



PRELUDE

“Close to Him/What Love” *Kathie Hill and Janet McMahan*  
*Angels Aware*  
Accompanist Mary Plock

WELCOME AND LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

INTROIT

“Away in a Manger”  
(verse 1)

PreK/K sheep

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Kugel Family

Today we light the candle of joy.

***Joy is sometimes quiet. It is sometimes loud.***

It is often unexpected and frequently overwhelming.

***Joy is knowing that we are not alone in the world.***

Joy is trusting that God comes to us and dwells with us.

***Joy changes us. May we know joy again this Advent.***

\*ADVENT HYMN

“Light Dawns on a Weary World”

79

*Light dawns on a weary world when eyes begin to see  
all people’s dignity.*

*Light dawns on a weary world;  
the promised day of justice comes.*

*Joy shouts in a weary world when cold know love’s embrace,  
and friends meet face to face.*

*Joy shouts in a weary world;  
the promised dance of laughter comes.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Greg Allen-Pickett

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***I’m convinced, O God, of the correctness of myself. Humble me that I may learn from others and from you. I find joy in putting others down. Reorient my heart so that I may find joy in building up instead of destroying. I’m tired, O God, of a world that refuses to change, of a globe still fascinated by power and wealth, and war.***

**Help me to hold firm to hope. Remind me that just because it hasn't happened, it doesn't mean it won't. Change me, O God, that I may be ready to receive the Christ once more.**

SILENT CONFESSION & CONTEMPLATION

*How does the presence of God change you?*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE OF PRAISE "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"  
(verse 1)

93

\*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)

MESSAGE & SCRIPTURE

*While By Their Flocks*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

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

You can give this morning by putting your offering in the offering plates that will be passed through the pews during the offertory, or you can scan the QR code or give online: <https://fpchastings.org/give-online/>



OFFERTORY

"Silent Night"

*arr. Bill Wolaver*

\*DOXOLOGY

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

609

\*AFFIRMATION OF DEDICATION

***Christ comes to us through the lives of the community of faith. We learn of Jesus' welcome by being greeted warmly ourselves. We enact Christ's hope by feeding and teaching children. We know of Jesus' comfort by watching arms embrace those who grieve, those who are sick, and those who are lonely. Christ arrives in words of wisdom, hymns of praise, and acts of patient kindness. Those who have been changed by Christ change us in return. Through their lives, God calls us to love others, create peace, and offer aid to those in need. We live as we have been shown, giving of ourselves so that love might be known in this world and the next. Amen.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.***

\*SENDING SONG “Angels We Have Heard on High” 113  
(verses 1 & 2)

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*RESPONSE “Angels We Have Heard on High” 113  
(verse 3)

POSTLUDE “The Perfect 10” Kathie Hill and Janet McMahan  
Angels Aware

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

**COME JOIN US FOR WORSHIP NEXT WEEK & INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS,  
FAMILY, AND FRIENDS!**

8:30 am: Contemplative Worship in the Chapel with Communion  
9:15 Sunday School for all ages  
10:30 am Traditional Worship Service

10:30 a.m. service will also be broadcast live on KICS 1550 AM Broadcast live on Facebook at  
[www.facebook.com/fpchastings](http://www.facebook.com/fpchastings)  
*(Please note, you do not need a Facebook account to view the service.)*

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

**THE FLOWERS** are given by First Presbyterian Church of Hastings.

**NURSERY** Kim Bogan

**USHERS (Team #4)** Captain – George Howard, Susie Graham, Dixie McDonald, Gale McDonald, Lori Schroeder, Ted Schroeder

**GREETERS**

December	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
15	Kathy & Curtis Reimer	Susan Hoff
22	Jenna Jorgensen	Melissa Davis
5:30pm 24	<b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</b>
7:30pm 24	<b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</b>
29	Karen Doerr	Milrae & Harold Korb

United Harvest Mobile Food Pantry is a joint ministry with First Presbyterian Church & First United Methodist Church. We provide a food distribution to 400+ families.



- If you need food, please come at the time indicated based on the first letter of your last name.
- If you would like to volunteer for this distribution, please come to the church at 9:30am to help us with the distribution.

December 21, 2024		
I, J, K, L	May park and get number starting at:	9:45 AM
M, N, O	May park and get number starting at:	10:00 AM
P, Q, R	May park and get number starting at:	10:15 AM
S, T, U	May park and get number starting at:	10:30 AM
V, W, X, Y, Z	May park and get number starting at:	10:45 AM
A, B	May park and get number starting at:	11:00 AM
C, D, E	May park and get number starting at:	11:15 AM
F, G, H	May park and get number starting at:	11:30 AM



Elaine Schumacher  
 Carter Johnson  
 Tarah Davis & family  
 Matt Campbell  
 Janey Nottage-Tacey  
 Bob Wolf  
 KyMani Riek  
 Ken Fisk  
 Howard Mathews  
 Vicki (Fisk) Nieves

## Please pray for

Carl Utley  
 Barry Thomson  
 Greg Howard  
 Pam Canady  
 Kathy (Adams) Carrier  
 family of Eleanor Jorgenson  
 Darcie (McDonald) Brink  
 David Hauch  
 Monte Malouf  
 Eli Struss



