to bless the lives of others with the assurance of love, the promise of hope, and the course of justice. This we do to your glory. 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	"Hymn of Promise"	250
	Erika Nielsen, worship leader	-

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*RESPONSE

"We Are the Church Together"

POSTLUDE

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

(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.)

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings Sharing the love of Christ from the heart of Hastings since 1873

Head of Church: Jesus ChristMinisters: MedSenior Pastor: Rev. Greg Allen-PickettAssociate PastorDirector of Children & FamilyParish Associate PastorMinistries: Stephanie BraderChancel ChoiOrganist and Music Coordinator: Linda VollweilerChancel BellsCalvin/Westminster Choir Director: Linda JohnsonBells DirectorPraise/Alleluia Choir Directors: Tim and Teresa CanadyChurch OfficePraise/Alleluia Bells Choir Director: Dr. Susan OliverFacilities MarAccompanists: Mary Plock and Alice ThrockmortonBookkeeper: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



5 Time, like an ever rolling stream, bears all our years away; they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day. 6 Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home. SERVICE MUSIC







SERVICE MUSIC



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

"Stay at Home" Traditional Worship Service Broadcast live

10:30 a.m. on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/fpchastings</u> 10:30 a.m. service on KICS 1550 AM

"How are we going to celebrate Palm Sunday?" you may ask. Look at the schedule for Holy Week for details.

March 22, 2020

The radio broadcast airs during the 10:30 a.m. service on KICS 1550 AM and is given in memory of loved ones.

Flowers are given by Les and JoAnn Seiler.

Today's service will be broadcast live on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/fpchastings</u> 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 <u>jean@fpchastings.org</u>.

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.

Looking for a way to give during our time of "Stay at Home" Church? The church counts on your giving to carry on its work. As you participate in "Stay at Home" Worship, please mail your donation in, drop by the church office during the week, sign up for electronic fund transfers, or give on-line at: <u>https://fpchastings.org/give-online/</u> In the days and weeks to come the church will continue to play a vital role in responding to this virus, just as we did with the flood relief efforts in Nebraska last year. Thank you for your continued support and provision in this time.

The Allen-Pickett Family	FPC Prayers for:						
Jim & Mary Jeanne Cooke	Melba Trehern (Lisa Unger's Mom)	Alana DeBellis & family					
Jim Duval	Tom Kubicka (Chris Junker's Dad)	Family of Celia Ganow					
Cheryl Ann Elfond	Kristine Cook (Katharine Davis' sister)	Jeff Howard					
Jane Horton	Chris Wheeler (Carol Wheeler's son)	Irina Erickson's Mom					
Jim Hahne	Elaine Schumacher (Vicki Howard's Mom)	Gretchen Lainson					
Everly Hogan	Jack Stinson (Julie Thomsen's Dad)	Jim Harrenstein					
Janet Schawang	Georga & Duane Ochsner	Ben & Joyce Ore					
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 --- March 30 – April 5, 2020

Mon, Mar 30	12:00p-6:00p	Red Cross Blood Drive
		"Monday Check-in" Communication from
		Pastor Greg and Pastor Damen
Tues, Mar 31	10:30a-11:30a	Staff Meeting via ZOOM Conferencing
	12:00p-1:00p	Bible Study via ZOOM Conferencing
Wed, Apr 1	9:30a-10:10a	HC Chapel at French Memorial Chapel
	11:00a-11:45a	PW Coordinating Team
		"Kid's Corner" Communication from
		Stephanie Brader
Fri, Apr 3		"Friday Feature" Communication
Sun, Apr 5	10:30a	"Stay at Home" Worship Service
		Palm Sunday
		See Holy Week Schedule for SPECIAL details



First Presbyterian Church, Hastings

April 5 – Palm Sunday

♥ 10:30 a.m. Car Procession and "Stay at Home" Worship Service (Pending approval, we will organize a procession of vehicles through town with palm branches, stopping to pray at various sites. You can join the car procession or stay at home and join us at 10:30 via radio on KICS 1550 AM or on Facebook Live. You can also worship on Channel 181 on Tuesday at 1:00 pm or Sunday at 9:00am.)

