

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 26, 2021

**PRELUDE** 

"When Morning Gilds the Skies" Linda Vollweiler, Organ

arr. John Innes

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

WELCOME Greg Allen-Pickett

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Inspired by Psalm 19)

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul

The decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;

The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;

The commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;

The ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;

Sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O God, as we praise and worship you this morning, our rock and our redeemer.

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.

\*HYMN

"When Morning Gilds the Skies" (vs. 1-2,4)
Robin Koozer, Song Leader

667

- 1) When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries: may Jesus Christ be praised! Alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair: may Jesus Christ be praised!
- 2) Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find: may Jesus Christ be praised! Or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this: may Jesus Christ be praised!
- 4) Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine: may Jesus Christ be praised! Be this the eternal song through all the ages long: may Jesus Christ be praised!

**CALL TO CONFESSION** 

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creating and rescuing God, your power amazes us. Yet even in our amazement, we take too long to turn to you, forgetting that you are the power that makes and saves and sustains us. Even when we claim your power and seek to live the good life that you invite us to, we often do so for our own success and comfort, ignoring your command to use your power on behalf of the weak, the small, and the vulnerable. Forgive us when our selfishness, greed, or our need for control keep others from knowing you. Redeem us and transform us, O God. Open our hearts, our lives, and our ministries, that we may live the good life as servants of the risen Christ and become a doorway for others to your realm.

#### SILENT CONFESSION

Question for contemplation: When have I been presented with a call to "live the good life" and ignored or resisted it?

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God turns our sorrow into gladness and our times of mourning into celebration. God hears the prayers of faith.

Be confident as we pray for one another, for God heals us, forgives us, and loves us!

Alleluia! Amen!

#### \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

"Glory to God"

582

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. 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 (Greet one another by sharing the Peace of Christ with those around you.) The Peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

#### TIME WITH CHILDREN

**Nancy Grams** 

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God, take the words we hear this morning and turn them into a living word for us in the core of our being. May your Holy Word help us put our faith in no other power than the power of your saving love.

As we hear your word read and proclaimed this morning, may it inspire us to become vessels of your love to a world in need. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING – Selections of the Book of Esther

MESSAGE "Living the Good Life: Finding Purpose" Greg Allen-Pickett

\*HYMN "God of Grace and God of Glory" (vs. 1, 3-4)

307

- 1) God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power; crown thine ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.
- 3) Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control; shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.
- 4) Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore. Let the gift of thy salvation be our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in the consistency of God; the one who was, who is, and who shall be. We believe that God calls us to live beyond ourselves, always looking to the needs of others. We are invited to overflow with grace, to share mercy with others, and to live lives of empathy and joy. God provides for us all that we need. We rest contented in the hope and challenge of Jesus' birth, ministry, death, and resurrection. We are guided by the Holy Scriptures and the continued revelation of the Holy Spirit. We are intricately bound up with one another. May we believe and live accordingly.

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

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: <a href="https://fpchastings.org/give-online/">https://fpchastings.org/give-online/</a>

\*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

Giving God, we can never match your generosity. When we are in need, you are at our side, present to us even in our darkest moments. Make us into a people who celebrate your goodness by sharing generously with the church and those in need in the world. Receive our offerings and our very lives. Transform them into the mystery of your reign here and now on earth, in the name of Jesus, your greatest gift. 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 "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" (vs. 1-2, 4) 753

- 1) Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring your love. Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
- 2) Make me a channel of your peace. Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope. Where there is darkness, only light, and where there's sadness, ever joy.
- 4) Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

#### \*CHARGE AND BLESSING

#### \*BENEDICTION RESPONSES

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!

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

10:30 am World Communion Sunday Worship outdoors at Hastings College! Also broadcast live on Facebook at <a href="www.facebook.com/fpchastings">www.facebook.com/fpchastings</a> (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

#### **September 26, 2021**

**THE RADIO BROADCAST** is given in memory of Thelma and Lester D. Pedersen by their family.

**FLOWERS** are given in memory of William Jensen, Claudina Jensen, Emory and Emma Holloway from Byron, Deb, Nathan Jensen, and Hannah Jensen-Heitmann.

