

March 7, 2021 – 10:30 a.m. Third Sunday of Lent Celebrating the Gifts of Women

PRELUDE

"Fantasia"

Johann Pachelbel

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

WELCOME

Greg Allen-Pickett

Jeni Howard

Jodi Graves

INTROIT

"A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar" Robert Lowry/Brian Wren Women's Choir; Linda Johnson, director (pre-recorded 3/8/20)

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 146, adapted*)

I will praise the Lord as long as I live.

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Happy are they whose hope is in the Lord their God, who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them, who keeps promises forever,

who gives justice to those who are oppressed and food to those who hunger. The Lord sets the captive free!

The Lord cares for the stranger; the Lord sustains the orphan and widow but frustrates the way of the wicked.

The Lord shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, through all generations! Come, let us worship our creative, promise-keeping, just, liberating, and caring God!

*OPENING HYMN "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant" 727 Susan Medsker, Song Leader

CALL TO CONFESSION

Scripture tells us that every nation and all peoples will stand before the throne of glory of our Alpha and Omega, Jesus Christ, shepherd of all. Seeking mercy, let us boldly come before the throne of grace. Let us confess our sins against God and neighbor by reading aloud the prayer of confession, followed by a time of silent confession. Let us pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory and righteousness, we confess that we do not live as citizens of your kingdom. We give allegiance to worldly thrones. We ignore the neediest in our midst. We discount our own worth. We forsake your just rule and the rules of your kingdom. Take from us the spirit of isolation, greed, lust for power, and false pride. Give us instead the spirit of interdependency, generosity, humility, and love. In all things, grant us time for amendment of life that we may serve you all the length of our days. Through Christ Jesus, we pray.

SILENT CONFESSION

What have I done or left undone that I need to confess today?

Kili Wenburg Beloved in Christ, you are blessed by God to inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, we are refashioned every day to live according to God's reign, in the freedom of Christ Jesus.

Friends, know that we are forgiven and be at peace.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE "Glory Be to the Father"

*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 PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Kathy Amyot Shepherding God, you seek us out in our scattered places and bring us again to the rich and good pastures of your holy scripture. By your governing Spirit, feed us now with your word of life and lead us in all truth and obedience, for you alone are our protector and sure hope. Amen.

Psalm 19:7-10 1st SCRIPTURE READING

"We Are Women, Women of Faith" Fijian Gospel Song/arr. Benjamin Howie ANTHEM Women's Choir; Linda Johnson, director (pre-recorded 3/8/20)

2 nd SCRIPTURE	READING	Matthew 25:31-45	Susan Medsker
SERMON		"The Law of Love"	Kili Wenburg
*HYMN	"Come	Now, You Blessed, Eat at My Table"	186
OFFERING			
OFFERTORY	"Lord	Speak to Me" Adapted from a theme of Sci	humann/arr. Warner
*DOXOLOGY	"Praise G	od from Whom All Blessings Flow"	606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Flossie Sanderson

Into your hands and into the hands of your stewards, we place these gifts. May they be used to feed the hungry and give drink to the thirsty. May they be used to take care of the sick and welcome the stranger. Take these gifts and multiply them, and take our lives and use them to build your kingdom. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING The Lord be with you all. And also with you. Let us give our thanks to God. It is right to give God thanks and praise.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

"The Church of Christ in Every Age"

320 (During the singing of the final hymn, we will take a second offering to benefit Hastings Habitat for *Humanity*. *The congregation is invited to come down to the communion table and place their offering in the* basket.)

BENEDICTION:

*HYMN

Mary Fisk

A LITANY OF WOMEN WHO SEEK TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE Holy and loving God, author of life and giver of every good gift, you visit us with your glory and set us on paths of justice and compassion. Receive our thanks and praise! Hear especially our gratitude for women who have kept your commandments in caring for the least among us. For Mary and Hannah's proclamation of your righteousness and for all who continue this praise and declaration:

We give you thanks.

For Esther, who negotiated with power and for all who work for and advocate on behalf of the powerless:

We give you thanks.

For Lydia in the Book of Acts, for her use of her wealth and business connections to advance the Good News of the gospel, and for all who use their influence for good:

We give you thanks.

For Tabitha's care for the well-being of others and for all who are turned outward with compassionate care, particularly the nurses, teachers, and frontline workers:

We give you thanks.

