



Advent Week Four: Love

December 24, 2023

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings

GATHERING MUSIC

Hannah Jensen-Heitmann

BREAKFAST

PREPARE THE WAY (Clear the plates)

SPECIAL MUSIC

Deb Johnson & Sarah Wolf

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

We thank you, O God, for the gifts of this meal and those who prepared it. Thank you for all the things you provide that sustain and nurture us in life. Thank you for the gifts of Advent, this season of preparation. Help us to rest our hearts once more within the things of peace, hope, joy, and love. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Four little candles to help us find our way, to help us find our course in life.

The candle of peace, which calls us to live with compassion for others.

The candle of hope, which asks us to imagine the world God intends.

The candle of joy, dancing in celebration of things large and small.

The candle of love, which asks us to live beyond ourselves.

Our souls are steady. Our hearts are prepared. We are ready to welcome you once more.



Scan to sign-in and let us know you were here.

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

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!

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 1:57-80

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Mary Did You Know”
Celebrate Band

*Music by Buddy Greene,
Lyrics by Jennifer Henry*

MESSAGE

A New Prophecy

*HYMN

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

82

RECEPTION OF THE OFFERING

(This morning's donations will go to the PCUSA Christmas Joy Fund.)

OFFERTORY

“Love Has Come”

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We feel ourselves, O God, on the cusp of something great, and we long to join in. We have watched. We have waited. We have prepared. Now we join in the celebration and the work. We give these gifts and our very selves to further the things of peace, hope, love, and joy in the world. Amen.

First Presbyterian
Church



Donation QR
Code

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

“Now the Heavens Start to Whisper”

94

*BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

COME JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP THIS EVENING!

Sunday, December 24

5:30pm Family Service in the Sanctuary

7:30pm Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

11pm Contemplative Vespers Service in the Sanctuary

All services also broadcast on www.facebook.com/fpchastings

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


Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.



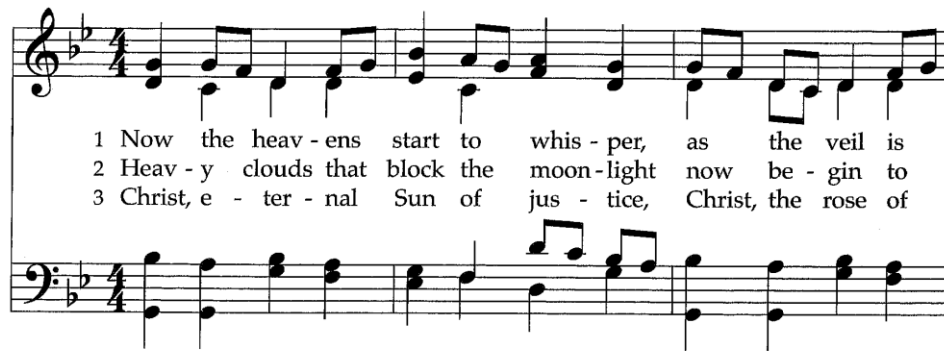
Is-rael's strength and con-so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



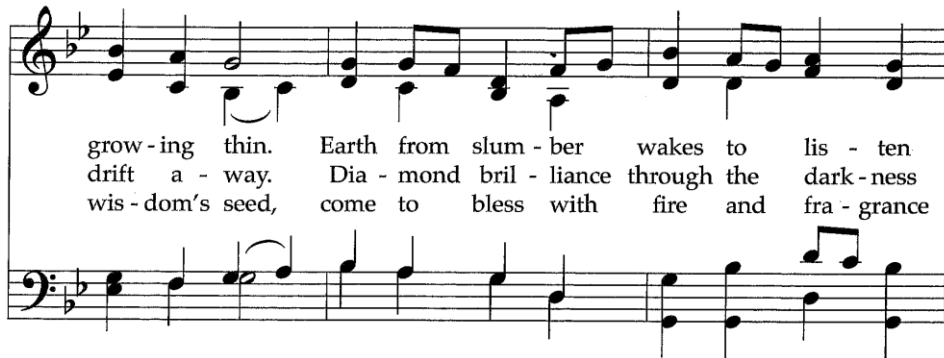
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf-fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.


