FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

Third Sunday of Lent
March 3, 2024 - 10:30 am Service

PRELUDE "Exaltation" *Clarence Dickinson*
Organist Linda Vollweiler

WELCOME Greg Allen-Pickett

INTROIT "God Welcomes All" *John Bell*
Calvin/Westminster Choir
director Linda Johnson; Mary Plock, piano

*CALL TO WORSHIP Damen Jensen-Heitmann

Sometimes your teaching is difficult, Lord.
We hear your story, but we would rather not.
Your truth is there for those who wish to hear;
We come to worship you today asking not only for understanding but also that you would make us willing to change.
May your Word and our worship become part of our lives and not be forgotten,
May it transform us into your Body that does your will in the world.
Come, let us worship God!

*HYMN "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" (vs. 1-3) 394

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator God, you formed us in your image, and you call us to give ourselves to your kingdom. We confess that too often we give ourselves to other ways of life instead. We devote ourselves to justifying our systems and habits, rather than devoting ourselves to the wellbeing of your creation and building a beloved community. Forgive us, God, for building from a faulty cornerstone. Forgive us for trying to fit other things into the place you claim for yourself. Forgive us for reflecting other images rather than yours. Make us

honest with ourselves, take away our defensiveness, and help us see how we can choose your way instead.

SILENT CONFESSION
When have I ignored or silenced voices that God wants me to hear?

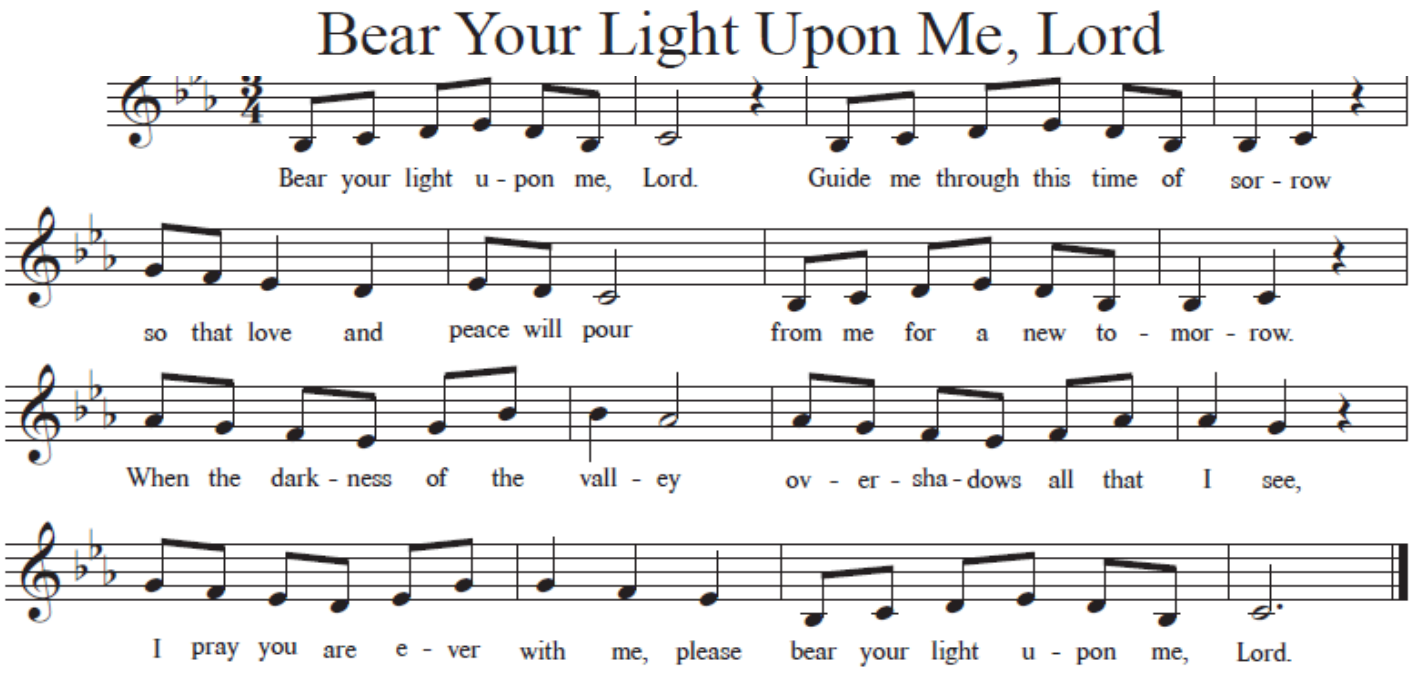
ASSURANCE OF PARDON
We are grateful, O God, for your devotion to your creation,
For you do not leave us nor forsake us. So we come to you now asking for your forgiveness.
We thank you for your grace that calls us again and again, grace that saves and reconciles and invites and transforms.
In the name and power of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and loved.
Let us forgive and love others.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE "Glory Be to the Father" 581

*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.)

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

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *Hannah Jensen-Heitmann*

1ST SCRIPTURE READING – Isaiah 5:1-3,7

ANTHEM "Built on a Rock" *arr. F. Melius Christiansen*
Chancel Choir
Director Dr. Brett Epperson
Tyler Koepp, baritone

Built on a Rock the Church doth stand, even when steeples are falling; Crumbled have spires in every land, Bells still are chiming and calling; Calling the young and old to rest, But above all the soul distressed, Longing for rest everlasting. Bells are chiming, calling.

Surely in temple made with hands, God, the most high, is not dwelling, High above earth His temple stands, all earthly temples excelling; Yet He whom heavens cannot contain, chose to abide on earth with men, Built in our bodies His temple.

Built on the Rock the church doth stand even when steeples are falling, crumbled have spires in every land, Bells still are chiming, on the rock, on the rock the church doth stand, even when steeples are falling, falling. Bells are chiming, calling, are calling.

2nd SCRIPTURE READING – Mark 12:1-12

SERMON "Vineyards, Workers, and Cornerstones" Greg Allen-Pickett

*HYMN "The Church's One Foundation" (vs. 1, 3-4) 321

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

OFFERTORY "Holy God, We Praise Your Name" *arr. Bill Ingram*
Calvin/Westminster Handbell Choir, director Byron Jensen

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" 606

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord, we bring to you today our gifts, returning a portion of what you have given us, praying you will bless it and use it to further your kingdom. Amen.

First Presbyterian Church

Donation QR Code

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION ANTHEM "How Beautiful" *Benjamin Harlan*

How beautiful the hands that served the wine and the bread and the sons of the earth. How beautiful the feet that walked the long dusty roads and the hill to the cross. How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ.

How beautiful the heart that bled, that took all my sin and bore it instead. How beautiful the tender eyes that chose to forgive and never despise. How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down. Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

How beautiful the feet that bring the sound of good news and the love of the King. How beautiful the hands that serve the wine and the bread and the sons of the earth. How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*HYMN "Be Thou My Vision" (vs. 1-3) 450

*BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE "The Lord Bless You" *Brett Epperson*

POSTLUDE "Prelude: from Te Deum" *Charpentier arr. Wiland-Kessler*

(*Indicates the congregation shall stand as they are able.)

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP AS WE BEGIN THE SEASON OF LENT &
INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS

Sunday, March 10 (Change to Daylight Savings Time)
8:30am Contemplative Worship in the Chapel
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL DUE TO SPRING BREAK
10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary with The Chancel Bells

Stay-at-Home: Broadcast live on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fpchastings
(Please note, you do not need a Facebook account to view the service.)
The Worship Service can also be heard live on the radio simulcast
on KICS 1550 AM and on 92.7FM

THE RADIO BROADCAST is given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. R.D. Geyerman by family.

THE FLOWERS are given in memory of Rose and Robert Ryan and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. R.D. Geyerman.