For the Samaritan woman at the well who risked speaking to you and who shared good news, for all who speak up and speak out:

We give you thanks.

For women who serve and lead this church, and who serve and lead in our community;

For women who dance, paint, sing, all artists who expand our vision of justice; For young women crying out against all manner of evil;

For women with length of days who teach by experience;

We give you thanks.

As we close this service of worship today, hear our thanks and praise, O God. And may these women inspire us to go out and serve "the least of these" in all that we do. Amen!

*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

"Hymn to Joy"

Beethoven/arr. Warner

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 In-Person and Stay-at-Home worship

In-Person: Please click on this link and register <u>http://bit.ly/FPCH-Res14</u> or call the church office: 402-462-5147. If we hit the maximum capacity of 120 family units/individuals, you will be added to the reservation list for the following week.

Stay-at-Home: Broadcast live on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/fpchastings</u> (*Please note, you do not need a Facebook account to view the service.*) The Worship Service can also be heard live on the radio simulcast on KICS 1550 AM and on 92.7FM

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

Head of Church: Jesus Christ	Ministers: Members of the Church
Senior Pastor: Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett	Associate Pastor: Rev. Damen Jensen-Heitmann
Director of Children & Family	Parish Associate: Kili Wenburg
Ministries: Stephanie Brader	Chancel Choir Director: Dr. Robin Koozer
Organist and Music Coordinator: Linda Vollweiler	Chancel Bells & Calvin/Westminster
Calvin/Westminster Choir Director: Linda Johnson	Bells Director: Dr. Byron Jensen
Praise/Alleluia Choir Directors: Tim and Teresa Canady	Church Office Administrator: Jean Matheny
Praise/Alleluia Bells Choir Director: Dr. Susan Oliver	Facilities Manager: Tony Calhoun
Accompanist: Mary Plock	Bookkeeper: Deb Hamburger
Scholar in Residence: Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh	Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacev



The opening and closing stanza expresses the essence of this folk-style song about the mutuality of servant ministry: those who serve must also be willing to be served. This is what Christ intended when he commanded the disciples to "wash one another's feet" (John 13:14).

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MUSIC: Richard Gillard, 1977; arr. Betty Pulkingham Text and Music © 1977 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing THE SERVANT SONG 8.7.8.7

TEXT: Richard Gillard, 1977, alt.



TEXT: Trad. liturgical text MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

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GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)

JESUS CHRIST: LIFE



This text reproduces Matthew 25:34–39 so faithfully that it can appropriately be regarded as a paraphrase of that passage; but like all effective paraphrases, it adds just enough detail to give the familiar language a sense of freshness and immediacy that helps us hear it anew.

COME NOW, YOU BLESSED 10.10.10.10 SERVICE MUSIC



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

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THE CHURCH



In this challenging text by a British Methodist minister, the odd-numbered stanzas develop the image of "the servant church," while the second surveys the many needs and the fourth describes the true source of strength for the task.

TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, 1969 MUSIC: William Knapp, 1738 Text © 1971 Hope Publishing Company WAREHAM LM (alternate harmonization, 665)

March 7, 2021

The radio broadcast airs during the 10:30 a.m. service on KICS 1550 AM and is given in memory of Mr. & Mrs. R. D. Geyerman by the family.

Flowers are given in memory of Rose & Robert Ryan and Mr. & Mrs. R. D. Geyerman.

Ushers

March 7: Chanda Essink, Dick Brader, Daveta Brader, Julie Thomsen, Erica Brooks, Ted Schroeder, Susie Graham

March 14: Erica Brooks, Ted Schroder, Jessica Meeske, Todd Pankratz, Dick Brader, Daveta Brader

Today's 10:30 "In-Person" Worship Service will be broadcast

- > live on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/fpchastings</u> (You don't need an account.)
- > on the radio during Sunday service at 10:30 a.m. simulcast on KICS 1550AM and 92.7FM
- > 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 "In-Person" and "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: <u>https://fpchastings.org/give-online/</u>

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	Jack Stinson (Julie Thomsen's dad)	Karen Doerr and family	
Cindy Pickett	Connie & Tom Kubicka (Chris Junker's parents)	Rachael Lay	
Jeff Howard	Elaine Schumacher (Vicki Howard's mom)	Norris Swan	
Gretchen Lainson	Melba Trehern (Lisa Unger's mom)	Tommy Thomsen	
JoAnn Williams and Family	Chris Wheeler (Carol Wheeler's son)	Carol Medsker	
	Rev. Dr. Cheryl Ann Elfond	Mary Jeanne Cooke	
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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 *March Communion Offering will go to Hastings Area Habitat for Humanity*. This year Habitat has 2 homes on S. Chicago street. One is already completed, and the second home will be finished this fall.

