



December 27, 2020,
10:30 a.m.
First Sunday of Christmas

PRELUDE "Once in Royal David's City" arr. Lani Smith
Linda Vollweiler, Organ
(The prelude is an opportunity to worship God, a time of prayer, meditation, and reflection.)

WELCOME Damen Jensen-Heitmann

*OPENING HYMN "Of the Father's Love Begotten" (vs. 1-3) 108
Hannah Jensen-Heitmann, Song Leader

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES Bauer Family

(based on *The Work of Christmas* by Howard Thurman)

*When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with
their flock,*

The work of Christmas begins:

To find the lost, to heal the broken,

To feed the hungry, to release the prisoner,

To rebuild the nations, to bring peace among others,

To make music in the heart.

Let us join in the work of hope, peace, joy, and love.

*HYMN "Of the Father's Love Begotten" (vs. 4-6) 108

CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Don Canady

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, O God, that we often act as though your words have no claim upon our lives. We curse our neighbors. We disown our families. We give little thought to those who will follow us and the legacy of devastation they will inherit. As children, we hear your words, "Love your neighbor. Repay no one evil for evil. Do unto others as you'd have done to you." But we forget those words or we let them slip from our minds. Forgive us, O God, for the times we neglect and abandon the calling you've placed upon our lives.

SILENT CONFESSION & QUESTION FOR CONTEMPLATION

When have you stepped away from the calling 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.

581

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Kili Wenburg

Stephanie Brader

Your words, O God, have been spoken so often. They've tumbled out of mouths and bounced around in rooms and halls innumerable times. Let them, this day, resonate within us. Let them echo in our hearts and reverberate in our lives. Amen.

ANTHEM

“Silent Night”

Virtual Community Choir, Directed by Tom Michalek

MESSAGE

“Never Easy” or “Childish Destiny”

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

*HYMN

“Love Has Come”

110

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

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

Polish Carol/arr. Elaine Schram

*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

606

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

To you, O God, and to your great work, we dedicate these gifts. As the child Jesus was given to you to be your work in the world, so may these gifts become your very presence in the world today. 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

"Love Came Down at Christmas"

165

*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

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" German Carol/arr. Kenneth Varner
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!

10:30 am Stay-at-Home worship

Broadcast live on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fpchastings and on KICS 1550 AM
(Please note, you do not need a Facebook account to view the 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

Accompanist: Mary Plock

Scholar in Residence: Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh

Ministers: Members of the Church

Associate Pastor: Rev. Damen Jensen-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

Of the Father's Love Begotten 108



1 Of the Fa-ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be - gan
 2 By his Word was all cre - at - ed; he com-mand-ed; it
 3 O, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed when the Vir - gin, full
 4 This is he whom seers in old time chant-ed of with one
 5 O ye heights of heaven, a - dore him. An - gel hosts, his prais -
 6 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost,



to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga; he the
 was done: heaven and earth and depths of o - cean, u - ni -
 of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the
 ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets prom-ised
 es sing. Powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him, and ex -
 to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks-giv - ing and un -



source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
 verse of three in one, all that sees the moon's soft
 Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's Re -
 in their faith - ful word. Now he shines, the long - ex -
 tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 wea - ried prais - es be. Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
 shin - ing, all that breathes be - neath the sun,
 deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
 pect - ed. Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord,
 si - lent; ev - ery voice in con - cert ring,
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry,



ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

Seldom has the wonder of the Incarnation been expressed so beautifully as in this text, created in the era when the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds were being codified and mindful of similar theological affirmations. It is set here to a plainchant melody from the late Middle Ages.

Glory Be to the Father

581

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

The first system of the musical score for 'Glory Be to the Father'. It consists of a treble and a bass staff in 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody in the treble staff begins with a dotted quarter note on G4, followed by eighth notes on A4 and B-flat4, then a quarter note on C5, and a half note on B-flat4. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -

The second system of the musical score. The treble staff continues the melody with a dotted quarter note on B-flat4, followed by eighth notes on A4 and G4, then a quarter note on F4, and a half note on E-flat4. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,

The third system of the musical score. The treble staff continues the melody with a dotted quarter note on D4, followed by eighth notes on C4 and B-flat3, then a quarter note on A3, and a half note on G3. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

The fourth and final system of the musical score. The treble staff concludes the melody with a dotted quarter note on F3, followed by eighth notes on E3 and D3, then a quarter note on C3, and a half note on B2. The bass staff concludes the accompaniment with a final chord. The system ends with a double bar line.