**GREETERS 9/26/21:** Pamela Lay and Vonda Essex-Memorial Room; Amy & Joe Black-Narthex

**GREETERS 10/3/21:** Kili & Justin Wenburg-Memorial Room; Cathy & John Pershing-Narthex

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

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

ACOLYTES 9/26/21: Henry Black and Ruei Duang ACOLYTES 10/3/21: Maddox Pumroy and Riley Propp

CHILDREN'S MOMENT 9/26/21: Nancy Grams

NURSERY VOLUNTEER 9/26/21: Stephanie Brader NURSERY VOLUNTEER 10/3/21: Rachel Guiai

SUN 9/26	8:30a-9:15a	Blessing of the Pets	Alexander Park
	9:15a-10:15a	Forum Series	Lydia Room or Zoom
	9:15a-10:15a	Sunday School All Ages	Various
	10:00a-10:30a	HAWs Store Open	Between Narthex and Memorial Room
	10:30a-11:15a	Traditional Worship	Sanctuary and Various
	11:30a-12:00p	HAWs Store Open	Between Narthex and Memorial Room
MON 9/27	8:30a-10:30a	Walkers/Walkers Coffee	PEACE Gym MON-THURS
	1:00p-3:00p	1 <sup>ST</sup> Pres. Pickleball Open Gym	PEACE Gym
	7:00p-8:00p	Boy Scouts Meeting	Scout Room
TUE 9/28	10:30a-11:30a	Staff Meeting	Zoom
	11:45a-1:15p	Habitat for Humanity Meeting	Fellowship Hall
	12:00p-1:00p	Bible Study with Pastor Greg	Anderson or Zoom
	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	7:00p-8:00p	CCC Dog Obedience Class	PEACE NE Classroom
	8:15p-9:15p	CCC Dog Obedience Class	PEACE NE Classroom
WED 9/29	12:00p-1:00p	Noonday Bible Study w/Dan	Zoom
	4:00p-6:45p	1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grades WNL	Inquire at Check-In
	6:00p-6:45p	WNL Family Meal	FPC Picnic Area
	6:20p-6:50p	6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grades Bell Rehearsal	Inquire at Check-In
	6:50p-7:30p	6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grades Choir Rehearsal	Inquire at Check-In
	7:30p-8:30p	6th-12th Grades Youth Group	Inquire at Check-In
	6:30p-9:00p	Wood Carvers	LL Church
	6:30p-7:30p	1 <sup>ST</sup> Pres. Pickleball Open Gym	PEACE Gym
	6:45p-7:30p	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Portico
	7:30p-8:15p	Chancel Bell Rehearsal	Bell Room
THUR 9/30	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6:00p-8:00p	Mexican Folkloric Dance Class	PEACE Gym NE Classroom
	6:30p-7:30p	Good Reads Book Club	Zoom
	7:00p-8:00p	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall
FRI 10/1	10:00a-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies	LL Church
SUN 10/3		No 8:30 Worship in the Park	
	9:15a-10:15a	Forum Series	Zoom
	9:15a-10:15p	Sunday School All Ages	Various
	10:30a-11:15a	World Communion Sunday	Steinhardt Plaza Hastings College

#### Today's 10:30am 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 10:30am 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 <a href="mailto:sarah@fpchastings.org">sarah@fpchastings.org</a>.



CAROL & FRANK MEDSKER LOIS HAFER KATHERINE SACHTLEBEN

GREG HOWARD RACHAEL LAY FRANK GEORGIANA TOMMY THOMSEN

DAVETA BRADER RICH PORTWOOD SHIRLEY GASS LANAE HALL'S MOTHER

ELAINE SCHUMACHER MELBA TREHERN CHRIS WHEELER BRAD DAVIS

REV. DR. CHERYL ANN ELFOND PAM & DON CANADY TUT RUEI FAMILY

FAMILY OF ALANA DEBELLIS BEV STEIN



The rose on the pulpit is to honor the birth of

Calvin Benjamin Miller

born to parents Dana & Brett Miller

September 16, 2021.