Jim Boeve  
 Candice Unger  
 Nytha & Dave Glass  
 Lexi Longshore  
 Ashley Ibach  
 family of Ken Stein  
 John Pershing  
 Pat Kleiber  
 Judd Carrier  
 Jane Tushaus

## In memory of

Ken Stein, who passed  
 away on 10/30/24

Eleanor Jorgenson , who passed  
 away on 11/8/24

# Christmas Eve at First Presbyterian Church of Hastings

Tuesday, December 24

2:00 p.m. – Service at College View

5:30 p.m. – Family Service in the Sanctuary

7:30 p.m. – Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

11:00 p.m. – Contemplative Service in the Sanctuary



## Christmas with Cathedral Brass



Sunday, December 22

3:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church  
Sanctuary

A poster for a Christmas service. The background is dark blue with white stars. On the left, there is a stylized, golden outline of a Christmas tree. The text "Blue Christmas" is written in a large, elegant, golden font. Below it, in smaller white text, is "Worship that Honors Grief & Loss" and "An Eccumenical Service". At the bottom, the date and location are given: "December 19, 2024 at 7:30 pm" and "First Presbyterian Church Hastings, Nebraska". There are small icons of lit candles on either side of the date. At the very bottom, the text "FOR LOVE REFUSES TO BE EXTINGUISHED BY DESPAIR" is written in white capital letters.

Blue  
Christmas

Worship that Honors Grief & Loss  
An Eccumenical Service

December 19, 2024 at 7:30 pm  
First Presbyterian Church  
Hastings, Nebraska

FOR LOVE REFUSES TO BE EXTINGUISHED BY DESPAIR



## Company and Food Needed for Lonely HC Students

Every year, we know that some students stay at Hastings College for Winter break. HC's Dr. Amanda Solem was fortunate to receive an Innovation Grant to help make sure no one is lonely for the whole break and to foster fellowship between HC and the First Presbyterian Church. Often, Student Engagement has worked with 10-15 students to support them during the break, but we would like to have room for up to 30 if needed. We know that our students are often missing home cooking and feeling part of a community. Part of the funding will go towards a main dish and tableware for potluck meals on campus with students, and we hope you will join us! We realize many of you will probably want to spend time with your own family on the holidays, so we've chosen holiday-adjacent dates:

12/26 – 12-2 p.m. the day after Christmas at Daugherty Center

12/31 – 2-4 p.m. New Year's Eve afternoon for an appetizer potluck at Daugherty Center.

For the Christmas-adjacent meal, we'd love to have salads, sides, and desserts. For the New Year's potluck, appetizers are welcome.

## Ushers and Greeters Needed for Christmas Eve

We are in need of Ushers and Greeters for the 5:30pm and 7:30pm services on Christmas Eve.

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

Thank you!

<b>Sunday 12/15</b>	8:30am	Contemplative Worship	Chapel
	9:15am	Sunday School for all ages	various
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	7pm	South Central Nebraska Children's Chorale Concert	Sanctuary
<b>Monday 12/16</b>	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	1-3pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	5:30pm	Go & Serve meeting	TBD
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room
<b>Tuesday 12/17</b>	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
<b>Wednesday 12/18</b>	9:30am	PW Circles 1 & 2	College View
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link
	1-3pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	1:15pm	PW Circle 3	Fellowship Hall
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> Grade WNL	Various
	6:00pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers meet	Basement
<b>Thursday 12/19</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Session Meets	Anderson Room
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
	7:30pm	Blue Christmas Service	Sanctuary
<b>Friday 12/20</b>	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	10am-12pm	Mahjong	Basement Youth Room
<b>Saturday 12/21</b>		United Harvest	PEACE Center
<b>Sunday 12/22</b>	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	9:15am	Sunday School for all ages	Various
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	3pm	Cathedral Brass Concert	Sanctuary

# POINSETTIAS



Poinsettias may be purchased in honor of or in memory of a loved one. The cost is \$15 each. Money raised over the cost will be donated to Heartland Health Center.

Heartland Health Center has begun providing medical care at 223 E. 14<sup>th</sup> Street in Hastings. Improving health outcomes for all people in Central Nebraska, Heartland Health Center accepts uninsured, insured, Medicaid, and Medicare patients. Services are paid using a sliding fee scale to reduce costs. Next steps are in the plan to provide dental care and behavioral health.

Your donation makes a difference. *Please return your order form to the church office as soon as possible.*

Poinsettia in memory of:

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Poinsettia in honor of:

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Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

I will take my poinsettia home after the Christmas Eve services:  Yes  No

I will leave my poinsettia at the church:  Yes  No

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Dear Members and Friends of FPC:

Thank you for your generous gifts. Many of you use your investments for the benefit of the church. Sometimes these checks come to the church without the contributor's name. Getting these gifts credited to the appropriate contributor is very important but without a name, it is impossible. When you request your gift be sent to the church, please let myself or Melissa know that it is on its way.

To date, we have received two checks without the contributor's name. One from LPL Financial and one from American Online Giving. Please let the office know if either of these gifts are yours.

Thank you,  
Deb Hamburger  
Finance Administrator

***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 Koepf  
**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