

First Presbyterian Church Hastings



**Fifteenth Sunday
After Pentecost
September 13, 2020**

PRELUDE

Omaha Pipe and Drums Bagpipe Band

WELCOME

Greg Allen-Pickett

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Stephanie Brader

Speak praise to God, who rescues us when we fall!

Speak praise to God, who walks with us on all our journeys!

Even though we fall, God always lifts us and places us on paths of peace.

Even though we stray, God finds us and brings us back to lives of hope.

Thanks be to God, whose love is continually with us.

Come let us worship God, who lifts us when we fall, brings us back when we stray, and loves us more than we will ever know!

*HYMN

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

12

(Linda Vollweiler, keyboardist, will play the hymns. Due to COVID-19 precautions, we will not sing aloud. You are invited to read and meditate on the words as the music is shared.

You may also hum quietly.)

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of
Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and
small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but naught changeth
thee.

2 Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness
and love.

4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Just like Peter, Lord, we have some questions about forgiveness. We want to know if one time to forgive someone is sufficient. In our human frailty, we find it hard to forgive others who have wronged us. Sometimes we also find it hard to forgive ourselves. Teach us to be humble and merciful. Remind us of the many ways in which you have offered, time and time again, your forgiving love to us. Heal our wounds and bind up our brokenness. And then inspire us to offer that same healing, forgiveness, and love to others. For we ask this in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

SILENT CONFESSION

Questions for contemplation:

When have I failed to offer forgiveness to others or to myself?

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Greg Allen-Pickett

God hears our prayers and our cries and offers us forgiveness.

We accept God's forgiveness and seek to offer that same grace to others.

Rejoice, dear friends! In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and loved!

Alleluia! Amen!

RESPONSE OF PRAISE “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

582

*PEACE OF CHRIST *(Greet one another by sharing the Peace of Christ with those around you.)*

The Peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRESENTATION OF THE BIBLES

Pastor Greg: We are very proud of these kids and the commitments of these parents. We desire to invest in our children and resource parents as the spiritual mentors of their children. As your church family, we want you to know how much we value your family and set aside this time to celebrate your child's spiritual journey as you impress upon them the value of the Bible, God's word for our lives.

Parents: (speaking directly to their own child): *Child's Name*, you are my child, and I am very proud of you. You are a creation of God, and you have been fearfully and wonderfully made. God has a special plan for your life, a plan for hope and a future. May this book be a lamp unto your feet and a light unto your path. May it teach you, correct you, and train you to be the very person God longs for you to be. We love you and present to you your very own Bible.

Stephanie: May each of your baptism journeys continue as you receive the Word of God this morning. Learn its stories and study its words. Its stories belong to us all, and these words speak to us all. They tell us who we are. Just like the promises made at your baptism, scripture reminds us that we belong to one another. And as a people of God, the congregation will join together in one voice.

ALL: We rejoice in this step in your journey with God. We pray God will guide you, your family, and us as you use this Holy Bible in your home, in your church school classes, and in our worship. We will learn together and grow in our love for God's Word as you continue in your baptismal journey and as we continue to keep our promises to you.

ANTHEM

Omaha Pipe and Drums Bagpipe Band

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, your Holy Word reminds us that love is the foundation of our lives and our faith. As we hear your Word read and proclaimed today, help us to receive the love that you have lavished upon us. Help us understand that love as an agent of forgiveness. And may your Word inspire us to love and forgive others. Amen.

1ST SCRIPTURE READING – Matthew 18:21-35

Moses Rhodes

(3rd Grade Bible: page 1081 8th Grade Bible: pages 1151-1152)

2ND SCRIPTURE READING – Genesis 50:15-21

Raegan Welsch

(Kindergarten Bible: pages 64-65, 3rd Grade Bible: page 58, 8th Grade Bible: pages 61-62)

MESSAGE

Living Love: Forgiveness

Greg Allen-Pickett

*HYMN

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

435

(Linda Vollweiler, keyboardist, will play the hymns. Due to COVID-19 precautions, we will not sing aloud. You are invited to read and meditate on the words as the music is shared.

You may also hum quietly.)

1 There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.

2 For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving
for the goodness of our Lord.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From the Presbyterian Confession of 1967)

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind.

We ascribe to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness.

But God reveals his love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful people. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of his love.

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for all when the gospel is proclaimed and believed.

In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to people, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ.

