



# First Presbyterian Church of Hastings

July 19, 2020

## PRELUDE

“Here I Am to Worship”

Tim Hughes/arr. David Nevis

Linda Vollweiler, piano

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

## WELCOME

Greg Allen-Pickett

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Damen Heitmann

*Has it been a tough few weeks since we last met in this park?*

***So much has happened, some of it good, some of it not so good.***

*The Lord has been with you in all that has happened.*

***We need to seek and feel the loving presence of God.***

*Take time this morning to open your eyes and see God’s wondrous love active in your life.*

***Lord, help us to take our focus away from ourselves and place it on you.***

***Let us seek your presence here this morning and every day of our lives.***

***Come, let us worship God!***

## OPENING SONG “God Welcomes All” & “Let Us Build A House”

Lily Kingsley, vocals; Mary Plock, piano

Linda Johnson directs the Calvin/Westminster Choir to sing #399 each year as an introit. Imagine the sounds of their voices singing, “God welcomes all, strangers and friends: God’s love is strong, and it never ends.” The modern hymn, #301, is another reminder that our church is not a building but a community bound together by our love of peace and justice.

*(Due to COVID-19 and the threat of disease transmission through aerosolized particles that are expelled during signing, we will not be singing out loud during our service. You are invited to let the special music help you worship and know God this morning.)*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***Patient Lord, it is so easy for us to focus on all the things that are wrong with other people. We spend much time and energy focusing on the worst, failing to see your image in others, leaving behind the possibilities of hope, redemption, and reconciliation. Ease our hearts, O Lord. Forgive our willingness to get caught up in the negative. Direct our steps toward positive actions and interactions that will produce growth and peace and demonstrate authentic love. We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ.***

## QUESTIONS AND SILENT CONFESSION

*When have I failed to see the image of God in other people?*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*God's seeds of love have already been sown in our midst.*

***Come and see the love of God outpoured for us!***

*You are God's beloved ones. Come, live in the light of God. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and loved!*

***Alleluia! Amen.***

## RESPONSE OF PRAISE

### \*PEACE OF CHRIST

*The Peace of Christ be with you!*

***And also with you!***

*(In order to reduce the risk of disease transmission, please do not shake hands or hug people outside of your immediate family. Instead, maintain proper social distance, look someone in the eyes and hold their gaze. Then share peace with them by holding your hand to your chest and bowing your head to them, or share some other appropriate sign)*

## SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

***Lord, we wonder about you. We look around us at the mighty power and majesty of nature, and we give thanks for your presence and love. May we feel that same closeness to you as your holy word is read and proclaimed to us this morning so that in our hearing we may come to know and love you more and learn to love one another better. Amen.***

### 1<sup>ST</sup> SCRIPTURE READING – Genesis 1:26-27 (CEB)

### ANTHEM

"Christ Be Our Light"  
*Mary Plock, piano*

*Bernadette Farrell*

### 2<sup>ND</sup> SCRIPTURE READING – 1 John 3:1-3, Galatians 3:26-29 (CEB)

### MESSAGE

"When God made you and me..."

Greg Allen-Pickett

Part of the "Summer Sermon Song Series"

Song "When God Made Me" by Neil Young, prerecorded by Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh

"When God Made Me" by Neil Young

*Was he thinkin' about my country, Or the color of my skin?*

*Was he thinkin' 'bout my religion, And the way I worshipped him?*

*Did he create just me in his image, Or every living thing?*

*When God made me, When God made me*

*Was he planning only for believers, Or for those who just have faith?*

*Did he envision all the wars, That were fought in his name?*

*Did he say there was only one way, To be close to him?*

*When God made me, When God made me*

*Did he give me the gift of love, To say who I could choose?*

*Did he give me the gift of voice, So some could silence me?*

*Did he give me the gift of vision, Not knowing what I might see?*

*Did he give me the gift of compassion, To help my fellow man?*

*When God made me, When God made me*

SONG

“For Everyone Born”

by Shirley Erena Murray

Linda Vollweiler, piano

*For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread,  
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead,  
and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace, yes,  
God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!*

*For woman and man, a place at the table, revising the roles, deciding the share,  
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power, for woman and man, a system that's fair,  
and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace:  
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!*

*For young and for old, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in the song,  
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for young and for old, the right to belong,  
and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace:  
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!*

*For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be,  
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for everyone born, the right to be free,  
and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace:  
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From the 2006 “Song of Faith” from the United Church in Canada)**  
***Finding ourselves in a world of beauty and mystery, of living things,  
diverse and interdependent, of complex patterns of growth and  
evolution, of subatomic particles and cosmic swirls, we sing of God the  
Creator, the Maker and Source of all that is.***

***Each part of creation reveals unique aspects of God the Creator, who is  
both in creation and beyond it. All parts of creation, animate and  
inanimate, are related. All creation is good.***

***We sing of the Creator, who made humans to live and move and have  
their being in God. In and with God, we can direct our lives toward right  
relationship with each other and with God.***

***We can discover our place as one strand in the web of life.***

***We can grow in wisdom and compassion.***

***We can recognize all people as kin.***

***Made in the image of God, we yearn for the fulfillment that is life in God.  
Amen.***

OFFERING

*(For the health and safety of our members, we will not pass a plate or collect gifts during  
the offering. You are invited to give by dropping your offering at the church, mailing it in,  
or giving on-line: <https://fpchastings.org/give-online/>)*

OFFERTORY

"Peace"

Stanton Lanier

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***May these gifts, and our lives, be used to create compassion, justice, and  
joy in our community and 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.***

CLOSING SONG                    “In Christ There Is No East or West”                    *Alexander Reinagle*

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple,  
The church is not a resting place, the church is a people.  
I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together!  
All who follow Jesus, all around the world, yes, we're the church together!

\*POSTLUDE                    “Let There Be Peace on Earth”                    *Sy Miller/arr. Dan Coates*  
*Linda Vollweiler, piano*

*(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!

“Stay at Home” Traditional Worship Service (at least through July 31<sup>st</sup>)

**Broadcast live**

10:30 a.m. on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/fpchastings](http://www.facebook.com/fpchastings)  
*(Please note, you do not need a Facebook account to view the service.)*

10:30 a.m. service on KICS 1550 AM

***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

**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

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

**July 19, 2020**

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

**Flowers** are given in memory of our parents by Marnie and Doug Soderquist.

**Today's service will be broadcast**

- live on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/fpchastings](http://www.facebook.com/fpchastings)  
(You don't need to have an account to watch.)
- on the radio during Sunday service at 10:30 a.m. on KICS 1550 AM.
- on Channel 181 Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. and Sunday at 9:00 a.m.
- at Good Samaritan Village, the 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).



**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 take time to

1. mail your donation in,
2. drop by the church and leave your offering in the new locked "tithing box" located on the second brick column under the portico.
3. sign up for electronic fund transfers,
4. or give on-line at: <https://fpchastings.org/give-online/>

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.

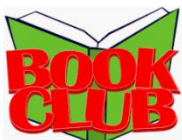
***FPC Prayers for***

Alana DeBellis & Family	Kristine Cook (Katharine Davis' sister)	Gretchen Lainson
Jim Duval	Cale, Noble, Zach Henderson	Tommy Thomsen
Cheryl Ann Elford	Connie & Tom Kubicka (Chris Junker's parents)	Mike Hahne & family
Irina Erickson's Mom	Elaine Schumacher (Vicki Howard's Mom)	Jeff Howard
Jim Hahne	Melba Trehern (Lisa Unger's Mom)	Carol Medsker
Jim Harrenstein	Chris Wheeler (Carol Wheeler's son)	
Everly Hogan	Jim & Mary Jeanne Cooke	

***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.***



**The next Red Cross Blood Drive** is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 1, 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).



**Summer Book Club** Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh has been guiding a discussion of the book *Heaven and Hell: A History of the Afterlife* by Bart Ehrman.

Summer Book Club has been meeting at noon since May 13<sup>th</sup> and will continue for the next 15 weeks via Zoom Conferencing and modifying interactions as physical distancing recommendations evolve. Please obtain a copy of the book from your favorite vendor. Contact Sharon Brooks, [sbbrooks52@gmail.com](mailto:sbbrooks52@gmail.com) for more information on how to join the online conversations.



**This Week at FPC --- July 20 – July 26, 2020**

*Session has voted to suspend all in-person meetings through July 31 for the safety of our congregation and staff and to comply with the State-Directed Health Measures. All boards and committees will continue to meet via conference call to be coordinated by the church staff representative.*

<b>Mon, July 20</b>		<b>“Monday Check-in” Communication</b> from Pastor Greg and Pastor Damen Sent via website, email and social media
	<b>5:30p-7:00p</b>	<b>Session</b> via ZOOM Conferencing
<b>Tues, July 21</b>	<b>10:30 a-11:30a</b>	<b>Staff Meeting</b> via ZOOM Conferencing
	<b>12:00p-1:00p</b>	<b>Bible Study</b> via ZOOM Conferencing
		<b>Open Table Sack Lunch Prep</b>
<b>Wed, July 22</b>	<b>12:00p-1:00p</b>	<b>Summer Book Club</b> via ZOOM Conferencing
		<b>Open Table Sack Lunch Prep</b>
<b>Thurs July 23</b>		<b>Open Table Sack Lunch Prep</b>
<b>Fri, July 24</b>		<b>“Friday Feature” Communication</b> from Pastor Greg and Pastor Damen Sent via website, email and social media
<b>Sat, July 25</b>		
<b>Sun, July 26</b>	<b>10:30a</b>	<b>“Stay at Home” Worship Service</b>



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

Sponsored by:  
First United Methodist Church  
First Presbyterian Church

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.

