



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

Christ the King Sunday November 23, 2025 - 10:30 am Service

PRELUDE "Sonata No. 21" Giovanni Gabrieli/arr. Baldwin
Louie Eckhardt, Erin Beave, and Josh Brooks; Trumpets

WELCOME Greg Allen-Pickett

*CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Psalm 46) Damen Jensen-Heitmann
God is our refuge and strength,
A very present help in times of trouble. Therefore, we will not fear.
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
A reminder that even in exile, God is in the midst of God's people.
God is with us; God will not forsake us.
The Lord of hosts is with us. Come, let us worship God, who holds our future in hope.

*HYMN "God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand" 331
Organist Linda Vollweiler
Sue Medsker, Song Leader

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we confess that we do not always trust the plans you have for us. We grasp for control when the way forward seems uncertain. We resist planting seeds where we cannot see the harvest. We hesitate to seek the welfare of others when our own spirits feel weary.

Forgive us for shrinking our lives to the size of our fears. Forgive us for forgetting your promise to be with us in every time and place.

Set our hearts again toward hope. Teach us to build, to plant, to pray, to bless, even in seasons of dislocation, that we might live as your faithful people. In Christ's name, we pray.

SILENT CONFESSION

How can I choose hope over fear and help others to do the same?

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news: Before we call, God answers.

Before we stumble, Christ has already lifted us up.

Friends, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven, renewed, and sent to seek the welfare of the world God loves.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

“Glory to God”

582

*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

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of every place and every exile, open our hearts to your word. Where we feel uprooted, plant hope. Where we feel scattered, gather us in. Where we feel uncertain, speak your promise. By your Spirit, let these ancient words become living truth, so that we may hear what you are saying to the church today. In the name of Jesus, our foundation and our future. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING – Romans 12:9-13

ANTHEM

“Song of Hope”

Peter Meechan

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING – Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

SERMON

Stubborn Steadfast Hope

Greg Allen-Pickett

*HYMN

“Live into Hope”

772

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (A confession rooted in Jeremiah's theme of hope by Greg Allen-Pickett)

We believe in God, who calls people in every time and place to seek the welfare of the world, to build and to plant, to live with courage, patience, and hope.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, who shared our struggles, embodied compassion, and showed us what it means to rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, and persevere in prayer.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who renews our minds, transforms our hearts, and sends us to be servants of reconciliation.

We believe that God's future is trustworthy, that God's plans are for our good, and that nothing, neither exile nor fear, neither hardship nor uncertainty, neither death nor life, can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.



INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY "Fanfare for St. Edmundsbury" Benjamin Britten

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, you plant hope in barren places and guide your people toward a future filled with promise. Use these gifts, and use our lives, to bless the communities where you have placed us. May what we give today build up your church, seek the peace of our city, and bear witness to your faithful love. Through Christ, our hope and our redemption. 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 "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" 353

*BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

***RESPONSE**

***The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple,
The church is not a resting place; the church is a people.
I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world, yes, we're the church
together!***

POSTLUDE

"Rondeau"

Jean Joseph Mouret arr. Bishop

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

**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP &
INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS**

**Sunday, November 30:
8:30am Contemplative Worship in the Chapel
NO Sunday School
10:30am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary**

Stay-at-Home Broadcast live on YouTube: www.youtube.com/@FPCHastings

The Worship Service can also be heard live on the radio simulcast
on KICS 1550 AM and on 92.7FM

THE FLOWERS are given in memory of our parents by Marie and Don Rasmussen
and in memory of Mark Bliss by his family.

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

NURSERY Kim Bogan, Peyton Mitchell

ACOLYTES Briella Borrell, Ivy Cooper

USHERS (Team #3) Captain – Dave Fisher, Andrew Barrows, Phil Odom, Doug
Soderquist

GREETERS

November	Memorial Room	Narthex
23	Jane & Chuck Bauer	Melissa Davis
30	Kim Hermann	Melissa Davis

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

December Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
7	Kathy & Curtis Reimer	Susan Hoff
14	Cathy & John Pershing	Melissa Davis
21	Paul & Lynette Krieger	Jenna Jorgensen
Christmas Eve 5:30 p.m. 24	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
Christmas Eve 7:30 p.m. 24	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
28	Milrae & Harold Korb	Volunteer Needed



*Celebrate the Advent Season at
First Presbyterian Church
Hastings at the*

Congregation Nativity Set Share

Display opens in Fellowship
Hall at

8:00 a.m. on
Sunday, December 7
and closes at 1:00 p.m.