The new life takes shape in a community in which we know that God loves and accepts us in spite of what we are. We therefore accept ourselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Jesus Loves Me”

arr. Joel Raney

*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

606

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Giving God, all we are and all we have come from you.

We offer back to you what has always been yours.

As you have entrusted your gifts to us and given us life, so we return these gifts to you and our very lives, trusting that you will use them to the great glory of your kingdom on earth. We pray through Jesus who gave the totality of his life for us. Amen.

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**

"The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound"

766

(Linda Vollweiler will play the hymns. Due to COVID-19 precautions, we will not sing aloud. You are invited to read and meditate on the words as the music is shared. You may also hum quietly)

1. The Church of Christ cannot be bound
by walls of wood or stone.

Where charity and love are found,
there can the church be known.

2. True faith will open up the door
and step into the street.

True service will seek out the poor
and ask to wash their feet.

3. True love will not sit idly by
when justice is denied.

True mercy hears the homeless cry
and welcomes them inside.

4. If what we have, we freely share
to meet our neighbor's need,
then we extend the Spirit's care
through ev'ry selfless deed.

***BENEDICTION**

***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!

***RECESSIONAL**

Omaha Pipe and Drums Bagpipe Band

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

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

9am: Worship in the Park in Alexander Park, bring your own chair and facemask

10:30 am Stay-at-home worship If you can't come in-person, we will also

Broadcast live on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fpchastings

(Please note, you do not need a Facebook account to view the service.)

10:30 a.m. service will also be broadcast live on KICS 1550 AM

2020 Bible Presentation



<u>Child/Youth</u>	<u>Parent(s)</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Mary Crum	Ashley and Riley Mullen	3rd grade
Ian Erickson	Irina and Brett Erickson	3rd grade
Vivian Fong	Kaleena and Matt Fong	3rd grade
Madilyn Graves	Jodi and Danny Graves	3rd grade
Grady Hogan	Liesel Hogan	3rd grade
Julia Rippe	Kristi and Dave Rippe	3rd grade
Delilah Turner	HeatherMorgan Turner	3rd grade
Raegan Welsch	Jenni and Ben Welsch	3rd grade
Keira Erickson	Irina and Brett Erickson	8th grade
Addyson Hermes	Amy and Bill Hermes	8th grade
Laura Kate Oliver	Susan and William Oliver	8th grade
Kinnick Pumroy	Kaela and BJ Pumroy	8th grade
Madalynn Redline	Hilarie and Tim Redline	8th grade
Moses Rhodes	Susan Meeske and Brady Rhodes	8th grade
Seth Schwarz	Kristen and Chris Schwarz	8th grade
Dalton Adam	Stephanie and Tyler Adam	Kindergarten
Everly Hogan	Liesel Hogan	Kindergarten
Harper Launchbaugh	Megan and Karl Launchbaugh	Kindergarten
Charlie Stout	Lindsey and Ethan Stout	Kindergarten

“Living Love”

A sermon series that reflects on our call to actively live love. Studying stories from the Old and New Testaments that demonstrate lived love from God and others that serve as an example for us.

9/6: Love your neighbor, be a light.
Romans 13:8-14

9/13: Forgiveness
Genesis 50:15-21

9/20: Provision
Exodus 16:2-15

9/27: Compassion
Philippians 2:1-13

10/4: Sharing
1 Corinthians 11:18-26

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
Scholar in Residence: Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh

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

September 13, 2020

The radio broadcast airs during the 10:30 a.m. service on KICS 1550 AM and is given in memory of Marilyn Sachtleben by Clyde and Katherine Sachtleben, Kay and Kevin Chang and family, Tom and Camille and family.

Flowers are given in memory of Marilyn Sachtleben by Clyde and Katherine Sachtleben; Kay and Kevin Chang and family; Tom and Camille and family.

Today's service will be broadcast

- live on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fpchastings (You don't need an account.)
- 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.



Giving 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/>

The church continues to play a vital role in responding to this virus, just as we did with the flood relief efforts in Nebraska. Thank you for your continued support and provision in this time.