NURSERY Rachel Guiai

ACOLYTES Maddie Gosda, Molly Gosda

USHERS (Team #1) Captain – Chuck Hastings, Elaine Specht, Kim Creech

GREETERS

MARCH	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
3	May & Ira Wierenga	Mary Kay LaMaster
10	Katharine Davis, Jean Barber	Melissa Davis
17	Cathy & John Pershing	Mary Fisk
Palm Sunday 24	Laurie & Brian Johnson	Stephanie Bliss
Easter 31	Kathy Utter	Melissa Davis

HOUSING FORM

TABOR COLLEGE/HASTINGS COLLEGE CHOIRS CONCERT

On THURSDAY, MARCH 7th, the Hastings College Choir and the Tabor College Choir will combine for an afternoon workshop and present an evening concert in the Sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church. HOUSING IS NEEDED FOR 48 MEMBERS OF THE TABOR COLLEGE CHOIR. Hosts will meet their guests following the concert, transport their guests to your home, provide a lite breakfast, and transport their guests to the church. Hosts must host *a MINIMUM of TWO MALES OR TWO FEMALES. Each student must have their own bed.* YOUR ASSISTANCE IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

HOST NAME_____

HOST ADDRESS_____

HOST TELEPHONE_____

STUDENT PREFERENCES:

MALES _____

Number you will host (number of beds)

FEMALES_____

Number you will host (number of beds)

PETS IN YOUR HOME?? Dog_____ Cat_____

PLEASE RETURN FORM TO ROBIN KOOZER AT 1245 TURNER OR E-MAIL TO rkoozer@hastings.edu, OR CALL 402.469.5896 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Sunday 3/3	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	9:15am	Sunday School for all ages	Various
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	In-person, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
Monday 3/4	1-3pm	1st Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room
Tuesday 3/5	10:15am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	United Harvest Board Meeting	PEACE NW Classroom
	7pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
Wednesday 3/6	11am	PW Coord Team	Library
	11:45am	PW Program and Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12th Grade WNL	Various
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
Thursday 3/7	12:30pm	Dulcimer	Lydia Room
	5-9pm	Tabor College and Hastings College Choir Concert	Sanctuary
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 3/8	10am	Mahjong	Fellowship Hall
Sunday 3/10		Daylight Savings Time Begins	
	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
		NO Sunday School- Spring Break	
	9:15am	VBS Committee Meeting	Anderson Room
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library

EASTER LILIES 2024

Easter Lilies are $12 each. Monies raised above the cost will be donated to "The Hospice Choir."

Lily in memory of: _____

Lily in honor of:_____

Given by:_____

I will take my Lily home after the Easter Sunday services: ☐ Yes ☐ No

I will leave my Lily at the church: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Adult Forum

Sundays @ 9:15 a.m.

Lydia Room

February 18, February 25, March 3, March 17, and March 24:

How Israel Was Built, Part 2

(Five Week Lenten Series)

Presenter: Dan Deffenbaugh

March

Communion Offering

Central Community College

Food Pantry

The Central Community College Food and Hygiene Pantry provides support for CCC Students. Our hope is to offer products to our students in a time of need, including canned food, boxed meals, breakfast items, hygiene items, and simple recipes.

Dear Goer & Server!

It's time to commit so we can buy plane tickets to Charlotte, NC for our urban outreach work with Cross Missions (https://myersparkpres.org/cross/)! The trip will be July 27-August 3, 2024. We will provide transportation to the airport.

Please send/deliver this form back to the church office with a payment of $400. Half of this money ($200) will be returned after you go on the trip (nothing will be returned if we buy you a plane ticket and you do not go). There is no additional cost. If you need assistance with this payment, please contact Damen or Greg.

Questions? Contact Tammie Nowka at 402-469-2440, nowkat@gmail.com or Amy Black at 402-469-2968, ablack1968@gmail.com.

RETURN THIS PART TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY MARCH 11, 2024:

We need the following information to buy your plane ticket.

Full name as it appears on your ID (must match your official ID like a passport or driver's license if you have one).
_____

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY) _____
Include check for $400 made payable to First Presbyterian Church with "Go & Serve Trip" in the memo line.

☐ Check HERE if your child does NOT plan to go on this year's Go & Serve trip and please return this form to the church office so we don't wonder if you missed this letter.

