

HOPE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

Easter Sunday – April 20, 2025

PRELUDE

“Flourishes”

Carlyle Sharpe

Cathedral Brass

Dr. Matthew Rush, Timpani

Organist Linda Vollweiler

WELCOME

Greg Allen-Pickett

CHORAL INTROIT

“Joyful Is the Dark”

Carlton Young

Chancel Choir, director Brett Epperson

Joyful is the dark,
holy, hidden God,
rolling cloud of night beyond all naming:
Majesty in darkness,
Energy of love,
Word-in-Flesh, the mystery proclaiming.

Joyful is the dark
depth of love divine,
roaring, looming thundercloud of glory,
holy, haunting beauty,
living, loving God.
Hallelujah! Sing and tell the story!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rose Koepf

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

The stone has been rolled away. The tomb is empty!

The grave could not hold him. Death could not defeat him!

Why do you look for the living among the dead?

Jesus is not here; he is risen!

Come, let us worship the risen Christ, the source of our hope and salvation.

Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed! Come let us worship God!

*HYMN

“Jesus Christ is Risen Today!”

232

Arr. R.E. Martin for Brass, Organ, Timpani

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Risen Lord, we confess that too often we live as though the tomb were still sealed. We cling to fear instead of embracing hope. We doubt your promises, hesitant to believe in the power of resurrection. Like the women at the tomb, we are afraid of what we do not understand. Like the disciples, we struggle to trust the good news. Forgive us, Lord. Roll away the stones of doubt and despair in our hearts. Help us to live as Easter people, proclaiming with joy the hope of the empty tomb.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! The tomb is empty! Christ is alive, and in him, we are made new.

The same power that raised Jesus from the dead brings us to new life and hope!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and loved!

Alleluia! Amen!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

“Glory to God”

582

*PEACE OF CHRIST

The congregation is invited to exchange signs of peace with one another using these traditional words that have been spoken by Easter Christians throughout the centuries:

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

(Greet one another by sharing the Peace of Christ with those around you)

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TIME WITH CHILDREN

(While the children are coming down, we will sing “Hymn of Promise” #250 vs. 1 & 3)

Rose Koepp

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of resurrection, just as you rolled away the stone from the tomb, roll away the barriers that keep us from hearing your word. Speak to us through the story of Easter morning, that we may be filled with the hope of the empty tomb. Open our hearts to receive your good news, and strengthen our faith to proclaim your risen Son. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Isaiah 40: 1-5, 25-31 (NIV)



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

CHORAL ANTHEM "I Heard a Great Voice" *Paul Christiansen*
And God shall wipe away all the tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, Neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. Behold, I make all things new!

NEW TESTAMENT READING – Luke 23:54-24:10 (NRSV)

MESSAGE "The most hopeful image in the world!"

*HYMN "Hope of the World" insert

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

(The Special Offering this morning goes to the One Great Hour of Sharing to fund projects in the United States and around the world to support disaster relief and address root causes of hunger and poverty. If you wish to contribute to this, put your offering in the Special Offering envelopes found in the pews.)



OFFERTORY "He Will Hold Me Fast" *Matt Merker/arr. Woods*

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" 609

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of abundant life, on this Easter morning, we give with grateful hearts, rejoicing in the hope of the empty tomb. Just as Christ was raised to new life, may these gifts bring life and hope to others. Bless them, that they may be used to share your love, your justice, and your peace with a world longing for good news. In the name of the risen Christ, we dedicate these offerings to you. Amen.

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 "Christ Arose!" Insert

(During this hymn, if you would like to join the choir in singing "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's Messiah, you are invited to come forward to the choir loft.)

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Hallelujah Chorus" from G.F. Handel's *Messiah*
The Chancel Choir and Members of the Congregation, director Byron Jensen

*POSTLUDE

“Toccata from Symphony No. 5”

Charles-Marie Widor

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

Special thanks to the Cathedral Brass for their worship leadership this morning:

Dr. Louie Eckhardt, trumpet | Erin Beave, trumpet
Andrew Buller, horn | Dan Sodomka, tuba | Nathan LeFeber, trombone

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

8:30am – Contemplative Service in the Chapel with Communion
9:15am – Sunday School for all ages
10:30am – Traditional Worship with Chamber Orchestra and Bach Cantata

THE RADIO BROADCAST is given in honor of the Morhart and Kovar children.