<i>FPC Prayers for</i>		
Family of Irene Lindau	Kristine Cook (Katharine Davis' sister)	Family of Jim Cooke
Alana DeBellis & Family	Cale Henderson	Gretchen Lainson
Jim Duval	Connie & Tom Kubicka (Chris Junker's parents)	Tommy Thomsen
Cheryl Ann Elford	Elaine Schumacher (Vicki Howard's Mom)	Mike Hahne & family
Irina Erickson's Mom	Melba Trehern (Lisa Unger's Mom)	Jeff Howard
Jim Hahne	Chris Wheeler (Carol Wheeler's son)	Carol Medsker
Jim Harrenstein	Cathy Davis and family	Megan Welton
Everly Hogan		

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

- ♥ Thomas Toms, father of Cathy Davis and father-in-law of Dale Davis, who passed away on 08/14/2020 in York, NE. Services were 08/19/2020.
- ♥ Irene Lindau who passed away 08/24/2020. A private graveside service officiated by Pastor Greg was held 08/28/2020.
- ♥ Georga Ochsner, who passed away 04/17/2020. Memorial Services will be held at First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, on 09/12/2020 at 2:00, with Pastor Greg officiating.
- ♥ Rev. Dr. James Cooke, who passed away 09/05/2020. Graveside services will be held at 2:00 on 09/11/2020 at Sunset Memorial Gardens Cemetery, with Pastor Greg officiating. Memorials may be given to First Presbyterian Church of Hastings, American Heart Association, or Hastings Area Habitat for Humanity. A memorial service will be held in the spring.

This Week at FPC --- September 14 – September 20, 2020

Session has voted that all in-person meetings must follow the following guidelines through September 30 for the safety of our congregation and staff and to comply with the State-Directed Health Measures. 1.) 15 or fewer in attendance, 2.) 1 hour or less in length, 3.) Facemasks will be required, 4.) Social distancing of 6-ft. seating. All boards and committees will have the option to meet in person or continue to meet via conference call or some combination of both to be coordinated by the church staff representative.

Mon, Sept 14	8:15a-9:15a	Walkers in PEACE Center “Monday Check-in” Communication from Pastor Greg and Pastor Damen
Tues, Sept 15	8:15a-9:15a 10:30a-11:30a 12:00p-1:00p 6:45p-7:45p	Walkers in PEACE Center Staff Meeting via Zoom Bible Study via Zoom Deacons via Zoom and Fellowship Hall
Wed, Sept 16	8:15a-9:15a 6:15p-7:00p 6:45-7:30p 7:00p-8:00p 7:00p-8:00p	Walkers in PEACE Center Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal in Memorial Room Choir Small Ensemble Rehearsal Middle School Youth Group in Middle School Rm High School Youth Group in Sr. High Rm
Thurs, Sept 17	8:15a-9:15a 5:30p-7:00p	Walkers in PEACE Center Session via Zoom
Fri, Sept 18		
Sat, Sept 19	9:30a-2:00p	United Harvest
Sun, Sept 20	9:00a 10:30a	Worship in Alexander Park “Stay at Home” Worship Service



New Members Class Coming Soon!

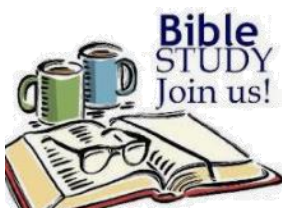
This is a great opportunity for people who are interested in learning more about the Presbyterian Church and exploring membership. Please contact the church office or Pastor Greg if you are interested in attending.



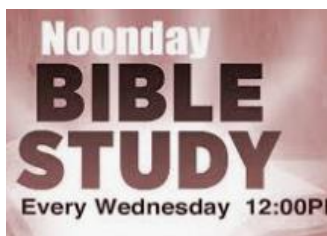
Forum Returns on September 13! Our regularly scheduled Adult Enrichment hour known as Forum will begin again at 9:15 on Sunday, September 13th. We won't be meeting in person just yet, but folks can join in the conversation live via Zoom. All Forum sessions will also be recorded and posted to the church's YouTube page so you can watch the session at any time.

We'll begin this year with a three-part series titled, "Journey to the God of Love" led by Scholar in Residence, Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh. The series will trace theological development of the love and mercy of God through both Old and New Testaments.

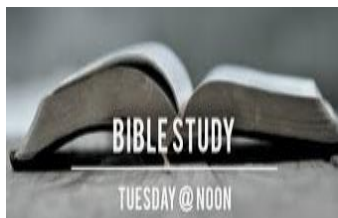
To join in for the discussion, please let the church office know, and we'll get you all set up!



Heirs Apparent Adult Sunday School, with Curtis Reimer leading, starting soon via ZOOM conferencing. Contact the church office to receive the invitation.



