



January 10, 2020
10:30 a.m.
First Sunday after Epiphany

PRELUDE

“Introduction and Toccata”

Girolamo Frescobaldi

Linda Vollweiler, Organ

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

WELCOME

Greg Allen-Pickett

OPENING QUESTION

Where did you see light and darkness in the last week?

INTROIT

“Come Thou Almighty King”

arr. by Dan Bird

Chancel Choir and Robin Koozer, Director

(Pre-Recorded from worship in 1/21/18)

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 46)

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the Lord; He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;

“Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.”

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

*OPENING HYMN

“O Lord My God: How Great Thou Art”

625

Robin and Ann Koozer, Song Leaders

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, in your creativity, you have blessed us with life; we praise you for this blessing. And you have blessed us with creativity; we praise you for this blessing as well. You call us to use our lives and our creativity to do your work of love, compassion, and justice in the world. But far too often, we find ourselves using these blessings for things other than that. We put our creative energies towards things that are not of you, and we neglect to use our lives to love you and love our neighbors. Help us, O God. Help us to find the God-given creativity in our lives and help us put it to good use as we seek to follow you and build your kingdom here on earth.

SILENT CONFESSION

Question for contemplation: When have I misused my time and creative energy on things that do not bring glory to God?

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The love and forgiveness of God is always offered to us:

Freely, creatively, joyfully, and for all eternity.

Rejoice, dear friends, this is the Good News of our Lord.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!

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

582

*PEACE OF CHRIST (Greet others around you this morning by exchanging the Peace of Christ.)

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

FINDING GOD IN ISOLATION

Kili Wenburg

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of creation, who brought forth light from darkness, we are your creation. May your Holy Word bring light and life into the world and into our lives. Through the reading and proclamation of your Word, may your Spirit be with us today to tell of your wonders. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 1 and John 1

REFLECTION

Lindsey Stout

SERMON

“Seeking God’s light in the darkness”

Greg Allen-Pickett

*HYMN

“Light Dawns on a Weary World”

79

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From The Calvin Institute for Christian Worship)

We are followers of Jesus Christ, the light who shines in the darkness. We declare with joy and trust: Our world belongs to God!

From the beginning, through all the crises of our times, until his kingdom fully comes, God keeps covenant forever.

Our world belongs to him! God is King! Let the earth be glad!

Christ is Victor; his rule has begun. Hallelujah!

The Spirit is at work, renewing creation. Praise the Lord!

We rejoice in the goodness of God, renounce the works of darkness, and dedicate ourselves to holy living. As covenant partners, called to faithful obedience, and set free for joyful praise, we offer our hearts and lives to do God's work in his world. With tempered impatience, eager to see injustice ended, we expect the Day of the Lord. And we are confident that the light which shines in the present darkness will fill the earth when Christ appears. Come, Lord Jesus! Our world belongs to you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“O for A Closer Walk with God”
Chancel Choir and Robin Koozer, Director
(Pre-Recorded from worship in 1/21/18)

arr. Everett Titcomb

*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, we come before you seeking your grace and love and offering you these gifts to extend your grace and love to others. Be present in our lives, and may these gifts we give today remind all of your presence. Fill us with your light, and may these gifts bring light into the darkness. Be generous with your love, and may these gifts be symbols of your love and generosity. Strengthen us for your service, and may these gifts be multiplied in service to you. Amen.

*HYMN

“God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength (Psalm 46)”

329

*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

“Prelude in G Major”
Linda Vollweiler, Organ

Johann Christian Kittel

(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

O Lord My God

How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
 2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der and hear the
 3 And when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to
 4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion and take me



all the *worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees, when I look down from
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross, my
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then *I shall bow in




hear the *roll-ing thun-der, thy power through-out the
 loft-y moun-tain gran-deur and hear the brook and
 bur-den glad-ly bear-ing, he bled and died and
 hum-ble ad-o-ra-tion, and there pro-claim, "My

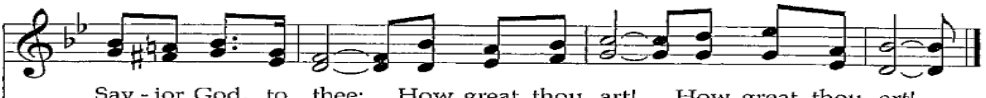


Refrain

u-ni-verse dis-played:
 feel the gen-tle breeze: Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to
 take a-way my sin:
 God, how great thou art!"



thee: How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my



Sav-ior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!

*Author's original words are "works," "mighty," and "shall I bow."

This tuneful retelling of the salvation story began in Swedish and was translated into German and then into Russian before reaching its English form. Despite such linguistic and musical revisions, it continues to be a meaningful source of comfort to many people.

TEXT: Stuart K. Hine, 1953; Spanish trans. Arturo W. Hottel Rives, alt.; Korean trans. anon.