THE FLOWERS are given by First Presbyterian Church of Hastings.

ACOLYTES Student Volunteers

NURSERY Kim Bogan

USHERS (8:30 a.m.) Duane Huber, Melissa Davis, Betty Smith, Julie Thomsen
(10:30 a.m.) Captain – Duane Huber, Steve Illingworth, Daveta & Dick Brader,
Lois Hafer

GREETERS

	April	Memorial Room	Narthex
Easter 8:30 a.m.	20	Kim Creech	Melissa Davis
Easter 10:30 a.m.	20	Jan Bolliger	Jill Kramer
	27	Mary Kay LaMaster	Melissa Davis

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings
Sharing the love of Christ from the heart of Hastings since 1873

Head of Church: Jesus Christ	Ministers: Members of the Church
Senior Pastor: Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett	Associate Pastor: Rev. Damen Jensen-Heitmann
Organist and Music Director: Linda Vollweiler	Director of Children & Family
Chancel Choir Director: Dr. Brett Epperson	Ministries: Rose Koepf
Chancel Bells & Calvin/Westminster	Church Office Administrator: Melissa Davis
Bells Director: Dr. Byron Jensen	Facilities Manager: Tony Calhoun
Calvin/Westminster Choir Director: Linda Johnson	Bookkeeper: Deb Hamburger
Praise/Alleluia Choir Directors: Tim and Teresa Canady	Scholar in Residence: Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh
Praise/Alleluia Bells Choir Director: Dr. Susan Oliver	Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacey
Accompanist and Music Coordinator: Mary Plock	

GAME NIGHT
WNL Fellowship
 A time for adults to hang out and play games!

This event is FREE for everyone

Wednesdays
5:30 – 7 PM

Cafeteria-style
Dinner 5-5:30

VBS 2025
SCUBA
 Dive into friendship with God!

Join us June 23-26 as we dive into an unforgettable adventure with *Scuba Vacation Bible School!*

Kids will plunge into an ocean of discovery, exploring the depths of God's love through exciting Bible stories, engaging activities, and hands-on fun. Each day, we'll dive deeper into themes of faith, friendship, and the boundless love of Jesus. Don't miss this week of underwater exploration—register today and get ready to make a splash!

Scan the code or visit FPChastings.org to register!

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED, INC.
 CWU Celebrations 2025
 May Friendship Day

God's Daughters Living Powerful Lives

Celebrations 2025 Theme Scripture
 "Charm is deceptive, and beauty does not last; but a woman who fears the Lord will be greatly praised."

YOU'RE INVITED - ALL ARE WELCOME!

Friends Love *May Friendship Day Salad Luncheon*
At All Times

Life is Better with Friends

May Friendship Day 2025 Celebration
Colossians 3:12

DATE: **May 2, 2025**
 TIME: **12:00 pm - 1:00 pm**
 LOCATION: **First Presbyterian Church**
 621 N Lincoln Ave, Hastings, NE

FOR MORE INFORMATION

POINT OF CONTACT:
 Susie Graham
 PHONE: 402-469-2638
 EMAIL ADDRESS:
 kg61532@windstream.net

Sponsored by Church Women United of Hastings/Juniata Nebraska

LONG-SLEEVED SHIRT DRIVE

IT'S TIME FOR SPRING CLEANING IN YOUR CLOSET. THE MISSION COMMITTEE IS COLLECTING LONG-SLEEVED SHIRTS FOR OUR MIGRANT WORKERS.

THESE SHIRTS ARE IMPORTANT TO PROTECT OUR WORKERS FROM THE SUN AND EXPOSURE TO AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS.

