



PRELUDE

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

Polish Carol

Linda Vollweiler, organist

arr. Janet Linker

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

BELL INTROIT

“Still, Still, Still”

Alleluia Bells, director Susan Oliver

WELCOME

Greg Allen-Pickett

CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Koozer Family

Today we light all four candles. We light the candles of peace, hope, and joy, and the last candle of Advent, the candle of Love.

We come to this circular wreath as a symbolic reminder that God’s love has no beginning or end. And this wreath and our rails are covered in evergreen, a symbolic reminder that God’s love is everlasting!

When we talk about Advent, we talk about a love song of God kneeling down like a parent to their child saying, “Oh, how I love you,” to each and every one of us.

From birth to death, pain to delight, strangers to friends, God’s love is there.

On this day, we remember that God is Love. This Advent we boldly say: Come, peace! Come, hope! Come, joy! Come love! Come let us worship God!

*OPENING HYMN

“Candles Glowing, Promise Showing” Lyrics by Rev. Elana Keppel Levy
(To the tune of “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”)

Mary Fisk, Sue Medsker, Sarah Wolf, Tyler Koepp, song leaders

Candles glowing, promise showing, love that makes the world anew.

Shines in glory, tells the story – Christ’s own love will see us through.

With the outcast and unwelcome, Christ is steadfast, brings us all home.

Christ’s own love will see us through! Christ’s own love will see us through!

CALL TO CONFESSION

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

It's getting harder and harder to focus on the true meaning of Christmas, the incarnation of God's love in the birth of God's Son Jesus Christ. As we get closer to the actual celebration of Christmas, we are leaving less and less time for you, O God, and edging out the possibility of the hope we find in you. Forgive us. You are all too familiar with our reasons and excuses for neglecting our relationship with you and the needs of others. Help us to make some changes in our lives and our focus, so that this time of celebration may have the deepest sense of hope and purpose and not just be another holiday season that disappears all too quickly. Heal and comfort us, Lord, this day and always. For we ask this in the name of Jesus, our hope and our savior.

SILENT CONFESSION & QUESTION FOR CONTEMPLATION

How can I choose to share authentic love during this season of Advent to my family, my neighbors, and my strangers?

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The ancient promises of God are fulfilled!

God does not forget us.

God's mercy extends from generation to generation.

Let our souls rejoice in God!

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

Alleluia! Amen!

*RESPONSE

"Angels We Have Heard on High" (vs. 1)

113

*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.)

<p>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.</p>
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SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Nancy Grams

READING 1: Luke 1:26-55

(The angel Gabriel visits Mary to announce that she will give birth to Baby Jesus.

Mary goes to visit her cousin Elizabeth to share the news and then sings a song of joy!)

HYMN	“My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout” (vs. 1, 4)	100
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READING 2: Matthew 1:18-25

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

*HYMN “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” (vs. 1, 7) 88

READING 3: Luke 2:1-7

(Announcement of the census that sends Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem.

Baby Jesus is born in a manger and wrapped in swaddling clothes)

HANDBELLS

“Away in a Manger”
Praise Bells, director Susan Oliver

READING 4: Luke 2:8-20

(The angel appears to the shepherds and invites them to find the Christ child, singing glory to God!

The shepherds go visit and worship the Christ child and return glorifying and praising God.)

ANTHEM

“Christmas Hallelujah”
Celebrate Band

Music by Cohen
Lyrics Cloverton

MESSAGE **“What’s in a name?”** Greg Allen-Pickett

*HYMN	“Love Has Come”	110
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***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Rev. Rebecca F. Harrison)**

We are an Advent people, a people of hope. For us, Advent is a time of waiting, and so we wait. We wait for the coming of the One who is the fulfillment of God's promise, the fulfillment of hope, the declaration that we have been redeemed.

We believe Jesus is the Son of God. We affirm that this joyous gospel was birthed in Bethlehem where divinity was cradled in a manger. We believe that this child was a supreme gift, a package of Divine Love bundled in servant clothes, who came to teach us what it means to love and serve.

We join with those who received Jesus there. And without reservation, we receive Jesus now and proclaim that He is the greatest Gift of all.

In our waiting and our hoping for the coming of Christ, we work and worship, pray and play, in all things hoping that peace, love, and joy will reign in our lives and in our world, now and forever.