MUSIC: Swedish folk melody; adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1949

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HOW GREAT THOU ART

11.10.11.10 with refrain

582

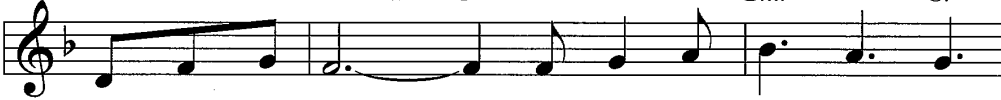
Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
B \flat F B \flat F B \flat F Gm F




1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
F B \flat E \flat B \flat Gm7 C7




and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)
C7 F A Dm



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)
Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F



As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

79 Light Dawns on a Weary World



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
 2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
 3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
 bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
 lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
 wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
 wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.



The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

This is a hymn whose tune came first. Upon hearing it, the author recalled the watered garden of Isaiah 58:11, which in turn led to Isaiah 55:12, paraphrased in the refrain. Then came the stanzas, organized around their first two words: Light dawns, Love grows, Hope blooms.

606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major, indicated by a single sharp (F#) on the treble clef. The key signature is G major. The time signature is common time (C). The score consists of three systems of music. Each system has a treble staff and a bass staff. The lyrics are written below the staves. The first system of music has the lyrics: 'Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise *him, all crea-tures'. The second system of music has the lyrics: 'here be-low; praise *him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise'. The third system of music has the lyrics: 'Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.' The music is a simple, homophonic setting of the doxology, with the melody primarily in the treble part and the bass part providing harmonic support.

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

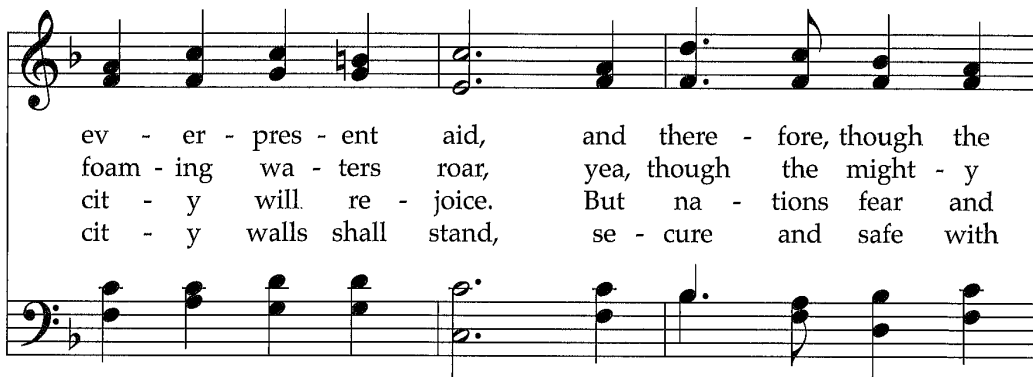
OLD HUNDREDTH
LM

329 God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength

(Psalm 46)



1 God is our ref - uge and our strength, our
 2 Though hills a - mid the seas be cast, though
 3 Where God a - bides a riv - er flows; that
 4 Since God is in the midst of it, the



ev - er - pres - ent aid, and there - fore, though the
 foam - ing wa - ters roar, yea, though the might - y
 cit - y will re - joice. But na - tions fear and
 cit - y walls shall stand, se - cure and safe with



earth be moved, we will not be a - fraid;
 bil - lows shake the moun - tains on the shore.
 king - doms shake be - fore God's thun - dering voice.
 God's sure help, when trou - ble is at hand.

The first two stanzas of this very condensed paraphrase of Psalm 46 were created early in the 20th century, and the last two stanzas were prepared near its end. The text is set to a late 16th-century psalm tune that comes from the first such collection to give tunes names.

January 10, 2020

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

Flowers are given in memory of Lucille Johnson, who was born January 10, 1921, by Brian and Laurie Johnson.

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 | Family of Carlyn McPherson | Eleanor Oliver |
| Cindy Pickett | Family of Burdetta Fricke | Family of JoAnn Finley |
| Jeff Howard | Connie & Tom Kubicka (Chris Junker's parents) | Norris Swan and family |
| Gretchen Lainson | Elaine Schumacher (Vicki Howard's mom) | Tommy Thomsen |
| Carol Medsker | Melba Trehern (Lisa Unger's mom) | Craig and JoAnn Williams |
| Pastor Greg and family | 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

- ♥ 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.
- ♥ JoAnn Finley, who passed away 12/26/2020. Memorials may be given to St. Paul's Lutheran Church at Northboro, IA, First Presbyterian Church of Hastings, or Hastings Public Library.

January Communion offering be designated to the Harvard People's Project.

Jackson Graves earns Eagle Scout Rank

Jackson Graves recently completed all the requirements to earn the rank of Eagle Scout.

Graves, the son of Dan and Jodi Graves, joined Hastings Troop No. 207 in fifth grade and is the third generation of his family to become an Eagle Scout. He has earned 33 merit badges and has served in several leadership positions within the troop.

