



**Sixteenth Sunday
After Pentecost
September 12, 2021
10:30 Worship Service**

PRELUDE “Open Our Eyes” *arr. Peggy Bettcher*
Linda Vollweiler, Organist
(The prelude is an opportunity to worship God, a time of prayer, meditation, and reflection.)

WELCOME Damen Jensen-Heitmann

OPENING QUESTION
What wisdom do you hold in your heart?

INTROIT “This Is the Day” *Les Garrett*

*CALL TO WORSHIP
God invites to this service all who endeavor to know God and live at peace with their neighbors.
Beyond that, it doesn't matter much, really. Shattered lives and broken hearts are welcome in the building.
So, too, are those who feel like failures and those who mourn missed opportunities.
Welcome as well are the frail and aged. You can sit right next to those with the strength and energy of youth.
You can be empty. You can be wise. You can be filled with celebration.
You can be here. You can know God. You can love your neighbor as yourself.
May the God who welcomes all be revealed to us today.
May we see the wisdom that is at hand.

Due to COVID-19 and the threat of disease transmission through aerosolized particles that are expelled during singing, we will not be singing out loud during our service. You are invited to hum along if you would like, reflect on the lyrics, and let the music enhance your worship of God this morning

Sue Medsker, Song Leader

1) Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful
key that shall unclasp and set me
free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready,
my God, thy will to see. Open my
eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!

2) Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear.
And while the wave notes fall on
my ear, everything false will
disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready,
my God, thy will to see. Open my
ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The truth is, O God, that we like name-brand wisdom. We like the wisdom that comes in the box we already know, with the packaging we've come to trust. We've heard that wisdom can come from all sorts of places and issue forth from all kinds of lips, but if it is too unfamiliar to us, we have a tendency to turn our backs and cover our ears. We don't let it reach our hearts. We prefer the wisdom that says, "You're right!" and not the stuff that says, "Maybe rethink that one." The wisdom we often choose from the shelf confirms what we already believe we know. We avoid the wisdom that humbles us and calls us to new ways of thinking and being. Your wisdom, O God, calls from the street, it springs forth from unexpected voices and in controversial ways. Forgive us, O God, for the times we have failed to hear your word proclaimed. Help us to recognize your wisdom wherever it may be.

SILENT CONFESSION & QUESTION FOR CONTEMPLATION

What word of God are you missing or not hearing?

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God's mercy turns our foolishness into forgiveness.

The compassion of God grants us understanding and unsticks our hearts.

Sisters and brothers, the grace of God has found us once more. We are forgiven and restored.

Alleluia! Amen.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

“Glory Be to the Father”

581

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

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

*PEACE OF CHRIST

The Peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

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

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

***Reclaim us, O God, with your Word. Renew us with your Wisdom.
Empower us with your Spirit. Amen.***

1st SCRIPTURE READING – Wisdom of Solomon 1:26-8:1

2nd SCRIPTURE READING – Proverbs 1:20-33

MESSAGE “Wisdom? Who Dat?” or “Wisdom, Huh, What is it Good For?”

*HYMN

Come & Seek the Ways of Wisdom

174

1) Come and seek the ways of
Wisdom, she who danced when
earth was new. Follow closely what
she teaches, for her words are
right and true.

Wisdom clears the path to justice,
showing us what love must do.

2) Listen to the voice of Wisdom,
crying in the marketplace. Hear
the Word made flesh among us,

full of glory, truth, and grace.
When the word takes root and
ripens, peace and righteousness
embrace.

3) Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;
nurture all who seek rebirth.
Spirit-guide and close companion,
bring to light our sacred worth.
Free us to become your people,
holy friends of God and earth.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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.

For the health and safety of our members, we will not pass a plate or collect gifts during the offering. You are invited to give by dropping your offering as you leave in the plates at the back of the sanctuary, dropping it in the outside locked tithing box located on the second brick column under the portico, mailing it in, or giving online: <https://fpchastings.org/give-online/>

OFFERING (All loose coins in the offering plate will be donated to PC(USA) Hunger Fund.)

OFFERTORY "Change My Heart" *arr. Tim Doran*

***DOXOLOGY** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" 606
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We give thee but thine own, whatever the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee. 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** *Be Thou My Vision* 450
(Verses 1 & 2)

1) Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2) Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me,
Lord; Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower; raise thou me heavenward, O
Power of my power.