These Homes are not gifts. Selected families are required to complete 300 hours of sweat equity by assisting volunteers in the building of the home. Their interest-free mortgage is repaid by the homeowners over a 30-year period.

Habitat's vision is to help more families live in decent, affordable homes in our community. Thank you from Hastings Area Habitat for Humanity.

This Week at FPC --- March 8- March 14, 2021

Session has voted that all in-person meetings must follow the following guidelines through March for the safety of our congregation and staff and to comply with the State-Directed Health Measures. 1.) 20 or fewer in attendance, 2.) No time limit, 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.

TODAY 03/07	12:00p-1:00p	Lenten Discussion Group Lydia Room/Zoom		
Mon, Mar 8		"Monday Check-in" Communication		
		from Pastor Greg and Pastor Damen		
	7:00p-8:00p	Troop 200 Scouts in Scout Room		
Tues, Mar 9	10:30a-11:30a	Staff Meeting		
	12:00p-1:00p	Lenten Discussion Group Anderson/Zoom		
	4:30p-5:30p	Mission Parlor/Zoom		
	5:30p-6:30p	Congregational Life Parlor/Zoom		
	6:00p-7:00p	Trustees Anderson/Zoom		
Wed, Mar 10	12:00p-1:00p	Noonday Bible Study via Zoom		
	5:00p-7:00p	Confirmation Class		
	7:00p-8:00-	Chancel Bells Upstairs Ed Wing		
	7:00p-8:00p	6 th - 8 th Grade In-Person Youth Group Church		
		youth room		
	7:00p-8:00p	9 th - 12 th Grade In-Person Youth Group PEACE		
		Center youth room		
Thurs, Mar 11	6:00p-7:00p	Mexican Dance Class NE Classroom/PEACE Center		
	7:00p-8:00p	Spanish Class NW Classroom/PEACE Center		
	5:30p-6:30p	Personnel Anderson/Zoom		
	7:00p-8:00p	Cub Scouts in Fellowship Hall		
	6:00p-7:00p	Mexican Dance Class PEACE Center NE room		
	7:00p-8:00p	Spanish Class PEACE Center NW room		
Fri, Mar 12	8:00a-9:00a	Lenten Discussion Group Lydia Room/Zoom		
Sat, Mar 13	SET YOUR CLOCKS	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME STARTS TONIGHT		
Sun, Mar 14	9:15a-10:15a	Heirs Apparent Adult Study Anderson/Zoom		
	9:15a-10:15a	Forum Adult Study via Zoom		
	10:30a	Stay-At-Home and In-Person Worship Service		
		(Be sure to register your attendance)		
	12:00p-1:00p	Lenten Discussion Group Lydia Room/Zoom		

Birthday Card Showers



♥ Joyce Harrenstein will be turning 100 years old on Sunday March 14th. Her family is requesting a card shower to celebrate this momentous occasion. Cards can be sent to her at 2525 S Wabash Ave; Hastings, NE 68901. An open house will be held in August to celebrate her birthday when it is safer to do so.

◆ Please help Tommy Thomsen celebrate her **96t**h birthday on March 15th, by sending a card to her at the Kensington:233 N. Hastings, room #415, Hastings NE 68901



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.



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-meup. Please join us in this important work.



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

The Store will be OPEN, Sunday, 03/21, and 03/28 from 1:00p-2:00p. Covid rules will apply: masks required, 15 or fewer people with social distancing observed.



Everyone in our church family should have received a copy of the Lenten devotional entitled "That They May All Be One: The First Stitches." This devotional will lead readers through a series of reflections and activities designed to enable them to take first steps toward living with a greater sense of unity with those around them--even those with whom they sincerely disagree! This process will be greatly enhanced by sharing and discussing with others what one is learning through this Lenten journey.

Thus, you are encouraged to consider joining one of the three discussion groups that will be meeting weekly over the next six weeks. All three groups will be available both in person and via Zoom. *Contact the church office to get the link for the meeting of your choice*.