SHIRTS CAN BE DROPPED OFF IN THE DESIGNATED BIN IN FELLOWSHIP HALL. THE MIGRANT WORKERS WILL BE ARRIVING IN HASTINGS THE FIRST WEEK OF JULY. THE MISSION COMMITTEE THANKS YOU.

2025 Easter Lilies



In Memory Of:

Jake & Marietta Vollweiler given by Linda Vollweiler

Walter & Lula Buhr given by John & Linda Carllson

Dean Pickett given by the Allen-Pickett family

Our Grandparents given by the Allen-Pickett family

Ome & Honor Shoemaker given by the Shoemaker/Friedewald family

Al & Dorothy Friedewald given by the Shoemaker/Friedewald family

Rogene Wenburg given by Justin, Kili, Carter, and Selah Wenburg

Jack & Barbara Stinson given by Julie Thomsen

Stephanie Pershing given by John & Cathy Pershing

Our Parents given by John & Cathy Pershing

Brandon Brader given by Dick & Daveta Brader

Our Parents given by Dick & Daveta Brader

My Parents, Dale & Pauline Moomey given by Marilyn Nielsen

Gretchen & Hal Lainson given by the Hermes, Olsen, Bliss, and Overmiller families

Mark Bliss given by the Jorn Olsen family

Virginia & Roger Davis given by Pamela & Peter Lainson and family

Phyllis & John Lainson given by Pamela & Peter Lainson and family

Gretchen & Hal Lainson given by Pamela & Peter Lainson and family

Our Parents given by Doug & Marnie Soderquist

Julie Soderquist given by her family

Bob Foote given by the Foote family

Our Parents given by Mike & Carol Kleppinger

Merle & Annabelle Hafer and Boyd & Mary Lou Leymaster given by Charlie & Lois Hafer

David E. Northrop given by the Northrop family

Frank W. Northrop given by the Northrop family

Michele L. Northrop given by the Northrop family

Ryan Struss given by Kathy & Gayle Struss

Mark Bliss given by Steph, Lauren, Matt, Rosie, Hal, and Bliss

Mike Kneale and Richard Reimer given by Curtis & Kathy Reimer

Our Parents given by Carolyn & Richard McKenzie

Our Parents given by Colleen & George Adam

Our Parents and daughter Nicole given by Deb & Byron Jensen

Howard & Helen Mathews given by Susan, William, Eleanor, Laura Kate, and Meredith Oliver

Ken Stein given by Bev, Kim, Brooks, Briella, and Justin

Willard & Della Stein and Lyle Davis given by the Stein & Davis family

2025 Easter Lilies



In Honor Of:

Susan and Neal Hoff given by your grandchildren
FPC Hastings Church Family given by the Allen-Pickett family
FPC Staff given by the Allen-Pickett family
FPC Volunteers given by the Allen-Pickett family
Our Parents given by the Allen-Pickett family
The Lunstrums given by the Allen-Pickett family
FPC Staff given by John & Cathy Pershing
Our 3 Children, Dara, Mike, and Doug given by Don & Marie Rasmussen
Our Children and Grandchildren given by Charlie & Lois Hafer
Mary M. Northrop given by John Northrop
Justin & Kili Wenburg given by John Northrop
Our Children, Scott & April, Ross & Melissa, and grandchildren, Emily, Evan, Jeremy, and Eli given by Kathy & Gayle Struss
Patty Kneale and Judy Reimer given by Curtis & Kathy Reimer
David William Jensen-Heitmann given by Deb & Byron Jensen

Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher	Carl Utley	Doug Rasmussen
Carter Johnson	Barry Thomson	Judd Carrier
Tarah Davis & family	Greg Howard	family of Jane Tushaus
Matt Campbell	Pam Canady	Charlene Cebell
Janey Nottage-Tacey	Kathy (Adams) Carrier	Alyssa Donley
Bob Wolf	Darcie (McDonald) Brink	Nathan Lunstrum
KyMani Riek	Monte Malouf	Willis Horton
Janelle Baideme	Eli Struss	Jim Boeve
John Pershing	Louie Eckhardt and family	Nytha & Dave Glass
Susan Oliver and family	Carole Pedersen	Bev Stein
Mary Lewis	Lexi Longshore	Ashley Ibach
Mary & Ken Fisk(death of daughter, Vicki (Fisk) Nieves)		

