

And most importantly, we light the candle of joy as a sign of gratitude for a God who knows us by name, who is Emmanuel, God with us!

If joy is the song of praise, then joy is where we should stand!

Together we boldly proclaim: Come, Love! Come, Joy! Come, Lord Jesus!

*OPENING HYMN “Candles Glowing, Promise Showing”
(To the tune of “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”)

Candles glowing, promise showing joy that fills our very soul.
Grace abounding, hymns resounding, Christ restores and makes us whole.
Mercies gleaming, wonders beaming, justice streaming, Christ redeeming –
Christ restores and makes us whole! Christ restores and makes us whole!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy Lord, in this time of Advent, we confess we often are distracted by the season’s busyness, by the stress of commitment, and even by putting our own traditions ahead of the true meaning of Christmas. We confess we also often prefer being sentimental to being sacrificial. Forgive us for all the times we have missed seeing you in our midst, for all the times we have doubted your presence, and for all the times we have failed to treat the holidays as holy days. Pour joy into our lives and let us be bearers of your joy to others. Remind us that this is a season of waiting and preparation for the greatest Gift of all. In the holy Name of our Savior, Jesus, we pray.

SILENT CONFESSION & QUESTION FOR CONTEMPLATION

When have I picked bitterness over joy? How can I reorient myself during this season of Advent to embrace and share joy with others?

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Good News! Good News! Good News! God so loved the world that God gave us, sinful and broken humanity, a gift:

Emmanuel, God with us. This is proof of God's love for us!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and loved!

Alleluia! Amen!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE “Angels We Have Heard on High” (vs. 1)

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*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.)

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.

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Speak to us, Lord. Speak to us in the waiting, the watching, the hoping, the longing, the sorrow, the sighing, the rejoicing. Speak to us by your Word in these Advent days, and walk with us until the day of your coming. Amen.

1st SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 3:1-6

ANTHEM “Angels from the Realms of Glory” *Malcolm Archer*

2nd SCRIPTURE READING – Philippians 1:1-11

MESSAGE “**Boundless Joy!**” *Damen Jensen-Heitmann*

*HYMN “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” 611

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: <https://fpchastings.org/give-online/>

OFFERTORY Change Ring Prelude on “Divinum Mysterium” *arr. Fed Gramann*
Hastings College Handbell Choir, director Byron Jensen

*DOXOLOGY “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” 606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Giver of all that is good, may the gifts that we bring today— gifts of money, energy, and commitment— be gathered up into your great love, and through us, may your love overflow more and more into all the world. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, God, for breaking into our world and pouring into our lives and our experiences.

We thank you, God, for this meal of thanksgiving and the stories of love, grace, and hope that it tells. Amen.

*HYMN

“Joy to the World!”

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*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“The Lord Bless You and Keep You”

Peter C. Lutkin

*POSTLUDE

“Joy to the World”

Handel/arr. Schram

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

**COME JOIN US FOR WORSHIP NEXT WEEK & INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS,
FAMILY, AND FRIENDS! IT'S THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT!**

No 8:30am Service

10:30am Advent/Christmas Choral Cantata

www.facebook.com/fpchastings

(Please note, you do not need a Facebook account to view the service.)

10:30am service will also be broadcast live on KICS 1550 AM and 92.7 FM

December 5, 2021

THE RADIO BROADCAST is given in loving memory of David E. Northrop by the Northrop Family

FLOWERS are given in memory of David E. Northrop by the Northrop Family

GREETERS 12/5/21: Melissa Davis and Vonda Essex-Memorial Room; Pat & Dick Kleiber-Narthex

GREETERS 12/12/21: Georgie Evans-Memorial Room; Kathy & Jim Duval-Narthex

USHERS FOR DECEMBER: Team #4 George Howard (Captain)

Susie Graham Dixie McDonald Gale McDonald Ted Schroeder Lori Schroeder

ACOLYTES 12/5/21: Meredith Oliver and Porter Ourada

ACOLYTES 12/12/21: Gabriel Snell and Monroe Runcie

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

Head of Church: Jesus Christ

Senior Pastor: Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett

Director of Children & Family Parish

Ministries: Rose Koepf

Organist and Music Coordinator: Linda Vollweiler

Calvin/Westminster Choir Director: Linda Johnson

Praise/Alleluia Choir Directors: Teresa & Tim 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

Associate: Kili Wenburg

Bookkeeper: Deb Hamburger

Chancel Choir Director: Dr. Robin Koozer

Chancel Bells & Calvin/Westminster

Bells Director: Dr. Byron Jensen

Church Office Administrator: Sarah Allen

Facilities Manager: Tony Calhoun

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacey

Our Giving Tree



During the holidays, our First Presbyterian Church family embraces 60 more brothers and sisters who are served by the Assertive Community Treatment program at South Central Behavioral Services in Hastings. The tags on the ***Giving Tree in the Fellowship Hall*** list items that would be appropriate for the person noted on the tag. Please select from the list one or two items as gifts. Then wrap the items, attaching the tag to the gift bundle. If you bring the gifts to place around our Giving Tree by Sunday, December 19, volunteers will be able to deliver them in time for Christmas.