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

OFFERTORY	“Still, Still, Still”	<i>arr. James Pethel</i>
*DOXOLOGY	“O Come, All Ye Faithful” (verse 1)	133
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION	<p><i>Holy God, your love is magnified in the gift of your Son, whom you so freely share with us. Bless these gifts that we offer to lift up the lowly and fill the hungry in your coming reign of justice and peace; in Christ’s name. Amen.</i></p>	
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER	<p><i>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.</i></p>	
*HYMN	“Joy to the World!” (vs. 1,2,4)	134
*CHARGE AND BLESSING		
*BENEDICTION RESPONSE	“Prepare the Way of the Lord”	95
*POSTLUDE	“O Come, All Ye Faithful”	<i>arr. John Innes</i>
<i>(The postlude serves as a musical blessing for worshipers as they transition out into the world.)</i>		

COME JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS EVE and CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP!

Saturday, December 24

5:30pm Family Service in the Sanctuary

7:30pm Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

11pm Contemplative Vespers Service in the Sanctuary

JOIN US ON CHRISTMAS DAY!

Sunday, December 25

NO 8:30am Service

10:30 am Christmas Morning Birthday Brunch in the Fellowship Hall

www.facebook.com/fpchastings

(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

December 18, 2022

THE RADIO BROADCAST is given in memory of Waunita and Don Butler by family and friends.

THE FLOWERS are given by First Presbyterian Church.

Ushers for December: (Team #4) Captain George Howard, Susie Graham, Dixie McDonald, Gale McDonald, Laurie Schroeder.

Greeters for December

DECEMBER	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX	NARTHEX
4	Kim Hermann	Pat & Dick Kleiber	
11	Paul & Lynette Krieger	Clyde Sachtleben	Carolyn Nowka
18	Kathy & Curtis Reimer	Susan Hoff	Erin Gastman
5:30pm 24	Daveta & Dick Brader		
7:30pm 24	Jane & Chuck Bauer	Milrae & Harold Korb	
25	Carolyn & Rich McKenzie	Cathy & John Pershing	



During the holidays our First Presbyterian Church family embraces 50 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 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 Monday, December 19, volunteers will be able to deliver them in time for Christmas.

Of the individual recipients, most live independently in their community and some 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.



FLOWER & RADIO MEMORIALS

There are openings throughout the year for both flower and radio memorials. Please contact Melissa in the office or Mary Olsen (402-462-2811 molsen@charter.net)
Donations are greatly appreciated.

The Things We Never Read



An Exploration of Some Non-lectionary Texts
Led by Greg Allen-Pickett, Dan Deffenbaugh, & Doodle Harris

9:15 AM - Lydia Room
January 8, 15, & 22



Greeters and Ushers

Greeters- We are in need of Greeters for the 5:30pm service on Christmas Eve.

Ushers- We are in need of Ushers for the 7:30pm service on Christmas Eve.

Please let Melissa know in the office if you are able to help out
(402-462-5147 or melissa@fpchastings.org)

Your help is greatly appreciated! Thanks!



The Food Pantry is in need of canned good food items. Your donations are appreciated.

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings

Presents

International performer, educator and church musician

Jens Korndörfer

3 p.m., Sunday, January 15, 2023

First Presbyterian Church

621 N. Lincoln, Hastings, Nebraska



FREE pipe organ concert part of 150th year celebration
First Presbyterian Church of Hastings.

Removal of the Greens

Sunday
January 8
11:30am

The joy of Christmas continues on Sunday, January 8 with removal of the greens. Please join in the fellowship and important time and effort with your church family.

We will begin immediately after the 10:30am service.



Scotland

June 15 – 24, 2023

Including an Optional Extension June 24 – 28

Especially designed for

**First Presbyterian
Church of Hastings**

Nebraska

Reserve Your Space Today!

Download a brochure at
portal.myfaithjourneys.com
Group Number: 23035



The Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett
Tour Host

 Faith Journeys

Christmas With First Presbyterian

CHRISTMAS EVE 2022

To Grandmother's House
2:00PM

A service of caroling and rejoicing is held at College View. Chancel Choir and Pastors hold a service for residents and their family members.

A Family Christmas
5:30PM

A lively service held in the sanctuary features traditional hymns, organ, a child-friendly message, and singing by candlelight.

Traditional Service
7:30PM

Held in the sanctuary, this service contains traditional hymns, music by the family choir, and singing by candlelight.

Holy Night
11:00PM

A contemplative service is held in the chapel to greet the newborn child with simple music and prayer.