Love Has Come

110

Capo 3: (D) (Bm7) (Em7) (A)
F Dm7 Gm7 C

1 Love has come: a light in the dark - ness!
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der.
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us!

(D) (Bm7) (Em) (A7) (D)
F Dm7 Gm C7 F

Love shines forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all
Love is God now a - sleep in the hay. See the
Love is life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is

(A) (D) (Bm) (D) (A) (G) (D)
C F Dm F C B^b F

heav - en has come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of
glow in the eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her
Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our

(Em7) (F#7) (G) (A) (Bm) (A7)
Gm7 A7 B^b C Dm C7

joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a
heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she
hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of

(D) (A) (G) (A) (D) (A) (A7) (Dsus) (D)
F C B^b C F C C7 Fsus F

Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.
Christ-mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Here is a chance to sing a familiar French carol tune with new words, the most important clearly being "Love." The senses "seen and heard" (as in Acts 4:20 and elsewhere) organize the first two stanzas, while the third holds the summary statement: "Love is the gift of Christmas."

606

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology

Musical score for the hymn "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow". The score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady rhythm. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise *him, all crea - tures
here be - low; praise *him a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

*Or "God"

TEXT: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

OLD HUNDREDTH
LM

165

Love Came Down at Christmas

Matt. 2:1-11; Luke 2:8-18

Christina G. Rossetti, 1885; alt.

Musical score for the carol "Love Came Down at Christmas". The score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady rhythm. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

1 Love came down at Christ - mas, Love all love - ly, Love di - vine;
2 Wor - ship we the God - head, Love in - car - nate, Love di - vine;
3 Love shall be our to - ken; love be yours and love be mine;
Love was born at Christ - mas; star and an - gels gave the sign.
Wor - ship we our Je - sus, but where is God's sa - cred sign?
Love to God and neigh - bor, love for plea and gift and sign.

Christina Rossetti, author of the more familiar carol "In the Bleak Midwinter," lived a very quiet life in England. This text has been described by the noted editor Percy Dearmer as a "gem, where so much is said in so little space."

Tune: WHITNEY 6.7.6.7.
Maurice C. Whitney, 1962

December 27, 2020

The radio broadcast airs during the 10:30 a.m. service on KICS 1550 AM and is given in memory of Hal Lainson by the Lainson family.

Today's 10:30 "Stay at Home" Worship 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. Thank you for your continued support and provision in this time.

FPC Prayers for

Lois Hafer
Cindy Pickett
Jeff Howard
Gretchen Lainson
Carol Medsker
Pastor Greg and family

Family of Carlyn McPherson
Family of Erlene Gessford (Gayle Fandry's sister)
Family of Norma Cropley
Family of Burdetta Fricke
Connie & Tom Kubicka (Chris Junker's parents)
Elaine Schumacher (Vicki Howard's mom)
Melba Trehern (Lisa Unger's mom)
Chris Wheeler (Carol Wheeler's son)

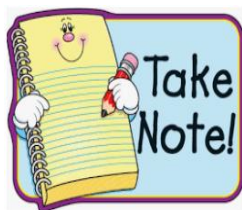
Family of Karen Huber
Norris Swan and family
Barry Thomson
Tommy Thomsen
Family of Vern Kooy
Craig and JoAnn Williams

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

- ♥ Erlene Gessford, who passed away 11/05/2020. Erlene is Gayle Fandry's sister.
- ♥ Karen Huber, who passed away 11/18/2020. Services will be held at a later date.
- ♥ Norma Cropley, who passed away 11/19/2020. Norma is Steve Cropley's mother.
- ♥ Burdetta Fricke, who passed away 12/02/2020. Burdetta is Cindy Frickie's and Cathy Mitzelfelt's mother.
- ♥ Sylvia "Carlyn" McPherson, who passed away 12/21/2020. Carlyn is the mother of Dennis McPherson and grandmother to Sara, Rachel, and Rebecca.

January Communion offering is designated as the Harvard People's Project.



Notes for your Information:

1. The 2021 Offering Envelopes are in the Church Office, stop in and pick one up!
2. The 2021 Jan/Feb/March Daily Bread Devotions have arrived; both large print and regular print.

Congratulations Mark and Kate Hemje on the birth of their new baby boy, Colton Douglas Hemje, born December 3, 2020. Colton joins his sisters Sophia and Cora, and his brother Cade. We are so excited to welcome the newest member of our church family. If you want to help out by bringing a meal, simply click on the following **Meal Train** link to sign up. <https://mealtrain.com/3gmk48>

thinking
OF YOU

Thinking of You Notes With COVID-19 on the rise, a number of our retirement communities have closed to visitors again, which can lead to a sense of isolation. We want our members who live in these homes to know that they have a church family that loves them and is thinking about them. One way to do that safely is to send them cards. If you have a few moments, drop a card or note into the mail to help them feel connected and remembered. Please contact the church office for names and addresses. Even if you don't know them personally, a card or note can provide a real pick-me-up. Please join us in this important work.

This Week at FPC --- December 28 – January 3, 2021

Session has voted that all in-person meetings must follow the following guidelines through for the safety of our congregation and staff and to comply with the State-Directed Health Measures. 1.) 5 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 with 5 or fewer in attendance or continue to meet via conference call or some combination of both to be coordinated by the church staff representative.

Dec, 28-Jan 1	OFFICE CLOSED	We will check voice mail and emails
Mon, Dec 28	8:30a-9:30a	Walkers in PEACE Center GYM “Monday Check-in” Communication from Pastor Greg and Pastor Damen
Tues, Dec 29	8:30a-9:30a	Walkers in PEACE Center GYM
Wed, Dec 30	8:30a-9:30a	Walkers in PEACE Center GYM
Fri, Jan 1	OFFICE CLOSED	NEW YEAR’S DAY
Sun, Jan 3	10:30a	“Stay at Home” Worship Service

JOURNEY
OF
Faith

Connecting with God and Each Other While We Worship Apart (Finding God in the Solitude of Covid Times/Five for Five)

For many of us, attending church on Sunday mornings is our primary, if not only, means of connecting with our church family and with God. We give thanks for the technology and hard work of staff and volunteers who make it possible every week for us to worship "together apart," but it's not quite the same. Additionally, the uncertainty, isolation, stress, losses, and grief associated with living through a pandemic have created an increased need for the hope and security which can only be found in God. Because our familiar way of connecting with God (in-person worship) is not currently available, and because we all have more open calendars than ever before, this is the perfect time to learn new spiritual practices! God is just as present and available to us as ever before; it's just that we may need to learn new ways of seeking and finding God's presence in these new times. To that end, I will be creating short videos (90 seconds or so) each week, each of which will introduce a simple spiritual practice. Try these new practices for just 5 minutes a day, 5 days a week--5 for 5--and watch as your heart learns to recognize God in events, people, feelings, etc. as never before! The videos will be shown during Sunday worship and can also be found on the church YouTube page.

--Kili Wenburg, Parish Associate and Spiritual Director

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh5z-uePAXhoKVfay2w4g/videos>



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 or sign up at www.redcrossblood.org.



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-on-one 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 www.unitedharvest.org. The institutions providing the food are equal opportunity providers.

Interested in volunteering at **United Harvest**? Please register on the United Harvest Facebook page. Volunteer shifts are 9:30-12:00 and 12:00-2:00.

January 16, 2021		
A, B	May park and get number starting at:	9:45 AM
C, D, E	May park and get number starting at:	10:00 AM
F, G, H	May park and get number starting at:	10:15 AM
I, J, K, L	May park and get number starting at:	10:30 AM
M, N, O	May park and get number starting at:	10:45 AM
P, Q, R	May park and get number starting at:	11:00 AM
S, T, U	May park and get number starting at:	11:15 AM
V, W, X, Y, Z	May park and get number starting at:	11:30 AM



Family Photo Opportunity by the Big Tree

Good news, everyone! As with every other year the Big Tree in the Memorial Room is all decorated and beautiful. Why am I telling you this? In the past, families have often stopped by the church to take their picture by the beautifully decorated tree. If this is something you are interested in doing this year, please call the office or click on the link below to schedule a time. Please call the office to make arrangements to get into the church after office hours.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1nythntUcRVzSPr1nQAg_7Z6Le2LBXpePtmLkyYS8rHc/edit#gid=0