Instructions:

Bring your family's nativity set
to Fellowship Hall
Saturday, December 6
between 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Be sure to provide a written
description and history unique to
your creche.

**Enjoy the wonderful variety,
art forms, and unique stories
of these
special representations of
the Nativity.**

A special project of the
Worship, Arts, and Music Committee



Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher	Carl Utley	Carter Johnson
Tarah Davis & family	Barry Thomson	Sharon Brooks
Matt Campbell	Greg Howard	Alyssa Donley
Janey Nottage-Tacey	Lexi Longshore	Ken Fisk
Bob Wolf	family of Dave Henderson	Jean Stinnette
KyMani Riek	Zsuzsanna Fazakas	Gary & Connie Whitcomb
Janelle Baideme	The Unger family	Sammy Nahorny
family of Jim Harrenstein	Judd Carrier	Mary Lewis
family of Gayle Struss	Nytha & Dave Glass	Bruce Batterson
Carole Pedersen	Cynthia Sheppard Jordan	Willis Horton
Charles Hermes	Elladee Ronhovde	family of Yvonne Ziemba
Tony Glenn	Carol Harrenstein	
Molly Kammerer and family	Pam Canady	
Martha Huffman (Nancy Grams' sister)	Francisco Diaz (Beto)	

In memory of

Jim Harrenstein, who passed away on September 16, 2025
 Dave Henderson, who passed away on November 2, 2025
 Gayle Struss, who passed away on November 7, 2025
 Yvonne Ziemba, who passed away on November 13, 2025



T-shirt Fundraiser

SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL AND OUR CHURCH AT THE SAME TIME!

Available in **FOUR** colors
and **THREE** styles!

Order forms are available from the Sr.
High students in the Memorial Room.

150th Book Distribution



Pick up your free copy of the 150th
Anniversary book during the week
in the Church Office.
(one per family please)

*Hanging of
The Greens*

Sunday,
November 23
11:30 a.m.
All are welcome!




**HASTINGS
COLLEGE**

A Very Hastings College
Christmas with the
HC Band and Choir

Sunday, December 7
3 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church
of Hastings
Sanctuary



**Hands Around the World
Christmas Open House**

**Saturday, December 7
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Come check out our new items from SERRV, new
shipment of coffee, Christmas decorations, etc.

**Please remember your purchase also helps our local mission
partner United Harvest to whom we donate to monthly.**

Dear Members and Friends of FPC,

Thank you for your generous contributions. Many of you use investments for the benefit of the church. Sometimes these checks come to the church without the contributor's name. Getting these checks 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.

Thank you,
Deb Hamburger
Finance Administrator

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 United Harvest.

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

Poinsettia in memory of _____

Poinsettia in honor
of _____

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

Sunday 11/23	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	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	Hanging of the Greens	Various
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
Monday 11/24	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	12pm	Memorial Committee Meeting	Anderson Room
	1-3pm	FPC Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6-9pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir Room
Tuesday 11/25	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	Middle School Youth and Choir Rooms
	6-9pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
Wednesday 11/26	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	12pm-1pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	NO WNL Activities, NO Chancel Choir, NO Chancel Bells		
Thursday 11/27		Church Offices closed for Thanksgiving	
Friday 11/28		Church Offices closed for Thanksgiving	
Sunday 11/30	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
		No Sunday School	
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library



Upcoming Forum

“Awaited Messiah”

is a Forum series that will be led by our Scholar in Residence, Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh. Dan will examine how prophecy connects to Jesus. Classes will be at 9:15 a.m. on Dec. 7th, and 21st.

A Free Tax Preparation Clinic will be taking place in Hastings for several days in February and March to help families complete their taxes and **we need volunteer Tax Preparers!** No experience is needed and you will receive training to help people complete simple returns. This is a rewarding opportunity to volunteer for over one or several days to help families receive Tax Credits they are eligible for. We are looking for Volunteers to be Greeters as well! Go to <https://tcan.unl.edu/> to learn more and to sign up.



Blue Christmas

Worship that Honors Grief & Loss
An Ecumenical Service

December 21, 2025 at 7 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church
Hastings, NE

FOR LOVE REFUSES TO BE EXTINGUISHED BY DESPAIR



The Church Offices will be closed
Thursday, November 27 and
Friday, November 28 for the
Thanksgiving holiday.

Have a blessed Thanksgiving!

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
Interim Chancel Choir Director: Dr. Robin Koozer
Chancel Bells & Youth Bells
Director: Dr. Byron Jensen
Youth Choir Director: Linda Johnson
Children Choir Director: Teresa Canady
Children 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