94 Now the Heavens Start to Whisper



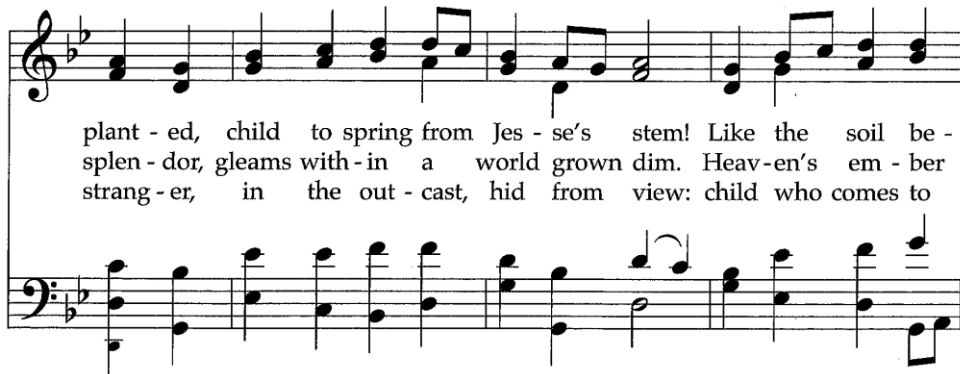
1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is
 2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to
 3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of



grow - ing thin. Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten
 drift a - way. Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness
 wis - dom's seed, come to bless with fire and fra - grance



to the stir - ring, faint with - in: seed of prom - ise, deep - ly
 shines the hope of com - ing day. Christ, the morn - ing star of
 hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need. In the lone - ly, in the



plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem! Like the soil be -
 splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim. Heav - en's em - ber
 strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view: child who comes to



neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.
 fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.
 grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

THE FLOWERS are given by First Presbyterian Church.

THE RADIO BROADCAST is given by First Presbyterian Church.

GREETERS

DECEMBER	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
10:30am 24	Linda & Dave Cooke (Fellowship Hall)	Melissa Davis (Fellowship Hall)
5:30pm 24	Stephanie Bliss	Melissa Davis
7:30pm 24	Milrae & Harold Korb	Melissa Davis
31	Milrae & Harold Korb	Cathy & John Pershing



**American
Red Cross**

The American Red Cross and First Presbyterian Church
are hosting a blood drive on
Wednesday, December 27, 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.

**The Church Office will
be Closed
December 25
through
January 1**

Have a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year

CHRISTMAS JOY SPECIAL OFFERINGS

LEADERSHIP, PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE



The Christmas Joy Offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need, and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.



The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the 21st century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Special Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and they profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.

WAYS TO GIVE



Through your congregation



Donate by credit card online at pcusa.org/christmasjoy



Text CHRISTMASJOY to 91999 to give or visit pcusa.org/christmasjoy



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CHRISTMAS JOY SPECIAL OFFERINGS

LEADERSHIP, PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE



Every time we echo angels speaking words of peace on earth; every time we live as shepherds, risking moments of new birth; and every time we see God giving gifts beyond all earthly worth,

In our living, in our giving, we are there.



January Greeters

JANUARY	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
7	Erica & Brent Brooks	Daveta & Dick Brader
14	Lesa & Steve Cropley	Melissa Davis
21	Karen & Roger Doerr	Andrew Barrows
28	Linda & Richard Johnson	Jan Bolliger

January Ushers (Team #5)

Captain – Ken Stein

Matt Fong

Julie Thomsen

Sanctuary Poinsettias

In Memory of

Sharon Harvey

Demas & Twila Griess
Gideon & Luella Nuss
Betty & Robert Hunzeker

Norma Vineyard

Ted Van Fossen

Our Parents

Jim & Mary Jeanne Cooke

Dennis Utter

Our Parents

Mr. & Mrs. Don McHargue (parents)
Marcia Meshbesh (sister)
Livy Michele Zamora (granddaughter)