Fridays at 8 AM in the Lydia Room and via Zoom (led by Kili) February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2

Sundays at 12 PM in the Lydia Room and via Zoom (led by Pastor Damen) February 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28

Tuesdays at 12 PM in the Anderson Room and via Zoom (led by Pastor Greg) February 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

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:	Easter Vigil April 2-4 Beginning after Good Friday Evening Service Until 7:00 a.m. Easter
Lily in honor of:	Sunday
Given by:	Please sign up for times in the Memorial Room or on
I will take my Lily home after the Easter Sunday services: Yes No Will leave my Lily at the church: Yes No ***(All lilies left will be delivered to a member of the church who is unable to attend services.)	line at 2021 Easter Vigil Sign Up Sheet.doo



FPC Virtual Choir I want to invite you to participate in the recording of a virtual choir video. Unlike our previous "virtual" choir productions of "Be Thou My Vision" and "Silent Night," *I am asking EVERYONE in our congregation to participate...this means NOT ONLY THE CHANCEL CHOIR, BUT YOU!* In fact, encourage your non-Presbyterian friends! Nothing speaks to unity more profoundly than singing in a choir!

Many of you may know my favorite hymn tune is ORA LABORA ("Come, Labor On"). Another friend, Jeremy Bankson, has recently published a wonderful choral anthem using that hymn. With permission from the composer and his publisher, I have written five new verses applicable to our Lenten journey for a special musical project in our church and our community.

You will find instructions on how to participate in this virtual choir project on the church website under announcements or via the email sent on 03/01. Please don't let the technology scare you, if what you read below seems overwhelming; we are scheduling times for people to come down to the church to record, so you would just need to show up with your voice, and we will take care of the rest of it. Those times are this Wednesday (3/3) at 6:45 and Thursday (3/4) at 4:00 in the Lydia room.

This is the link to the music with the new verses I have written: <u>http://bit.ly/ComeLaborOn</u> I hope you can join us as we "make a joyful noise" together! ----Robin Koozer



The <u>next</u> **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 <u>www.redcrossblood.org</u>.



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. PW gatherings will be March 17 at 9:30 and 1:30 in Fellowship Hall. Details will be included in the monthly packet.



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 current class began on 02/21/2021

with a 6-part study on the Isenheim Altarpiece led by Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh, and will go through 03/28/2021.

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



Heirs Apparent Adult Sunday School, with Curtis Reimer leading, meets via Zoom most Sunday mornings at 9:15am. We began the current study on 02/21/2021 using the book *Visioneering* by Andy Stanley, which is based on the book of Nehemiah in the Old Testament. We will meet in the Anderson room and 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 <u>sbbrooks52@gmail.com</u>. 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.

Construction of the Month
 Annee Building
 Lincoln and 7th St. Hastings

 Sponsored by:
First United Methodist Church
 First Presbyterian Church

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.

	March 20, 2021	
F, G, H	May park and get number starting at:	9:45 AM
I, J, K, L	May park and get number starting at:	10:00 AM
M, N, O	May park and get number starting at:	10:15 AM
P, Q, R	May park and get number starting at:	10:30 AM
S, T, U	May park and get number starting at:	10:45 AM
V, W, X, Y, Z	May park and get number starting at:	11:00 AM
А, В	May park and get number starting at:	11:15 AM
C, D, E	May park and get number starting at:	11:30 AM



<u>**PreK-5th Grades:**</u> 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 <u>https://fpchastings.org/children/</u>

<u>6th-8th Grades</u>: We will be hosting in-person 6th-8th Grade Youth Group on Wednesday evenings beginning on **February 3**. 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.

<u>9</u>th-12th Grades: We will be hosting in-person 9th-12th Grade Youth Group on Wednesday evenings beginning on **February 3**. 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.

In-Person Confirmation Class for the current 8th Graders is being held on Wednesday evenings from 5:00-7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner is provided. All participants are required to wear a facemask when not eating and must maintain proper social distancing guidelines.



Save the Dates for VBS 2021

Tuesday, June 1st – Thursday, June 3rd VBS will take place OUTSIDE in the MORNING Location: Masonic Temple Grass Lot @ corner of 6th St. and Hastings Ave. First Presbyterian Church and First United Methodist Church will combine for VBS 2021! Registration information coming soon!