#### 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 & Teresa Canady Church Office Administrator: Sarah Allen

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-Tacey

# *REMINDER:* No Worship in the Park next Sunday, 10/3/2021; Please join us on the Hastings College Campus at Steinhardt Plaza to celebrate

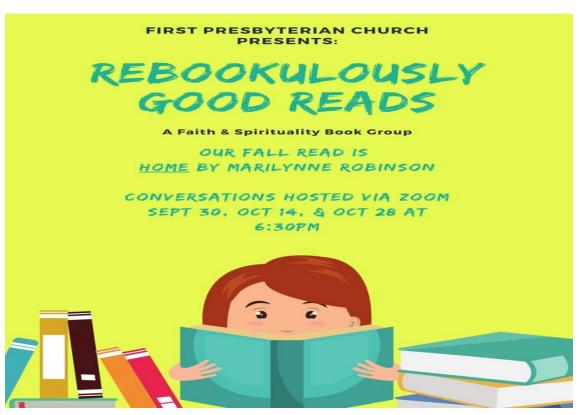
#### WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY.



#### October 3<sup>rd</sup> World Communion Sunday

10:30am Worship

Steinhardt Plaza on the Hastings College Campus
At the brick arches and international flags posted at the curve of 9<sup>th</sup> and Elm



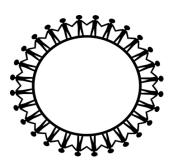
There is still time to read and join in the "Good Reads" online Book Club.

We still have a few copies of the book left in the church office, feel free to come pick one up, there is no charge.

## Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Check out Presbyterian Disaster Assistance if you are looking for a way to donate or provide other support in response to the

devastating earthquake in Haiti or to damage in the Gulf Coast from Hurricane Ida. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has long standing partnerships to provide disaster assistance around the world. They have excellent brochures and a website with information about specific disaster assistance they are providing. This includes a way to donate at: <a href="https://pda.pcusa.org/pda/resource/ida-bulletin/">https://pda.pcusa.org/pda/resource/ida-bulletin/</a>



The **Hands Around the World Store** has received a new shipment from SERRV. Olive oil, spices, jewelry, and new gift items are some of the new products. SERRV supports fair trade artisans and farmers from around the world. The store is located between the Narthex and Memorial Room and is open on Sundays 10:00am-10:30am and 11:30am-12:00pm (when services are in session at the church).

# Change the world. One community garden at a time.

Those aren't just **potatoes** in Edulia and Gregorio's hands... They are the **instruments** of social and economic **prosperity**.

Before, the farmers in the Guarani indigenous community in Bolivia barely survived on a diet of boiled corn. Their children were weak from malnutrition.

Today, they grow an ample supply of nutritious fruits and vegetables in a community garden. They harvest enough food to feed their families and sell a surplus in the market. With the income they make, they are able to purchase protein to supplement their diet and buy more seeds for the garden.

Through the CROP Hunger Walk, you are there, investing in Edulia and Gregorio. Their smiles are thanks to you!

Just last year, 50,217 global neighbors like those in Bolivia were provided stable sources of nutritious food.

795 million more people around the world are waiting for your help.



a year supply of micronutrient packets



jerry cans for a small village



training for 25 farmers

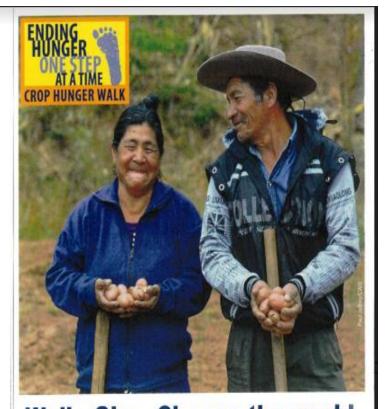


seeds and gardening supplies for a community garden



crophungerwalk.org 888-CWS-CROP





# Walk. Give. Change the world. Hastings CROP Hunger Walk 2pm Sunday, October 10, 2021 Around Heartwell Park Register at N California Ave in the park 25% raised goes to local school's Backpack Food Programs Sponsored by Church Women United crophungerwalk.org