Our Parents & Grandparents

O.J., Julia, and Jim McDougal

Mark Bliss

Grandma Julie

Our Parents

Steve Kleiber
Don Kleiber

Our Parents
Stephanie Pershing

John W. Hatcher

Merle & Annabelle Hafer
Boyd & Mary Lou Leymaster

Kurt Unger
Melba Trehern

Loved Ones

Given By

Beverly Phillips

family of Paul & Belinda Nuss

Marge Adams & Kathy Carrier
his family

Carolyn & Rich McKenzie

Dave & Linda Cooke

Kathy & family

Colleen & George Adam

Jan Bolliger

Melissa Davis & Wade Giesler

the McDougal/Koozer family

Steph, Lauren, Matt, Rosie, and Hal

Nolan, Clara, and Calvin Soderquist

Doug & Marnie Soderquist

Pat & Dick Kleiber

John & Cathy Pershing

Sally Hatcher

Charlie & Lois Hafer and family

Lisa Unger

Sally Smith



Sanctuary Poinsettias



In Memory of

Rogene Wenburg
Our Parents
Nicole Jensen
Our Parents
Mark Bliss
Ryan Struss
Gretchen & Hal Lainson
Mark Bliss
Alfred & Dorothy Friedewald
Ome & Honor Shoemaker

Walter & Mary Anne Seiler
Alexander & Lois Wacker

David E. Northrop
Frank W. Northrop
Michele L. Northrop

Stacye Hunter
Joe & Ora Peeples

In Honor of

Andrea
My family
Margaret & Charles Hermes
Church Musicians
Hannah & Damen Jensen-Heitmann
Nathan Jensen & Anna Griggs

Church Staff

Carole Storer

Our Children and Grandchildren

Charles & Margaret Hunter

Given By

her family
Karen & Roger Doerr
Deb & Byron Jensen
Don & Marie Rasmussen
the Hermes family
Kathy & Gayle Struss
Hermes, Olsen, Bliss, and Overmiller families
Mary, Jorn, Chris, Erica, and Scott
Shoemaker/Friedewald family

Jerry & Mary Seiler

the Northrop family

Mike Hunter

Given By

John & Sharon Brooks
Flossie Sanderson
the Bliss and Hermes families
Ann & Robin Koozer
Deb & Byron Jensen

Colleen & George Adam

Denny Storer

Gayle & Kathy Struss

Mike Hunter



Christmas With First Presbyterian

CHRISTMAS EVE 2023

Cozy Christmas 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 choir, and singing by candle light.

Holy Night 11:00PM

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



Sunday 12/24	10:30am	Worship Service w/Breakfast	Fellowship Hall
	2pm	Christmas Eve Service (Cozy Christmas)	College View
	5:30pm	Christmas Eve Service (A Family Christmas)	Sanctuary
	7:30pm	Christmas Eve Service (Traditional Service)	Sanctuary
	11pm	Christmas Eve Service (Holy Night)	Sanctuary
		12/25/23 - 1/1/24- Church Office Closed	
Wednesday 12/27	12pm-6pm	Red Cross Blood Drive	Fellowship Hall
Sunday 12/31	10am	HAW Store Open	Narthex
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Radio, Facebook
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Narthex

Please pray for

Brad Davis	Pam Canady
Elaine Schumacher	Ashley Ibach
Dave Schawang	Reta & Lowell Johnson
Renee Miller	Carl Utley
John Northrop	Barry Thomson
Shirley Gass	Stephen Gass
Audre Zaroban	Greg Howard
Carter Johnson	Ken Fisk
Scott Johnson	Mary Wolf
Tarah Davis & family	Everest Beacon (Zabloudil)
Matt Campbell	Jim Boeve
June Nielsen	family of Joyce Mefford
Neil Kerr and family	Paul Nuss
Vernon Groves	Vicki (Fisk) Nieves
Carol Medsker	Dana Odom
Frances Kamler	family of Roberta Lloyd
John Carllson	Melissa Davis & family

In Memory Of

Roberta Lloyd, who passed away
on 12/8/23



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: Dr. 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 Jensen-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