In memory of

Jane Tushaus, who passed away on 4/9/25

Sunday 4/20	Easter		
	12am-8am	Prayer Vigil	Chapel or Home
8:30am	Easter Service	Sanctuary	
10am	HAW Store Open	Library	
10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio	
11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library	
Monday 4/21		Church Office Closed	
	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
	6-9pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room
Tuesday 4/22	11am	Victoria Nieves Memorial Service with luncheon to follow	Sanctuary (Memorial Service) Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)
	11:45 am	Habitat for Humanity Board	Room 203
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	2pm	Staff Meeting	In-person
	5:30pm	Columbarium Meeting	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Rain Garden Committee	Fellowship Hall
	6pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	7pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
Wednesday 4/23	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 th WNL	Various
	5-7pm	Adult Game Night	Fellowship Hall
	5:30pm	Session Meets with Confirmands	Confirmation Room
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers Meet	basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir practice	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells practice	Bell Room
Thursday 4/24	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	6-9pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 4/25	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
Saturday 4/27		Faith & Science Sunday	
	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	9:15-10:15am	Sunday School for all ages	Various
	10-10:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	3pm	Faith & Science Lecture by Clay Anderson	Fellowship Hall

The Church Offices will be closed on Monday, April 21 in observance of Easter Monday.

Hope of the World

Hope of the world, thou Christ of great com - pas - sion:
 Hope of the world, God's gift from high - est heav - en,
 Hope of the world, a foot on dust - y high - ways,
 Hope of the world, who by thy cross didst save us,
 Hope of the world, O Christ, thy o'er death vic - to - rious,

5

speak to our fear hun - ful hearts by con - flict rent;
 bring ing to to wan - gry souls the bread of life:
 show ing death and this sign dering de - spair, from sin and light:
 from who by this sign didst con - quer grief and and guilt:
 pain:

9

save us, thy peo - ple, from con - sum - ing pas - sion,
 still let thy Spir - it, lit un - to us be giv - en
 walk thou be - side us lest the tempt - ing by - ways
 we ren - der back faith - the love thy mer - cy gave us;
 we would be faith - ful to thy gos - pel glo - rious;

13

who by our own false hopes and our aims are spent.
 to heal earth's wounds and from end thee our bit - ter strife.
 lure us a way - lives from and use dost end - less night.
 take thou our Lord! Thou dost for - as thou wilt.
 thou art our Lord! Thou dost for - ev - er reign!

Christ Arose

"Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified...is risen." Mark 16:6 (KJV)

1. Low in the grave He lay- Je - sus, my Sav - ior! Wait - ing the
 2. Vain - ly they watch His bed- Je - sus, my Sav - ior! Vain - ly they
 3. Death can-not keep his prey- Je - sus, my Sav - ior! He tore the

Chorus - faster

com - ing day- Je - sus, my Lord!
 seal the dead- Je - sus, my Lord! Up from the grave He a - rose, With a
 bars a - way- Je - sus, my Lord! He a - rose,

might - y tri - umph o'er His foes. He a - rose a vic - tor from the
 He a - rose!

dark do - main, And He lives for - ev - er with His saints to reign.

He a - rose! He a - rose! Hal - le - lu - jah! Christ a - rose!
 He a - rose, He a - rose!



Sachtleben-Throckmorton

**Faith & Science
Symposium**

**JOIN US FOR THE SECOND ANNUAL
SACHTLEBEN-THROCKMORTON
FAITH AND SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM**

Astronaut and Hastings College Alum Clayton Anderson will be joining us at First Presbyterian Church of Hastings on Sunday 4/27 for an exciting conversation, worship service, and free public lecture about the complementary relationship between faith and science.

Anderson graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics from Hastings College, Nebraska, in 1981. He had Dr. Sachtleben and Dr. Throckmorton as his professors. He went on to work for NASA as an engineer for 15 years and then became an astronaut for 15 years, going on two space flights, and spending 167 days in space.

Anderson will talk about his time as a scientist and astronaut and how that connects with his faith. *"To see God's creation from that vantage point did give me a different perspective. What I really took away from this experience was that my life and all its accomplishments are gifts from God. And viewing Earth from space showed me that none of this is random. My faith was only strengthened by my time in outer space."*

Schedule for Sunday, 4/27

9:15am Conversation at the Adult Ed Forum in the Fellowship Hall
10:30am Worship with a reflection by Clay Anderson in the Sanctuary
3:00pm Free Public Lecture in the Sanctuary

P.W. Mother's Day Offering

Every year for Mother's Day, the Presbyterian Women ask for donations for a special group in honor of, or in memory of all our mothers. This year we are donating to enCourage. Your Mother's Day offering will help meet the immediate needs of the more than 400 survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault served by enCourage each year. About 65% of these individuals are currently parenting children under the age of 19. When survivors flee dangerous situations, they often leave with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Your donations will help enCourage provide immediate necessities like food and personal care items as well as safety related expenses like replacing locks.

We will be at a table in Memorial Room April 13, April 27, May 4, and May 11, to take your donations. Or you may send a donation to the church addressed to the Presbyterian Women. Checks should be written to Presbyterian Women.

We thank you in advance for all of your donations.

A note of welcome and an invitation from Pastor Greg and the First Presbyterian Church Family:



We are so happy that you are here worshipping with us on Easter! We hope that you are inspired by this worship service and that it equips you to go out and share the hope and love of the risen Christ in your family, your community, and the world!

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings has been sharing the love of Christ from the heart of Hastings since 1873. We are a community that is deeply committed to **sharing hope** in our community and beyond, and we do that most effectively by seeking to serve those who are in need, both spiritually and physically.

Our church is actively engaged in **local ministry and mission** including the United Harvest Mobile Food Pantry, Open Table, and support of many local organizations including Habitat for Humanity, EnCourage Advocacy Center, Revive Ministries, Crossroads Rescue Mission, and more. Every summer we offer a Vacation Bible School for the whole community. All of these activities and ministries provide **volunteer opportunities** for you to **share the hope of Christ** and see where God is at work in Hastings!

We also participate in **national and global mission** through mission trips every year and connections with mission partners. This summer our high school youth will go to Minnesota and our adults will take a trip to the US-Mexico border. These trips and connections provide more opportunities for us to **share the hope of Christ** and learn where God is at work around the world!

Our church seeks to engage our **hearts** and our **minds**, so we offer **amazing learning opportunities**. Come to **Sunday School** for all ages at 9:15am to hear engaging speakers and dig into the Bible to learn about what it means to you. During the school year, come to our **“Wednesday Night Live”** programs for preschoolers through high school seniors from 5pm-7:15pm for dinner, bible study, music and recreation.

Do you like to make **music**? Come join our Chancel Choir, play in the handbell choir, or bring your kids to our children and youth choirs or handbell groups who all practice on Wednesday evenings.

Join us for **Sunday morning worship** at 8:30 for a contemplative worship service with communion every week. Or join us at 10:30 for a traditional worship experience with our glorious choirs, handbells, organ music, and **engaging bible-based preaching**.

At First Presbyterian Church of Hastings, we are a **community of hope** where you will always hear a message of hope proclaimed. Come engage your **hearts, hands, and minds** and help us **share the hope of Christ** in Hastings and beyond. Reach out to any of our staff or volunteers to ask about how to get involved, or you can email Pastor Greg at greg@fpchastings.org

In Christ,
Pastor Greg

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings Mission Statement

Welcoming all;

Living the love of God and neighbor;

Seeking to transform ourselves, our community, and our world to be more Christ-like through service, worship, prayer, education, and fellowship.