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



**What’s Up with Open Table**

Our church has a long history of making sack lunches for the Open Table after church services during the month of July. Typically, between four to five thousand sack lunches are prepared in the course of the month. The Open Table Sack Lunch Program is a community program set up to provide one sack lunch per person per day, no questions asked. Various groups prepare the lunches, which are distributed at Catholic Social Services during the week.

We are still going to make and provide sack lunches during the month of July; however, it will be a different format due to COVID-19 restrictions. Instead of our usual large assemblies after church services, we will be preparing sacks and sandwiches in different ways on different days.

We are once again grateful to Dave Dirks and Custom Pack, Inc. for helping provide the meat for this project.

**We will be scheduling groups of less than 15 to fill sacks in Fellowship Hall during one-hour blocks at various times of the day, while following appropriate protocol for distancing and wearing masks.**

Sign up times to fill sacks during the week of July 20th through the 24th are listed below. We encourage family groups to sign up together when possible, but individuals are welcomed as well. To sign up during a time slot listed, please **text Jeni Howard at 402-469-1500**. Please include your name if you text.

*Tuesday, July 21st @ 9:00am and 1:00pm*

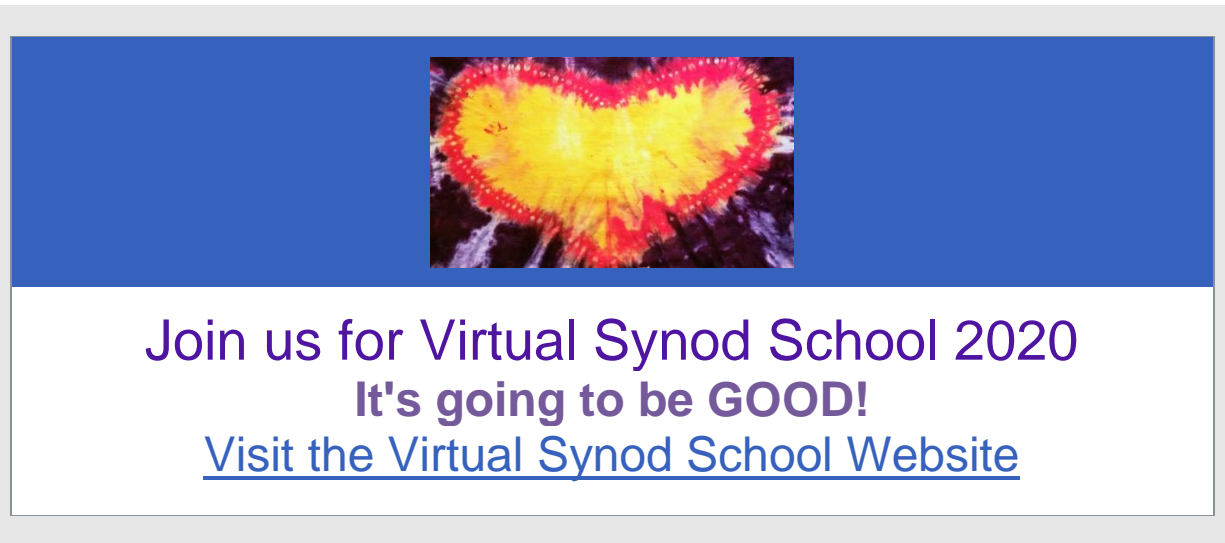
*Wednesday, July 22nd @ 9:00am, 1:30pm and 6:00pm*

*Thursday, July 23rd @ 9:00am and 1:00pm.*

Thank you for all you do to support this ongoing mission.

Jeni Howard and Meg Stewart-Magee on behalf of the Mission Committee

**Just a Few More Days until the Virtual Synod School. Click the link below for more information! (Or go to <https://engagingleaders.org/virtual-Synod-school-2020/> )** The July 27-30, 2020 edition of Synod School is free! Check it out!