Blue Christmas

Worship that Honors Grief & Loss
An Ecumenical Service

December 21, 2022 at 7:00 pm
First Presbyterian Church
Hastings, Nebraska

FOR LOVE REFUSES TO BE EXTINGUISHED BY DESPAIR



Christmas Morning Birthday Brunch



Every 11, 6, 5, & 6 years Christmas falls on a Sunday. Lucky for us, this year is one of those years! All are welcome to join us on Christmas morning at 10:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall to celebrate Christmas morning with a time of worship, fellowship, and birthday brunch. We'll provide egg bake and a waffle bar for those in attendance as we gather around tables to sing hymns and consider how we can become participants in Christmas. Come in your Christmas pajamas if you'd like! There will not be an 8:30 a.m. service on Christmas day so we hope you can join us at 10:30 for Christmas Morning Birthday Brunch.

Sunday 12/18	8:30-9:15am	Taizé Service	Chapel
	9:15-10:15am	Confirmation/Sunday School	Various
	10-10:30am	HAW Store Open	Narthex
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary/Facebook/Radio
	11:30am-12pm	HAW Store Open	Narthex
	5-7pm	Jr. High youth group Party NO SR HIGH	Fellowship Hall
Monday 12/19	1-3pm	1 st Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir Room
Tuesday 12/20	10-11am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	6:45pm	Deacons Meeting	Anderson Room
Wednesday 12/21	9:30-10:30am	PW Circles 1 & 2	College View
	12pm-6pm	Red Cross Blood Drive	Fellowship Hall
	12-2:30pm	PW Circle 3	Library
	11:55am	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com
	7-8pm	Blue Christmas Service	Sanctuary
Thursday 12/22	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 12/23	10am-12pm	Mahjong Ladies	Room 111
Saturday 12/24	2pm	Christmas Eve Service	College View
	5:30pm	Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary
	7:30pm	Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary
	11pm	Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary
Sunday 12/25	10:30am	Christmas Morning service/brunch	Fellowship Hall



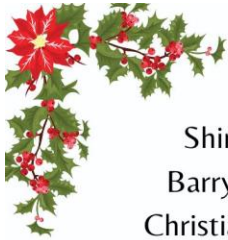
**American
Red Cross**

The American Red Cross and First Presbyterian Church are hosting a blood drive on Wednesday, December 21, from 12pm-6pm. There is a critical need for donated blood. Please consider making an appointment to give blood during this drive. To make an appointment go to redcrossblood.org, select the drive at First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, and make your appointment.



Volunteer Tax Preparers Needed

A Free Tax Preparation Clinic will be taking place in Hastings for several days in January and February to help families complete their taxes and we need volunteer Tax Preparers! No experience is needed and you will receive training to help people complete simple returns. This is a rewarding opportunity to volunteer for 5-20 hours over one or several days to help families receive Tax Credits they are eligible for. Contact Brady at 402-461-8417 or complete this form for more information: <https://bit.ly/VITAHastings>



PRAYERS FOR

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Shirley Maul	Reta & Lowell Johnson	Bob Johnson, who passed away on 10/22/22
Barry Thomson	Carl Utley	Dora Horsley, who passed away on 10/27/22
Christian Fruehling	Family of Ken Fike	Phyllis Waltemath, who passed away on 10/31/22
Stephen Gass	BJ Pumroy & family	Ken Fike, who passed away on 11/5/22
Bev Stein	Elaine Schumacher	Sharon Harvey, who passed away on 12/7/22
Greg Howard	Melba Trehern	
Family of Dora Horsley	Michael Hahne	
Irina Belikova-Erickson	Dave Schawang	
Rich Portwood	Katie Reynolds & family	
Shirley Gass	James Freetly & Laura Ferdinand	
Family of Sharon Harvey	Family of Bob Johnson	
Tarah Davis & family	Jenni Bauer	
Cheryl Ann Elfond		
Brad Davis		
Family of Phyllis Waltemath		



The Church Office will be Closed
on December 26, 27 and 28th for
the Christmas holiday and on January 2
for the New Years holiday

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
Organist and Music Director: Linda Vollweiler
Chancel Choir Director: Brett Epperson
Chancel Bells & Calvin/Westminster
Bells Director: Dr. Byron Jensen
Calvin/Westminster Choir Director: Linda Johnson
Praise/Alleluia Choir Directors: Tim and Teresa Canady
Praise/Alleluia Bells Choir Director: Dr. Susan Oliver
Accompanist and Music Coordinator: Mary Plock

Ministers: Members of the Church
Associate Pastor: Rev. Damen Heitmann
Director of Children & Family
Ministries: Rose Koepp
Church Office Administrator: Melissa Davis
Facilities Manager: Tony Calhoun
Bookkeeper: Deb Hamburger
Scholar in Residence: Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacey