



PRELUDE

“Oh, Come, Emmanuel”  
“Oh Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
Organist Linda Vollweiler

*arr. Wilber Held*  
*arr. Ruth Schram*

WELCOME

Greg Allen-Pickett

INTROIT

“While We Are Waiting, Come”  
Chancel Choir, director Brett Epperson

1. While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
2. With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come.
3. Come, Savior, quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come.  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Stokely Family

This is the second Sunday in Advent. Today, we light two candles: The candle of hope and the candle of peace!

***Advent is a time of waiting and hoping. We anticipate the coming Christ and the peace he brings!***

We await the kingdom of God where hatred, anger, and violence are no more,  
***Where peace becomes a way of life.***

We read, “They shall beat their swords into plowshares.”

***We will work together in harmony, seeking solutions that benefit all.***

We read, “And a little child shall lead them...”

***As the church, the body of Christ, we shall be peacemakers.***

Today, we light the candles of hope and peace as a prayer and a reminder of God’s vision for the world.

***And as this light burns and grows, we will wait, eagerly, longing for the birth of a child and for the hope and peace that only love can bring. Come, let us worship the Prince of Peace!***

\*OPENING HYMN “Light Dawns on a Weary World” (no refrain)

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*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.*

*Hope blooms in a weary world; When creatures, once forlorn, find wilderness reborn.  
Hope blooms in a weary world: The promised green of Eden comes.*

*Peace grows in a weary world; When conflict fades away, the dawn of a new day.  
Peace grows in a weary world: The promise of God’s kingdom comes.*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***Great God of Presence and Promised Coming, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to fulfill your desire for us to love one another. We have not followed the paths you have given us, choosing instead to follow our own. We have broken relationships, we chase material desires, we have rebelled against your love. We have ignored the cry of the needy, the mouth of the poor is still hungry for mercy, the cause of the oppressed is still thirsty for justice. Free us for loving obedience, through the Advent of Christ, Our Lord, Our Messiah, Our Hope.***

### SILENT CONFESSION & QUESTION FOR CONTEMPLATION

*Where have I fallen short in my call to be a peacemaker? How can I use this season of Advent to recommit to following God and loving others?*

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Good News! Good News! Good News! God so loved the world that God gave us, sinful and broken humanity, a gift:

***Emmanuel, God with us. This is proof of God's love for us!***

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

***Alleluia! Amen!***

### \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

“Glory to God”

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### \*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



Scan to sign-in and let us know you were

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Rose Koepf

While the children are coming down, the congregation will sing,  
*“This little light of mine”*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

***Speak to us, Lord. Speak to us in the waiting, the watching, the hoping, the longing, the sorrow, the sighing, the rejoicing. Speak to us by your Word in these Advent days, and walk with us until the day of your coming. Amen.***

1<sup>st</sup> SCRIPTURE READING – Isaiah 9:6-7

ANTHEM

**“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”** Polish Carol; *arr. Paul J. Christiansen*

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;  
Oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the Child is Lord of all.  
Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ the Child is Lord of all, Christ the Child is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new  
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a Gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:  
Christ the Child is born for you, Christ the Child is born for you.  
Infant holy, infant lowly, infant holy, infant lowly.

2<sup>nd</sup> SCRIPTURE READING – Matthew 1:1-17

SERMON

**“Roots of hope and peace”**

A sermon by Greg Allen-Pickett for the second Sunday of Advent

\*HYMN

**“We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom”**

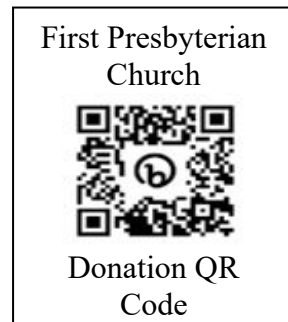
378

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From the Presbyterian Confession of 1967)

***In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all. The risen Christ is the Savior of all humanity. Those joined to him by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as his reconciling community. Christ is head of this community, the church, which begins with the apostles and continues through all generations.***

OFFERING

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



OFFERTORY

“Wonderful Peace”

*Gustaf Nordqvist*

Peace, peace, wonderful peace,  
Peace to the world is given.  
Hushed are the angels, so still is the night;  
Then in the East shone a heavenly light.  
Join in the chorus His praises sing!  
Glory to God, to the newly born King.  
Peace, peace, wonderful peace.  
Peace to the world is given.

Peace, peace, bearer of peace,  
All of goodwill receive Him.  
Holiest of nights, O most wondrous of days;  
Shepherds and kings lift their voices in praise.  
Join in the chorus His praises sing! Glory to  
God, to the newly born King. Peace, peace,  
wonderful peace. Peace to the world is given.

\*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

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\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***In this moment of worship, we embrace your presence again, O God. And we offer you our love. In this moment of prayer, we proclaim again your purpose for the world, O Savior. And we offer you our time, talent, and treasure. In this moment of giving, we hear your call again, O Lord. And we offer you ourselves. Use us, all that we have and all that we are, to touch the world with the Advent message: God is hope. God is love. God is with us. 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

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

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\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

“The Lord Bless You”

*Brett Epperson*

The Lord bless you, the Lord keep you, the Lord make his face to shine upon you, the Lord protect you and guide you in all that you do, our prayer for you.

