



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

First Sunday in Christmas December 29, 2024 - 10:30 am Service

PRELUDE "Greensleeves" *traditional*
Henry Black, guitar

WELCOME Damen Jensen-Heitmann

INTROIT "Still, Still, Still" 124

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Even now, O God, our hearts still bask in the warm glow of candle light and Christmas Eve.

The voices of the angels still ring in our ears, and our hearts rejoice in the birth of our savior.

We gaze upon the child and marvel at the possibilities for his life and for ours.

We watch the holy family dedicate themselves to you and to one another.

We join in the witnesses who proclaim that there is something different about this Jesus.

We gather here, dedicated to hope, peace, joy, and love.

*HYMN "Love Has Come" 110
Organist Linda Vollweiler

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, O God, that we think it is done, that it's all over. The hymns have been sung. The tree trimmed. The candles lit. Christmas is over. We've welcomed the child, dropped off our presents, and now we prepare for a well-earned nap. But Christmas is only now beginning. Hope and peace and joy and love are not yet done with us. Renew us, O God, for the tasks of teaching peace to our children, fostering hope in our elders, creating joy for those in need, and

making love known in the world. Christmas isn't over. Help us to make it so.

SILENT CONFESSION & CONTEMPLATION

How can Christmas still change you?

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Those who widen their hearts

Receive the Christ-child.

Those who seek forgiveness

Are offered eternal grace and love.

*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)



SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Rose Koeppe

(While the children are coming forward the congregation will sing the first verse of
“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly.”)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

First Elizabeth, then Mary, then shepherds in fields. And now Simeon and Anna. They all heard your voice, O God. Grant that we may be like them. Grant that through these stories, we may hear your voice as well. Let our hearts be open so that we may find your transforming presence. Amen.

1ST SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 2:21-32

ANTHEM

“Auld Lang Syne”

arr. Jim Walker and Mike Garson

Sarah Wolf, flute; Mary Plock, piano

2ND SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 2:33-38

MESSAGE

“From the Mouths of Strangers”

Or

“Why Does Everyone Else Seem to Know Something About My Child?”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.



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

“Holiday Reflection”
Eleanor Oliver, piano

*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

These and our very selves are the gifts that we bring. May they be used to bring aid to the suffering, hope to the lost, and peace to all. Amen.

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

“Who Would Think That What Was Needed”

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

“African Song”

Abdullah Ibrahim, arr. Vera Mohrs

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

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

1/5/24

8:30am Contemplative Worship Service in the Chapel
No Sunday School

10:30am Traditional Worship Service in the Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. service will also be broadcast live on KICS 1550 AM Broadcast live on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/fpchastings

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

NURSERY Kim Bogan

ACOLYTE Student Volunteers

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

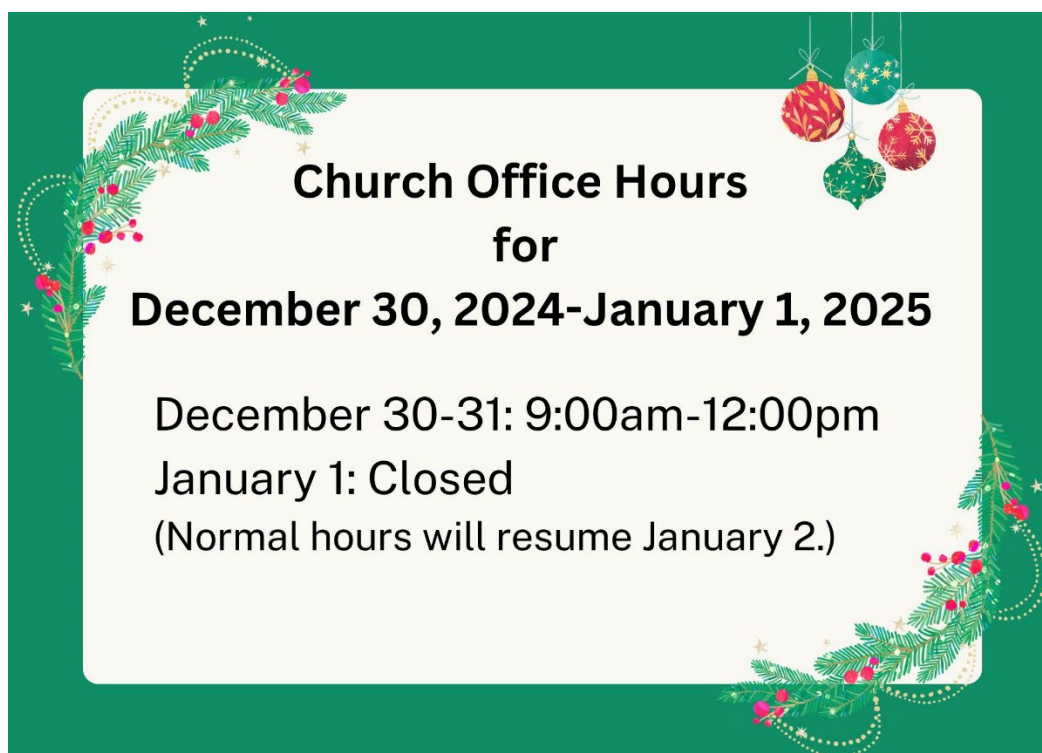
GREETERS

December	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
29	Karen Doerr	Milrae & Harold Korb

January Ushers (Team #5) Captain – Melissa Davis, Matt Fong, Julie Thomsen, Justin Brader

January Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
5	Jan Bolliger	Andrew Barrows
12	Lesa & Steve Cropley	Daveta and Dick Brader
19	Roger & Karen Doerr	Susie Graham
26	Erica & Brent Brooks	Susan Cole

Sunday 12/29		No Contemplative Worship Service	
		No Sunday School	
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
Monday 12/30		<i>Church Office open 9am-12pm</i>	
	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	1-3pm	1 st Pres Pickleball	PEACE gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir Room
Tuesday 12/31		<i>Church Office open 9am-12pm</i>	
Wednesday 1/1		<i>Church Office closed New Year's Day</i>	
Thursday 1/2	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Global Mission Committee Meeting	PEACE NW classroom
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE classroom
	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 1/3	10am	Mahjong	Basement Youth Room
Sunday 1/5	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
		No Sunday School	
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary
	11:30am	Removal of the Greens	
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library



SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 AT 11:30AM, FPC SANCTUARY

Annual Congregational Meeting

ANYONE CAN ATTEND, ALL MEMBERS CAN VOTE



Removal of the Greens

Sunday, January 5
following
the 10:30am service

The joy of Christmas continues on Sunday, January 5 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.



Free Organ Concert

First Presbyterian Church

Presents

Gregory Peterson
and
Jon Stender

Sunday,
February 2, 2025
3 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church
621 N. Lincoln Ave.
Hastings, NE

All are welcome!



Join us for
**Wednesday Night
Live!**

Our mid-week Christian education programs are designed for students in Preschool through 12th grade.

Programming runs from 5:00 - 7:00/15 PM and includes dinner (which family members are encouraged to attend), choir practice, bell choir practice, Bible study, and games.

All are welcome!

No need to RSVP, just show up!
There are no costs to any of our programs.

5-5:30 Dinner
5:30-7:00 PreK/K Centers
5:30-6:30 1st-12th Choir/Bells, 30min each
6:30-7 Bible Study (1st-5th)
6:30-7:15 Youth Group (6th-12th)

For questions, reach out to Rose; rose@fpchastings.org



Winter Sermon Series: Jesus is making waves!

- *January 5:* Luke 2
Boy in the temple
- *January 12:*
Matthew 2 & Luke 3
The Magi and Baptism
- *January 19:* Luke 4
Prophecy of Isaiah
- *January 26:* Luke 5
A great catch &
fishing for people
- *February 2:* Luke 6
Sabbath healing
& preaching
- *February 9:* Luke 7:1-17
Healing & raising from
the dead
- *February 16:* Luke 7:18-35
Jesus affirms John the
baptizer
- *February 23:* Luke 7:36-50
Forgiven at Jesus' feet

Jesus is making waves!

A sermon series on the gospel of Luke

Join us this winter for a sermon series on the gospel of Luke that shows how Jesus was shaking things up. He makes waves with the visit of the Wise Men, his baptism, preaching and teaching, performing miracles, working on the sabbath, healing and raising people from the dead, quoting prophecies, affirming John the Baptist, offering forgiveness to sinners and inviting others to join him.

What can we learn from his example?

Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher	Carl Utley	Jim Boeve
Carter Johnson	Barry Thomson	Candice Unger
Tarah Davis & family	Greg Howard	Nytha & Dave Glass
Matt Campbell	Pam Canady	Lexi Longshore
Janey Nottage-Tacey	Kathy (Adams) Carrier	Ashley Ibach
Bob Wolf	family of Eleanor Jorgenson	family of Ken Stein
KyMani Riek	Darcie (McDonald) Brink	John Pershing
Ken Fisk	David Hauch	Pat Kleiber
Howard Mathews	Monte Malouf	Judd Carrier
Vicki (Fisk) Nieves	Eli Struss	Jane Tushaus
Janelle Baideme		Linda Carllson and family

In memory of

Ken Stein, who passed
away on 10/30/24
Eleanor Jorgenson , who passed
away on 11/8/24

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 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