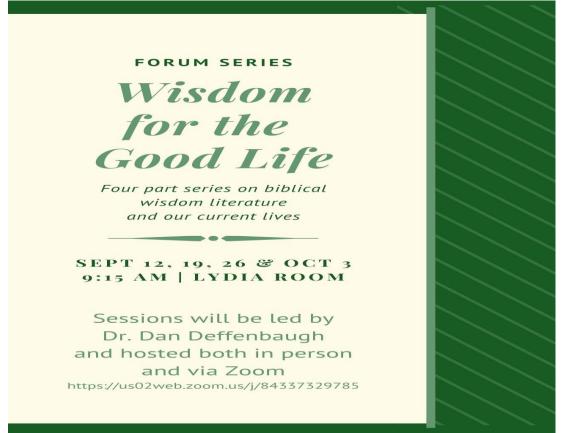


Join the First Presbyterian Church team, create your own team, or simply donate. Reach out to Susie Graham or Sarah in the church Office.

#### Communion Offering for October:

The Committee for Local Mission and Social Witness announces the Communion offering for October as the Our Lady of Lourdes Elementary School through the Friends of Pine Ridge Reservation. Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota is home to the Oglala Sioux Tribe with an estimated population of close to 40,000. The reservation is large, and its needs immense, commensurate with extreme poverty. Friends of Pine Ridge focuses on the specific needs of the many schools and social service organizations such as shelters, children's organizations, and clinics physically located on the reservation. Our Lady of Lourdes Elementary is requesting seven educational games for use in their classrooms:

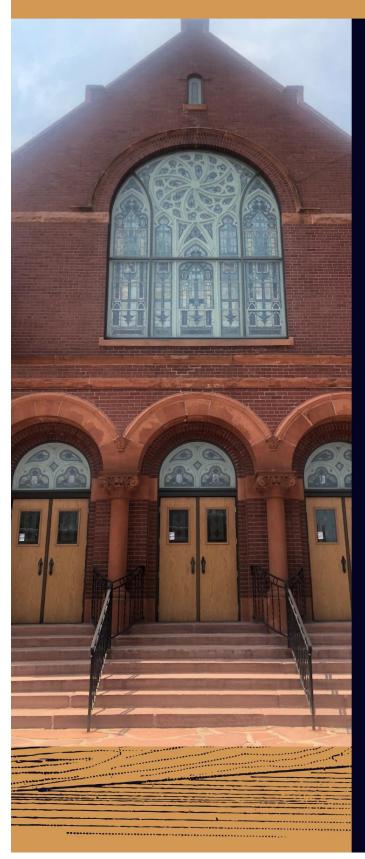
The Time Game	\$32.97
Money Bags game	\$13.06
Sum Swamp	\$19.99
Grammar Wise	\$13.99
Mind Your Numbers	\$13.99
Guess in 10 States in America	\$13.99
Guess in 10 Cities Around the World	\$13.99



The forum series is off to a great start, and it is not too late for you to join in.

Meetings are held during the Sunday School hour 9:15am-10:15am in person in the Lydia Room or via Zoom.

Damen or Sarah are more than happy to email you the zoom link, just reach out and let us know where you'd like it sent.



# Members

Wednesdays 5:15pm-6:15pm

October 13

October 20

October 27

October 27 join our Children and Youth Wednesday Night Live Family Meal immediately after class

CALL 402-462-5147
FOR DETAILS



### 667 When Morning Gilds the Skies



This is not just a morning hymn, though this excerpt from an English translation of an early 19th-century German text may not convey how thoroughly the original deals with different kinds of time throughout the day. The tune was composed as a setting for this English text.

# 307 God of Grace and God of Glory



This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

# 753 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace



love with all my

loved

as

to

soul.