Langenberg Lesson Applications

Langenberg Lesson Applications for Spring 2024 are now available. Parents of students in grades 1-12 may apply for up to $250 per semester to offset the cost of private music instruction. Applicable areas of study include piano, voice, guitar, or any band/orchestral instrument. Grants are limited to one per child. Parents must be members of First Presbyterian Church and students must be active participants in the church choir/music program. Although grants are renewable, parents MUST RE-APPLY EACH SEMESTER. Applications are available in the church office or on the church website and are DUE APRIL 1, 2024

Please pray for

Brad Davis
Elaine Schumacher
Dave Schawang
John Northrop
Audre Zaroban & family
Carter Johnson
Dave Johnson and family
Tarah Davis & family
Matt Campbell
June Nielsen
Vernon Groves
Carol Medsker
Frances Kamler
Brent Brooks & family
family of Dave Stewart
family of Dean Meyer

Pam Canady
Ashley Ibach
Virginia Davis & family
Carl Utley
Barry Thomson
Greg Howard
Ken Fisk
Everest Beacon (Zabloudil)
Jim Boeve
Howard Mathews
Paul Nuss
Vicki (Fisk) Nieves
Dana Odom
family of Roberta Lloyd
Bill Beck
Katharine Davis

In memory of

Dave Stewart, who passed away on 1/30/24
Dean Meyer, who passed away on 2/16/24

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REPENT & BELIEVE

Daily Lenten Scriptures and Prayers
March 4-9

MONDAY, MARCH 4, MARK 12:26-27

And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the story about the bush, how God said to him, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is God not of the dead, but of the living; you are quite wrong."

PRAYER

I believe that I am not alone. I believe in the communion of saints. For I am convinced that all of those believers who came before, the ones I knew and the ones I didn't, are held and bound up in your presence. And through these days of penitence and humility, they sustain me. Abraham encourages me to rely only on you. Naomi reminds me to dedicate myself to others. The prophets implore me to follow your commandments. They live in you, O God, and for that I give you my thanks and praise. Amen.

AT A GLANCE

THEMES

- Community
- Love
- Fleeting Natures

SCRIPTURE

- Mark
- Deuteronomy
- Leviticus
- Hosea

What's so good about lent?

"In Lent, Jesus shows us how to pray through suffering."
Rose Koepp

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, MARK 12:28-31

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

PRAYER

During this season of lent, O God, help me to put aside all of the things I am tempted to serve that aren't you. Let me live to you and not to my schedule. Let me follow you and not my team. Let me hear your words and not those of talking heads and political partisans. You alone are God, and nothing else compares. It is through your benevolence that I am sustained. You are my God, you alone. Amen.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, DEUTERONOMY 6:1-5

Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that the Lord your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, so that you and your children and your children's children, may fear the Lord your God all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.

PRAYER

With the entirety of my being. You ask a lot, O Lord. To love you alone with everything that I am is a tall mountain to climb. And yet, following your commandments and living in your ways are ultimately to my benefit. Through your commandments, you have set the boundaries, laid out what makes for a good life. Though I often stumble on the path, help me to regain my footing and cling to your commandments. Help me to show my love for you by living peace, justice, kindness, mercy, and forgiveness in the world. Amen.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, LEVITICUS 19:13-18

You shall not defraud your neighbor; you shall not steal; and you shall not keep for yourself the wages of a laborer until morning. You shall not revile the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind; you shall fear your God: I am the Lord. You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord. You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

PRAYER

These commandments, O God, compel me to remember that I am part of something bigger than myself. Like it or not, I am connected to everyone and everything around me. The words I choose matter to someone else. The things I think have consequences for others. The actions of my life affect the lives of those around me. Forgive me for the moments when I have not been a good neighbor. Have mercy for my divisive actions and uncharitable thoughts. Help me to love you by loving others. Amen.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, HOSEA 6:1-3

“Come, let us return to the Lord; for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us; he has struck down, and he will bind us up. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord; his appearing is as sure as the dawn; he will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth.”

PRAYER

Water in the desert. Sustenance amid desolation. These things God provides over and over again. A warm hug between good friends. A hand wiping away falling tears. A mentor, a stranger, a neighbor to say, “this too shall pass.” All these and more are spring rains and snow-melt streams, water that calls us back to life from fallow seasons. May we, O God, be sustained in this lenten desert by the promise of the spring rains of Easter. Amen.

REPENT & BELIEVE

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, HOSEA 6:4-6

What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early. Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets, I have killed them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

PRAYER

As fleeting as my body is my love and devotion to you, O God. As I am temporal. Limited. Fading even as I grow. Thank you, O God, for your steadfast love for me even when I fail to return such admiration. Thank you for knowing me, even when I become infatuated with things other than you. Though my love and myself are like the morning dew, you are constant. Thank you. Amen.