Join us for Virtual Synod School 2020  
It's going to be **GOOD!**  
[Visit the Virtual Synod School Website](https://engagingleaders.org/virtual-Synod-school-2020/)



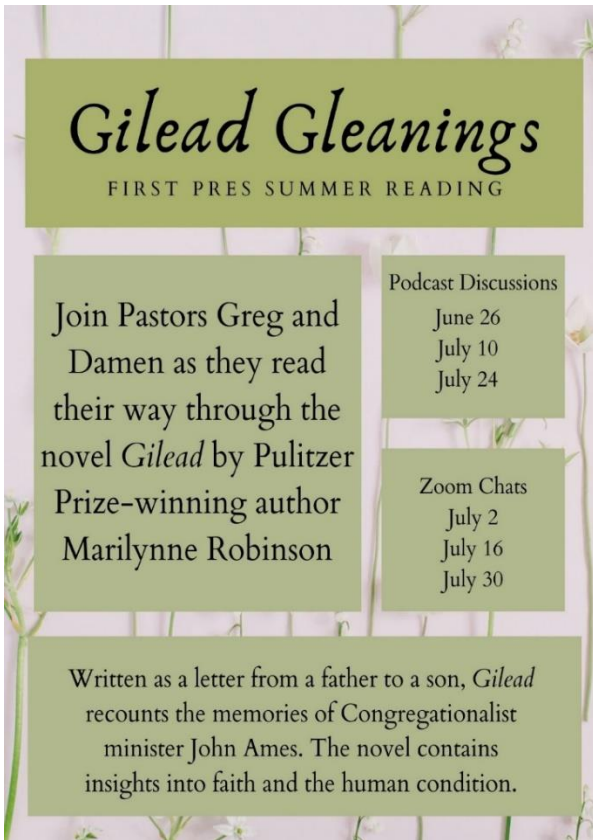
#### GO & SERVE UPDATE

It is with great sadness that we inform you that the organizers of this year's Go & Serve met on July 7<sup>th</sup> and decided not to host Go & Serve activities this summer. The Go & Serve committee has thought through a variety of scenarios in order to make the week work this year, but we simply feel that it is not safe enough to host this year. We do not feel comfortable taking the risk of possibly exposing our students, our families, and anyone with whom we might be working to Covid-19. It breaks our hearts, but we feel that the most responsible course of action is to continue to encourage people to stay safe and to stay home as much as possible.

However, even though we are unable to do the work of Go & Serve as directly as we'd like the work will continue. The Go & Serve committee has decided pass along the money that was given as part of the Stock Sale fundraiser to an organization we would have partnered with this year or some of our favorite partner organizations from past Go & Serve experiences. This is only possible as a result of your generous support.

One of the wonderful things about Go & Serve is watching students take hold of the idea of what it means to be a blessing to others. Your contributions have enabled us to still be a blessing to others, even though our own hands and feet will not be doing the work we had intended this year. Thank you for your continued and generous support of Go & Serve this year and all years.

-Peace and all good, Tammie Nowka, Amy Black, and Damen Heitmann



## **Gilead Gleanings: A First Pres Summer Reading Project**

What are you doing this summer? Why not join pastors Greg and Damen (as well as a few other notable guests) as they read through *Gilead* by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Marilynne Robinson?

Set in Gilead, Iowa, the novel takes the form of a letter written from a Congregationalist minister to his son. The touching book reveals much about the human condition and the heart of faith. It is sure to tell us as much about ourselves as the characters it contains.

In addition to securing a copy of the book and reading along, folks can join in the fun by listening to three podcast conversations which will be released on June 26, July 10, and 24. Here's the link to the first podcast: <https://bit.ly/gileadg>

In those podcasts, the pastors and guests will discuss the book and how they find it relating to the world around them. There will also be open conversations (hosted via ZOOM), during which readers can join and

discuss. Those open conversations will take place ~~July 2, 16,~~ and 30.

There will be a few copies of the book available in the church office, though we sadly cannot buy a copy for everyone. Here are the links to the Gilead Gleanings things.

Soundcloud

<https://soundcloud.com/damen-heitmann/062520-gilead-gleanings-a-summer-read>

<https://soundcloud.com/damen-heitmann/070920-gilead-gleanings>

YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/-egyU233vo>

<https://youtu.be/gDEunH6fVyk>

## **Anti-Racism Conversation Groups**

Join your First Presbyterian Church Family in conversation about anti-racism and how our faith calls us to educate ourselves and work to dismantle racism in our society.

We started in June by encouraging the whole church to watch the movie *Just Mercy* that was available for free streaming for the month of June. We hosted a discussion group about this movie on July 1.

For the month of July we invite you to read the book *The Hate U Give* and join us for discussion groups starting the week of July 13. For more information or to sign up for a discussion group, please email the church office at [fpc@fpchastings.org](mailto:fpc@fpchastings.org) or call 402-462-5147