*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!

*POSTLUDE Benedictus on "Sicilian Mariners" *Gordan Young*

(The postlude serves as a musical blessing for worshipers as they transition out into the world.)

Today's 10:30am In-Person 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 10:30am simulcast on KICS 1550AM and 92.7FM.
- on **Channel 181** Tuesday at 1:00pm and Sunday at 9:00am.
- at **Good Samaritan Village**, the service will be broadcast on Channel 3 on Sunday at 12:00pm and on Tuesday at 2:00pm.
- 10:30am at **College View** live on Facebook in the small theatre room. Residents and their families are welcome.
- A copy of any Sunday service is available on **DVD** disc upon request at no charge. Contact Sarah in the office at 402-462-5147 or sarah@fpchastings.org.

September 12, 2021

THE RADIO BROADCAST is given in memory of Dr. Robert McIntire by Marilyn McIntire.
FLOWERS are given in memory of Dr. Robert McIntire by Marilyn McIntire.

GREETERS 9/12/21: Charles Hermes and Jeni & George Howard

GREETERS 9/19/21: Lois & John Meeske-Memorial Room; Dixie & Gale McDonald-Narthex

USHERS FOR SEPTEMBER: Team #1 Chuck Hastings (Captain)

Luke Brooks	Jessica Meeske	Roger Sunderman
LaVern Franzen	Todd Pankratz	Elaine Specht

Please Pray For:

<i>Rich Portwood</i>	<i>Tommy Thomsen</i>	<i>Pam & Don Canady</i>
<i>Carol & Frank Medsker</i>	<i>Tut Ruei Family</i>	<i>Lois Hafer</i>
<i>Shirley Gass</i>	<i>Brad Davis</i>	<i>Katherine Sachtleben</i>
<i>Lanae Hall's Mother</i>	<i>Frank Georgiana</i>	<i>Bev Stein</i>
<i>Elaine Schumacher</i>	<i>Chris Wheeler</i>	<i>Greg Howard</i>
<i>Melba Trehern</i>	<i>Rachael Lay</i>	<i>Rev. Dr. Cheryl Ann Elfond</i>



The Nursery will be staffed:
Sundays 9:15am-11:30am as long as Sunday School
classes are in session.

SUN 9/12	8:30a-9:30a	Worship in the Park	Alexander Park
	9:15a-10:15a	Forum Series	Lydia Room/Zoom
	9:15a-10:15a	Sunday School Hour	Various
	10:00a-10:30a	Store Open	Hands Around the World-Narthex
	10:30a-11:30a	Traditional Service	FPC Sanctuary
	11:30a-12:00p	Store Open	Hands Around the World-Narthex
	11:30a	Picnic In the Park	Alexander Park
	3:00p-4:00p	Vaccination Clinic	Fellowship Hall
MON 9/13	8:30a-10:00a	Walkers/Coffee	Mon-Thurs PEACE Gym & NW Class
	1:00p-3:00p	FPC Open Pickleball	PEACE Gym
TUES 9/14	10:30a-11:30a	Staff Meeting	Zoom
	12:00p-6:00p	Red Cross Blood Drive	Fellowship Hall
	12:00p-1:00p	Bible Study	Anderson/Zoom
	4:30p-5:30p	Global Mission Meets	Parlor
	5:30p-6:30p	Congregational Life Meets	Parlor
	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	7:00p-8:00p	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
	8:15p-9:15p	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
WED 9/15	9:30a-10:30a	PW Circles	Fellowship
	12:00p-1:00p	Noonday Bible Study	Zoom
	1:15p-2:15p	PW Circles	Fellowship
	4:00p-6:45p	1 st -5 th Grades WNL	
	6:00p-6:45p	WNL Family Meal Time	Fellowship Hall
	6:20p-7:30p	6 th -12 th Bell & Choir Rotations	
	7:30p-8:30p	6 th -12 th Youth Group	LL Church
	6:45p-7:30p	Chancel Choir rehearsal	Portico
	7:30p-8:15p	Chancel Bell rehearsal	Bell Room UL Church
	6:30p-9:00p	Wood Carvers	LL Church
THUR 9/16	5:30p-7:30p	Session Meets	Anderson
	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6:00p-8:00p	Mexican Dance Class	PEACE NE Class
FRI 9/17	10:00a-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies	LL Church
SAT 9/18	9:45a-2:00p	United Harvest	PEACE Parking Lot
SUN 9/19	8:30a-9:30a	Worship in the Park	Alexander Park
	9:15a-10:15a	Forum Series	Lydia Room/Zoom
	9:15a-10:15a	Sunday School All Ages	Various
	10:00a-10:30a	Store Open	Hands Around the World
	10:30a-11:30a	HC Sunday Traditional Worship	FPC Sanctuary
	11:30a-1:30p	HC International Students Meal	FPC outdoor playground area



American Red Cross

First Presbyterian
Church of Hastings

Tuesday, Sept. 14, 12pm-6pm

621 N. Lincoln Ave Hastings, NE

BLOOD DRIVE

Please consider donating blood at First Presbyterian Church's September 14 blood drive. There is a critical need for blood right now. All donors will receive this free t-shirt. To sign up go to redcrossblood.org. Thank you!!

Sunday, September 19th



10:30am Hastings College Sunday

Hastings College keeps to its Presbyterian roots with this traditional Hastings College Sunday Service at FPC. Please join!

11:30am Fine Arts Hall of Fame Brunch

Join the HC Fine Arts Department and Alumni Association in the induction of remarkable alumni that are making a difference in their communities through the use of their talents. Robin Koozer, '76 and FPC Chancel Choir Director, will be honored and inducted for his service through music. For more information, call the HC Alumni Association 402-461-7363 OR email Molly Johnsen mjohnsen@hastings.edu.

11:30am Fellowship, Conversations & Meals

Lunch with international students, 11:30am, outside playground area of the church.



September's Communion Offering
SPECIAL SCOOPS!
237 No. St. Joseph Ave, Hastings

COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic



**Sunday, September 12th &
Follow-Up Clinic Sunday, October 3rd
3:00pm-4:00pm**

**First Presbyterian Church
621 No. Lincoln Ave. Hastings**

Walk-In/No Cost/Open to the Public
Bring your insurance card OR red, white or blue
Medicare card

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 & 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

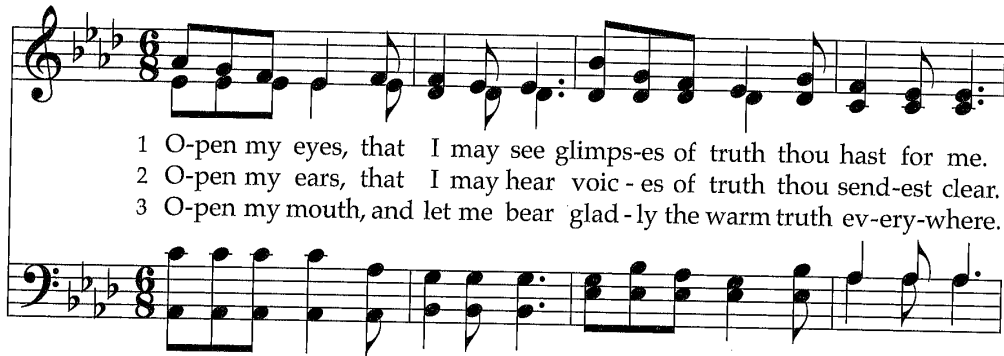
Church Office Administrator: Sarah Allen