April 8 – Wednesday of Holy Week

 WNL In-Person Activities Temporarily Suspended (We follow the school closing schedule. As long as our schools are closed, WNL In-Person will be suspended. Please keep an eye out for our "Virtual Wednesday Night Live" posts that will be sent out by email and posted on social media each week.)

April 9 – Maundy Thursday (Session will determine whether this service will be "In-Person" or "Stay-at-home" on April 1)

 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service (This is a service that reflects on Christ's command to "Love one another as I have loved you." It includes communion and an optional foot-washing ritual.)

April 10 – Good Friday (Session will determine whether these services will be "In-Person" or "Stay-at-home" on April 1)

- 12:00 p.m. and 7 p.m. Good Friday Service (This is a service that reflects on Christ's crucifixion.)
- 8:00 p.m. Easter Prayer Vigil in the Chapel or from home (continues until 6:30 a.m. Easter Sunday) (Individuals or families can sign up for 1 hour time slots to hold a prayer vigil between the end of the Good Friday Service and Easter Morning. Prayer resources are available in the chapel. We hold vigil during the time between Christ's death and resurrection, praying for ourselves, our community, and our world.)

April 11 – Holy Saturday (Session will make a decision about whether or not to suspend these activities on April 1)

 10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt at Alexander Park (North of the church) Alternate location in case of rain: FPC PEACE Center Gym
Age Divisional - Age of grant - Age of the church of Credo

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

April 12 – Easter Sunday (Session will make a decision about Easter worship services on April 1)

April Communion Offering goes to the Maryland Living Center (MLC) of Hastings. The mission of MLC is to provide an empowering life experience in a stable, safe, and secure living and learning environment, for homeless or transitioning youth. MLC is a permanent housing facility that aims to successfully transition homeless and aged-out youth, ages 16-21 years old, into independent living within 12-18 months.



Easter Egg Hunt Candy Donations Needed

First Presbyterian Church will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 11, at 10:00 am for children through 2nd grade. Donations of individually wrapped candies and/or toys would be greatly appreciated. Drop off your donation in the office workroom as soon as possible so that volunteers can begin stuffing eggs. Thank you

in advance for your help in making this event a success. Questions? Contact Stephanie Brader at stephanie@fpchastings.org or 402-462-5147



Presbyterian Women and Church Women United are collecting items for the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Emergency Cleanup Buckets. Information can be found at the table in the Memorial Room. Questions? Call Nancy Grams for the answers.

Easter Prayer Vigil April 10-12

Beginning after Good Friday Evening Service until 6:30 a.m. Easter Sunday

Please sign up for times in the Memorial Room

Here are the shareable links for the Easter Vigil and for submitting Prayer Requests **Prayer Vigil Signup:**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1VRByn2bGZ6q4SsjYdc5VH7mktPXAW8Zr2fos4qeHsA8/vi ewform?edit requested=true

Prayer Requests:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/13qF4FkZJ 9a3VdVFnoKyvE4ifoachseA/view?usp=s haring



The next Red Cross Blood Drive will be Monday, March 30,

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 or sign up at

www.redcrossblood.org.



Sponsored by: First United Methodist Church First Presbyterian Church



Third Saturday of the Month Annex Building

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

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

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.



2020 VBS Volunteers Needed

First Presbyterian Church--Hastings, NE

We are preparing for two amazing Vacation Bible School offerings again this year—our Traditional VBS and our Special-Needs VBS.

We are using Cokesbury's Knight of North Castle VBS. North Castle is hidden in a frozen land. The King's valiant Knights are on a quest in search of the King's Armor. But the armor isn't what they think it is.

Knights of North Castle VBS invites children to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of God's power.

They'll explore Old and New Testament stories and discover different pieces of protective armor—the Belt of Truth, the Breastplate of Justice, the

Shield of Faith, and the Helmet of Salvation—at work in the lives of familiar Bible characters, and they will explore how that armor works in their own lives as they follow and serve God.