Bible at Breakfast has a new time and name! Join us for Noonday Bible Study via ZOOM starting on Wednesday, September 16 at noon with Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh as the leader. We will be looking at the Book of Revelation using the text "Revelation & the End of All Things" by Craig R. Koester. To join the study, contact sbbrooks52@gmail.com. All are welcome!



Tuesday Noon Bible Study with Pastor Greg

All are welcome to join this weekly study. The focus for the group discussion and study each week is on the verses to be used on Sunday during worship. The group gathers either by ZOOM Conferencing or in person in the Anderson Room. To join by ZOOM, contact the church office.



Update on Sunday School/Youth Group for the fall

Pre K-5th Grades: You will receive a packet of materials in the mail to use as you follow along with video lessons that will be posted weekly on our church website (<https://fpchastings.org/children/>) starting September 13.

6th-8th Grades: We will be hosting in-person 6th-8th Grade Youth Group on Wednesday evenings beginning on **September 16**. We'll plan to meet in the church basement youth room from **7pm-8pm**. All participants are asked to **wear a facemask** and we will maintain proper distance from one another. We'll do our usual games, bible study, and fellowship sorts of things. I'm also planning to include a little Presbyterian 101 for the first few weeks.

9th to 12th Grades: We will be hosting in-person 9th-12th Grade Youth Group on Wednesday evenings beginning on **September 16**. We'll plan to meet in the PEACE Center youth room from **7pm-8pm**. All participants are asked to **wear a facemask** and we will maintain proper distance from one another. We'll do our usual games, bible study, and fellowship sorts of things.

We will not have Sunday morning Sunday School or current 8th Grade Confirmation Class at this time. That may change in the coming months but at least for September and October we will do without.

We are hoping this will become a meaningful learning experience for all. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions!



LANGENBERG LESSON SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM was established to encourage the youth of our church in their musical pursuits through the generosity of the late Luella Langenberg.

- Parents of students in grades 1-12 may apply for up to \$250 per semester to offset the cost of private music instruction. Grants are limited to one per child.

- Areas of study include piano, voice, guitar, or any band/orchestral instrument.
- Parents must be members of First Presbyterian Church, and students must be active participants in the church choir/music program.

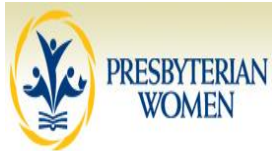
Application forms are available in the church office and on the church website.

- DEADLINE FOR THE Fall 2020 GRANT PROGRAM IS October 1, 2020.
- GRANTS ARE RENEWABLE; PARENTS MUST RE-APPLY EACH SEMESTER.



The next Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for **Monday, January 4, 2021**, 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.



Presbyterian Women PW will **NOT** meet through the end of 2020. This means there will be **NO** Circle meetings and no monthly Luncheons.



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.

September 19, 2020		
M, N, O	May park and get number starting	9:45 AM
P, Q, R	May park and get number starting	10:00 AM
S, T, U	May park and get number starting	10:15 AM
V, W, X, Y, Z	May park and get number starting	10:30 AM
A, B	May park and get number starting	10:45 AM
C, D, E	May park and get number starting	11:00 AM
F, G, H	May park and get number starting	11:15 AM
I, J, K, L	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.



HASTINGS CROP HUNGER WALK

- 2pm Sunday, October 11, 2020. Heartwell Park
- Start and end at N. California Ave. in the park
- 25% raised goes to Hastings Middle School Food Pantry

Our CROP walk is virtual, but the need could not be more real. We will walk this year, but to keep everyone safe and healthy, we will walk either alone, with immediate family or in small groups walking a safe distance apart at Heartwell Park. Look for our registration table in the park by N. California Ave.

Join Our First Presbyterian Church team - virtually - as we continue our shared commitment to stand up for the poor, the forgotten, those left behind.

Access crophungerwalk.org/hastings to donate online or make a check to CWS/CROP and send or drop it by the church office or drop box.

Even though we might not walk, we can “Walk in Spirit” and still support our Church World Service programs here and throughout the world.



Our church is moving to a new kind of church record keeping solution called REALM.

It primarily serves the administrative needs of our staff, but it also offers some exciting opportunities to support the way you are involved in our church. *Not only will this improve work life for our ministry staff, it will make it easier for our church family to connect with each other, keep up with what's going on, and grow as a connected community of believers.* Watch for more information coming soon!

