



*College View
Christmas Eve
Service*

*Led by First Presbyterian
Church of Hastings*

Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:10-11

PRELUDE

Christmas Carol Medley
Linda Vollweiler, piano

WELCOME

Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett
Senior Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Hastings

*HYMN

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (Verses 1 & 7)

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LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH AND CHRIST CANDLE

Esther Allen-Pickett

Today, we celebrate Christmas Eve and the birth of the Christ Child! We light all of the candles on the advent wreath. First, we lit the candle of hope. Next, we lit the candle of peace. Then, we lit the candle of joy. Finally, we lit the candle of love.

Today, we light the center candle which represents Jesus Christ. When we light this candle, we remember Jesus' birth. Our waiting has ended!

When we look at the center candle, we remember that God sent Jesus to give hope, peace, joy, and love to all people. The angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and told her to not be afraid for she would bear the Christ child. We are people of hope and not of fear.

Outside of Bethlehem, the shepherds saw a great light and heard the voices of angels telling them to not be afraid for they would meet the Christ child. They traveled to the manger, saw the baby Jesus and found peace.

Far away from Bethlehem, wise men saw a star in the sky. They followed the star and were filled with joy when they found Jesus.

Today, in this place, we celebrate the birth of Jesus full of love for our families and our community and give thanks that God came to earth for us!

*HYMN

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” (verses 1, 3 & 4)

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OPENING PRAYER (Isaiah 9)

God of light and love, shine upon us this Christmas Eve and in the year ahead. Guide us out of darkness and into your joyous light. As we listen to this familiar story, may it enliven and renew our faith in you. May our lives reflect your glorious love, that others may see your Christmas Spirit in us, each and every day of our lives. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you!

And also, with you!

(Greet one another by sharing the peace of Christ)

READING 1

Luke 1:26-38, Matthew 1:19-24

(The angel Gabriel visits Mary and Joseph to announce that Mary will give birth to Baby Jesus.)

HYMN

“Joy to the World” (verses 1, 2 & 4)

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READING 2

Luke 2:1-7

(Announcement of the census that sends Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem; Jesus is born in a manger.)

HYMN

“Away in a Manger”

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READING 3

Luke 2:8-20, Matthew 2:1-12

(The angel appears to the shepherds and invites them to find baby Jesus. Angels sing glory to God! The shepherds go to Bethlehem and meet Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus. They return glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen! The Wise Men follow the star and visit the baby Jesus, Mary and Joseph.)

HYMN

“We Three Kings of Orient Are” (vs. 1 & 5)

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MESSAGE

The Fourth Wise Man

Greg Allen-Pickett

PASTORAL PRAYER 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

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

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CHARGE and BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

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POSTLUDE

“Go Tell it on the Mountain”

arr. Mark Hayes

All are welcome at this Christmas Eve Service, lovingly provided by First Presbyterian Church of Hastings. You are also welcome to join us at our church for worship on Sundays at 8:30am or 10:30am.