Of the individual recipients, $\frac{3}{4}$ live independently in their community and $\frac{1}{4}$ live with family members. Most of those who live independently have no family network, so our Christmas gifts are the only ones they receive. During the year, many also depend on food banks and donations of non-perishables and clothing.



PLEASE PRAY FOR

MARY LEWIS
CAROL & FRANK MEDSKER
LOIS HAER
KATHERINE SACTLEBEN
BEV STEIN
GREG HOWARD
RACHAEL LAY
FRANK GEORGIANA
TOMMY THOMSEN
RICH PORTWOOD
SHIRLEY GASS
LANAE HALL'S MOTHER
ELAINE SCHUMACHER
MELBA TREHERN
CHRIS WHEELER
REV. DR. CHERYL ANN ELFOND
PAM & DON CANADY
TUT RUEI FAMILY
BRAD DAVIS
MICHAEL HAHNE
TARALYN DAVIS
CARL UTLEY
MARTHA STUCKEY FAMILY

IN MEMORY OF
JOYCE HARRENSTEIN 11/27/21
CAROL WHEELER 10/24/21



FIRST PRES FORUM SERIES

**CREATING
HOPE**

An Artistic Advent Exploration
Led by Lindsey Kløver
Nov. 21, Dec 5 & 12

During the Sunday School hour in the
Lydia Room or contact the office for
the Zoom link.



SUN 12/5	8:30a-9:15a	Informal Worship Service	Sanctuary
<i>Advent 2:</i>	9:15a-10:15a	Forum	Lydia/Zoom
<i>Joy</i>	9:15a-10:15a	Sunday School Hour	
<i>Communion Sunday</i>	10:00a-10:30a	HAW Store Open	Between Narthex/Memorial Room
	10:30a-11:15a	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary
	11:30a-12:00p	HAW Store Open	Between Narthex/Memorial Room
	3:00p-4:00p	HC Festival of Lessons and Carols	Sanctuary
		<i>Reverse Advent:</i>	<i>Toothbrush and Toothpaste</i>
MON 12/6	8:30a-10:00a	Walkers/Walkers Coffee (Mon-Thurs)	PEACE Gym and NW Classroom
	1:00p-3:00p	First Presbyterian Pickleball Open Gym	PEACE Gym
	2:00p-3:30p	Hearts & Hands Meal Packing	PEACE Center
	7:00p-8:00p	Boy Scouts	Scout Room
		<i>Reverse Advent:</i>	<i>Bathroom Cleaner</i>
TUE 12/7	10:00a-11:00a	Staff Meeting	Zoom
	11:45a-1:15p	Habitat for Humanity	Kessler Room
	12:00p-1:00p	Bible Study with Pastor Greg	Anderson/Zoom
	5:30p-7:00p	WAM Meeting	Fellowship Hall
	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
		<i>Reverse Advent:</i>	<i>Diapers (size 2,5 & 6)</i>
WED 12/8	12:00p-1:00p	Noonday Bible Study with Dan Deffenbaugh	Zoom
	2:00p-3:30p	Hearts & Hands Meal Packing	PEACE Center
	4:00p-6:45p	Wednesday Night Live 1 st -5 th Grades	Check-In Fellowship Hall
	6:00p-6:45p	Family Meal Time	Fellowship Hall
	6:20p-6:50p	6 th -12 th Bell Rehearsal	Bell Room
	6:50p-7:30p	6 th -12 th Choir Rehearsal	TBD
	6:45p-7:30p	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	TBD
	7:30p-8:15p	Chancel Bell Rehearsal	Memorial Room
	6:30p-7:30p	1 st Pres Pickleball Open Gym	PEACE Gym
	6:30p-9:00p	Wood Carvers	Lower-Level Church
		<i>Reverse Advent:</i>	<i>Blankets</i>
THURS 12/9	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6:00p-8:00p	Mexican Folkloric Dance Class	PEACE NE Classroom
	7:00p-8:00p	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall
		<i>Reverse Advent:</i>	<i>Body and Hand Soap</i>
FRI 12/10	10:00a-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies	Church Room 111
		<i>Reverse Advent:</i>	<i>Dish Cloths</i>

SAT 12/11	9:00a-1:00p	HAW Store Holiday Open House	Between Narthex/Memorial Room
		<i>Reverse Advent:</i>	<i>Laundry Detergent</i>
SUN 12/12		<i>No 8:30am service</i>	
<i>Advent 3:</i>	9:30a-10:30a	Forum	Lydia Room/Zoom
<i>Peace</i>	9:30a-10:30a	Sunday School Hour	Various Locations
	10:00a-10:30a	HAW Store Open	Between Narthex/Memorial Room
	10:30a-11:15a	Christmas Choral Cantata	Sanctuary
	11:30a-12:00p	HAW Store Open	Between Narthex/Memorial Room
		<i>Reverse Advent:</i>	<i>Cough Drops</i>



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HANDS AROUND THE WORLD STORE CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE



DECEMBER 11, 2021
9:00AM-1:00PM



The beautiful and unique handcrafted items in our store are made and produced by artisans and farmers from around the world. By purchasing their works, you are helping support their families and provide hope for their future. Each month, a portion of revenue goes to our local mission, United Harvest, helping to support the local community as well.

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
621 N. LINCOLN AVE
HASTINGS