Our **Traditional VBS** will be held

Monday, June 1- Thursday, June 4, from 9:00am-12:00pm

Our Special-Needs VBS will be held

Monday, June 1 – Wednesday, June 3, from 1:00pm-3:00pm

It is our prayer that God has VBS in His plan for your life! We know Jesus will work through YOU at VBS. Would you prayerfully consider serving in VBS? Please register SOON as a volunteer at <u>https://fpchastings.org/children/</u>. Please contact Stephanie at <u>stephanie@fpchastings.org</u> or 402-462-5147 with any questions or if you'd like a printed registration form.

EASTER LILIES

Easter lilies may be purchased in honor of, or in memory of, a loved one. The cost is \$12 each. Money raised over the cost will be donated to Adams/Clay County ARC (Advocate for the Rights of Citizens).



Lily in memory of: _____

Lily in honor of: _____

Given by: _

This year, **All lilies will be delivered to members of the church. They will NOT be available to take home.

KID'S CORNER

(also located on Facebook)

Ezekiel and the Valley of the Dry Bones

1. Who picked the prophets and told them what to say?



http://kidsbibledebjackson.blogspot.com/ ~ Graphics @ www.clker.com



Name:

Class:

Date:

Ezekiel 37:1-14--Valley of Dry Bones

Secret Code)

Decode the secret code.

The secret message is written in symbols. In the code key at the bottom of the page you can find what each symbols means. Write the letter above the symbol and you can read the secret message.

Good luck!



secret-code

www.edu-games.org

Name: Created with TheTeachersCorner.net Word Search Maker

Ezekiel 37:1-14--Valley of Dry Bones Locate the given words in the grid, running in one of eight possible directions horizontally, vertically, or diagonally.

в	х	z	v	Y	х	т	Р	Y	н	F	L	J	м	L	А	F	Q	U	Р
х	R	Р	L	т	н	F	в	R	v	ī	Р	F	С	D	z	L	в	z	х
L	С	в	R	w	т	v	Q	М	0	ī	т	н	z	Q	0	R	С	L	F
Ν	н	z	С	0	F	М	z	т	s	Ρ	v	v	Ν	v	Е	G	к	G	Y
Q	s	F	Q	J	М	v	R	G	х	Ρ	н	С	Р	Α	к	С	С	в	Ν
х	0	w	С	0	Α	T	в	к	Р	к	Y	Е	т	Ζ	L	т	Ν	в	Q
F	М	т	Ν	L	М	в	s	Ν	0	Ρ	Ν	н	s	Ν	Е	s	х	Ν	0
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М	s	Ν	т	s	R	М	D	В	R	Х	L	J	в	0	Ν	Е	S	М	0
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EZEKIEL ISRAELITES PROPHESY CAPTIVE					B		LON					VAI GO	NES LLE D AEL	(

Dry Bones (Cedarmont Kids)

Ezekiel cried, "Dem dry bones!" Ezekiel cried, "Dem dry bones!" Ezekiel cried, "Dem dry bones!" "Oh, hear the word of the Lord."

The foot bone connected to the leg bone, The leg bone connected to the knee bone, The knee bone connected to the thigh bone, The thigh bone connected to the back bone, The back bone connected to the neck bone, The neck bone connected to the head bone, Oh, hear the word of the Lord!

Dem bones, dem bones gonna walk aroun' Dem bones, dem bones, gonna walk aroun' Dem bones, dem bones, gonna walk aroun' Oh, hear the word of the Lord.

The head bone connected to the neck bone, The neck bone connected to the back bone, The back bone connected to the thigh bone, The thigh bone connected to the knee bone, The knee bone connected to the leg bone, The leg bone connected to the foot bone, Oh, hear the word of the Lord!

Dry Bones Skeleton Crafts

Skeletons are the perfect craft to go with this Bible verse.

There are two versions of this: a mixed media paint-googly eyes-construction paper skeleton craft, and a Q-tip skeleton craft.

Material Needed

- glue
- paper
- · paint
- · googly eyes
- crayons
- · Q-tips (for the Q-tip skeleton)

Instructions

Super simple. Glue your paper bone, or your paper skull on your paper, and then build your skeleton (with paint or Q-tips) around it.