\*POSTLUDE

Fanfare on “Joy to the World”

*arr. Paul Fey*

*(The postlude serves as a musical blessing for worshipers as they transition out into the world.)*

**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 Original Children’s Christmas Program “While By Their Flocks” 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](http://www.facebook.com/fpchastings)

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

**THE RADIO BROADCAST** is given by First Presbyterian Church of Hastings.

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

**NURSERY** Student Volunteer, Kim Bogan

**ACOLYTES** Truman Welsch, Lincoln Welsch

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

**GREETERS**

December	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
8	Paul & Lynette Krieger	Clyde Sachtleben, Carolyn Nowka
15	Kathy & Curtis Reimer	Susan Hoff
22	Jenna Jorgensen	Melissa Davis
<b>5:30pm 24</b>	<b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</b>
<b>7:30pm 24</b>	<b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</b>
29	Karen Doerr	Milrae & Harold Korb

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

## 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.

## 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

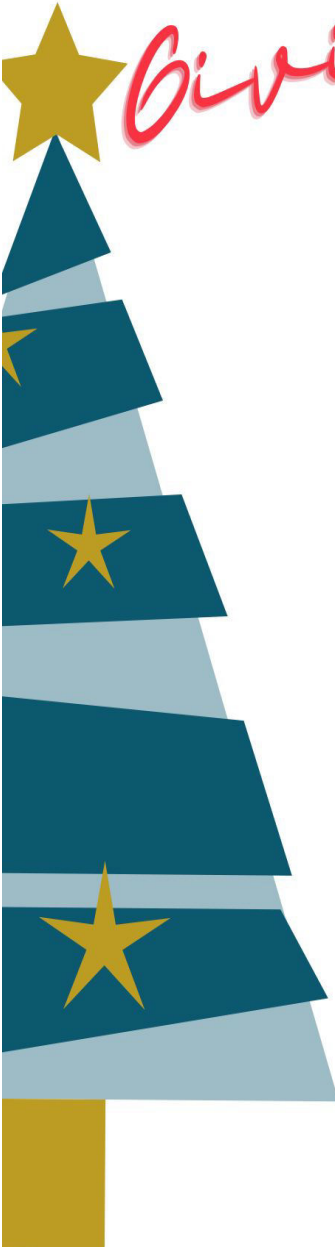






FPC

Giving Tree



During the holidays our First Presbyterian Church family embraces nearly 50 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 in the Memorial Room 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 Sunday, December 15, volunteers will be able to deliver them in time for Christmas.

Of the individual recipients,  $\frac{3}{4}$  live independently in their community and  $\frac{1}{4}$  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.



The American Red Cross and First Presbyterian Church are hosting a blood drive on Friday, December 13, from 11am-5pm. 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](http://redcrossblood.org), select the drive at First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, and make your appointment.

## Christmas with Cathedral Brass



Sunday, December 22  
3:00 p.m.  
First Presbyterian Church  
Sanctuary

### 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](mailto:melissa@fpchastings.org) or 402-462-5147)

Thank you!

# 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



## Please pray for

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

## In memory of

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





**Blue Christmas**  
 Worship that Honors Grief & Loss  
 .....  
 An Ecumenical Service

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

FOR LOVE REFUSES TO BE EXTINGUISHED BY DESPAIR

**HASTINGS COLLEGE**

**Hastings College  
 Christmas Concert**

Sunday, December 8  
 3 p.m.  
 First Presbyterian Church  
 of Hastings  
 Sanctuary

**While By Their Flocks**  
 A Christmas Musical

On Sunday, **Dec. 15th** at **10:30am**, the PreK-8th Grade students will be putting on a Christmas musical as part of the morning worship service!

**SOUTH CENTRAL  
 NEBRASKA  
 CHILDREN'S CHORALE  
 &  
 HCMA  
 SEMI-PROFESSIONAL  
 HANDBELL CHOIR  
 Concert**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH  
 7:00 PM  
 FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**UPCOMING FORUMS**  
**SUNDAYS - 9:15 A.M. - LYDIA ROOM**

**DECEMBER 8 & DECEMBER 15**  
 "Hope and Humility in Jesus' Birth"  
 Led by Dan Deffenbaugh

<b>Sunday 12/8</b>	8:30am	Contemplative Worship	Chapel
	9:15am-10:15am	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	Hastings College Christmas Concert	Sanctuary
<b>Monday 12/9</b>	9am-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	1pm-3pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room
<b>Tuesday 12/10</b>	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Trustees Meet	Middle School Youth Room
	6:45pm	Deacons Meet	Anderson Room
<b>Wednesday 12/11</b>	12pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:sbbrooks52@gmail.com">sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link
	1-3pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> Grade WNL	Various
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers meet	basement
	6:00pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
<b>Thursday 12/12</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Columbarium Meeting	Anderson Room
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Friday 12/13</b>	9am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	10am	Mahjong	Basement Youth Room
	12pm-6pm	Red Cross Bloodmobile	Fellowship Hall
<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	SCNCC Concert & HCMA Handbell Concert	Sanctuary

***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 Koeppe  
**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