Facilities Manager: Tony Calhoun

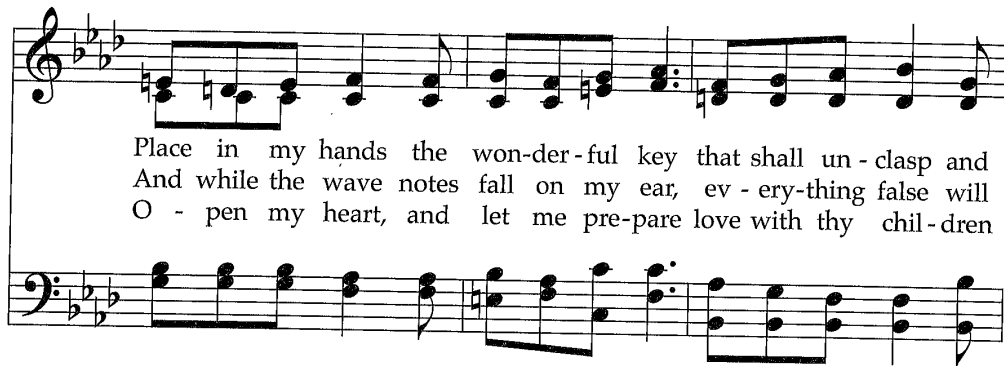
Bookkeeper: Deb Hamburger

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacey

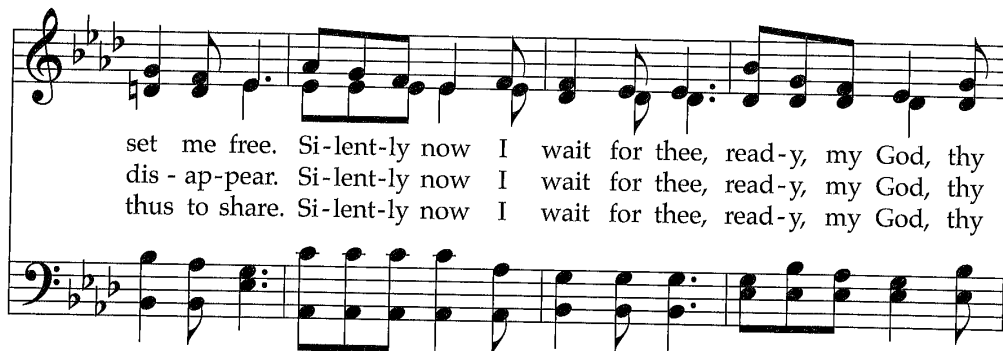
Open My Eyes, That I May See 451



1 O-pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou hast for me.
 2 O-pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth thou send-est clear.
 3 O-pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth ev-ery-where.



Place in my hands the won-der-ful key that shall un - clasp and
 And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev - ery-thing false will
 O - pen my heart, and let me pre-pare love with thy chil-dren



set me free. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
 dis - ap-pear. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
 thus to share. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy



will to see. O - pen my eyes; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!
 will to see. O - pen my ears; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!
 will to see. O - pen my heart; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!

The first woman to publish a collection of her own anthems, this author/composer has created in this hymn a sung prayer for illumination. It not only asks God to help us understand Scripture but also prays for the strength and courage to make God's love known to others.

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom 174



1 Come and seek the ways of Wis-dom, she who danced when
 2 Lis - ten to the voice of Wis-dom, cry - ing in the
 3 Sis - ter Wis - dom, come, as - sist us; nur - ture all who



earth was new. Fol - low close - ly what she teach - es,
 mar - ket - place. Hear the Word made flesh a - mong us,
 seek re - birth. Spir - it - guide and close com - pan - ion,



for her words are right and true. Wis - dom clears the
 full of glo - ry, truth, and grace. When the word takes
 bring to light our sa - cred worth. Free us to be -




path to jus - tice, show - ing us what love must do.
 root and rip - ens, peace and righ - teous - ness em - brace.
 come your peo - ple, ho - ly friends of God and earth.

Drawing on numerous scriptural images of Wisdom (Greek: *Sophia*), especially in Proverbs, this text offers an alternative perspective on Trinitarian theology. The Wisdom tradition has played a role in Christian mysticism for centuries, as witnessed by the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul.

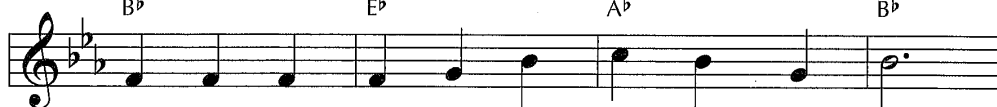
Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) E^b (G) A^b (D/F#) E^b/G (A7) B^b7 (D) E^b




1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) B^b (D) E^b (G) A^b (A) B^b




naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) A^b (D) E^b (F#m7) Gm7 (G) A^b (A) B^b



thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) Cm (D/F#) E^b/G (G) A^b (D) E^b



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