Eagle Scout is the highest rank that can be attained by members of Scouts BSA. Only about 2% of youth who join the Scouts earn this honor.

For his Eagle Scout project, Graves built a mobile shelter for United Harvest, the food distribution pantry sponsored by First Presbyterian Church and First United Methodist Church.

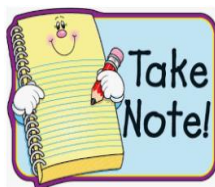


Thinking of You Notes With COVID-19 on the rise, a number of our retirement communities have closed to visitors again, which can lead to a sense of isolation. We want our members who live in these homes to know that they have a church family that loves them and is thinking about them. One way to do that 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 --- January 11 – January 17, 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.

| | | |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Mon, Jan 11 | 8:30a-9:30a | Walkers in PEACE Center GYM “Monday Check-in” Communication from Pastor Greg and Pastor Damen |
| Tues, Jan 12 | 8:30a-9:30a 10:30a-11:30a 12:00p-1:00p 5:30p-6:30p 6:00p-7:00p | Walkers in PEACE Center GYM Staff Meeting Bible Study via Zoom Conferencing Congregational Life via Zoom Conferencing Trustees via Zoom Conferencing |
| Wed, Jan 13 | 8:30a-9:30a 12:00p-1:00p | Walkers in PEACE Center GYM Noonday Bible Study via Zoom Conferencing |
| Thurs, Jan 14 | 5:30p-6:30p 4:30p-5:30p 5:00p-6:00p | Christian Ed (Youth) via Zoom Conferencing Mission Committee via Zoom Conferencing Personnel Committee via Zoom Conferencing |
| Sat, Jan 16 | 9:30a-2:30p | United Harvest |
| Sun, Jan 17 | 9:15a-10:15a 9:15a-10:15a 10:30a | Heirs Apparent via Zoom Conferencing Forum via Zoom Conferencing “Stay at Home” Worship Service |



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.



The **next Red Cross Blood Drive** is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 30, 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.



The Hands Around the World Store has ordered more coffee. Stop by the church office to re-stock your supply at \$10 per bag.



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>



Presbyterian Women PW will not meet until further notice. This means there will be no Circle meetings and no monthly luncheons. Members will receive monthly packets.

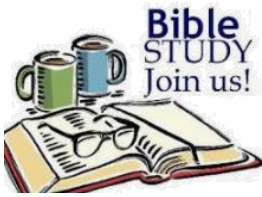


Forum Our regularly scheduled Adult Enrichment hour, known as Forum, meets most Sundays at 9:15. We won't be meeting in person just yet, but folks can join in the conversation live via Zoom. All

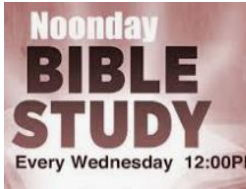
Forum sessions will also be recorded and posted to the church's YouTube page so you can watch the session at any time. To join in for the discussion, please let the church office know, and we'll get you all set up! The next class begins 01/10/2021 with a 4-week study on Epiphany: Created Anew – Faith and Art.

If you want to go back and watch a previous Forum, it can be found on the church YouTube page <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh5z--uePAXhoKVfay2w4g/videos>

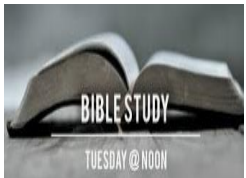




Heirs Apparent Adult Sunday School, with Curtis Reimer leading, meets via Zoom most Sunday mornings at 9:15am. Heirs Apparent will be starting a new study Sunday 1/10/21 with a 5-week study entitled *Dream Big: know what you want, why you want it, and what you're going to do about it* by Bob Goff. We will continue meeting via zoom. To join this study, please email Curtis at teece4@gmail.com or call the church office to get the Zoom link.



Bible at Breakfast has a new time and name! Join us for Noonday Bible Study via ZOOM on Wednesdays 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.



PreK-5th Grades: Families will receive packets of materials in the mail to use as you follow along with video lessons to be posted weekly on our church website <https://fpchastings.org/children/>

6th-8th Grades & 9th to 12th Grades There will be no Wednesday night youth group, no Sunday morning Sunday School, or current 8th-Grade Confirmation Class at this time. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions!



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 van or delivery service. Our goal is to provide food where there is a high need, but resources are limited. The mobile food pantry is available on a limited basis. The information provided by the food pantry is for informational purposes only.

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 |

Created Anew

A Sermon Series that highlights God's creativity, and helps us discover the creativity in ourselves, as we explore what it means to be a Christian in the world today.



Jan. 10: Genesis 1:1-5
God Created. Now what?

Jan. 17: 1 Cor. 6:12-20
Creating Christian Freedom

Jan. 24: Jonah 3:1-5,10
Creativity in Connection

Jan. 31: 1 Cor. 8:1-13
Being the Epiphany