

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings Season of Epiphany February 8, 2026

PRELUDE

“Capriccio”
Organist Linda Vollweiler

Johann Jacob Froberger

WELCOME

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

INTROIT

“Come, Thou Almighty King”
Chancel Choir, director Robin Koozer

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Steve Thomason

We gather together to encounter the very presence of God.

Through word and song and image and silence, we hope to find God:

The God who draws near to us in our pain.

The God who calls us into new life and new ways of being.

The God who inspires us to live and speak on behalf of others.

The God who places love above all other things.

Draw near again, O God.

Call us forward to lives anew.

*HYMN

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

2

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We love, O God, a technicality, especially if it can make us feel better than everyone else. We love to point out little things, inconsequential details, and say, "You're not doing that right." Or "You may be right but not quite as right as I am." Smugness is quite empowering and power is what we crave: the opportunity to hold something over someone else and in so doing convince ourselves that we really are better than them, and the evidence is right there in that technicality. Forgive us, O God, our petty hearts. Keep us from letting technicalities get in the way of good and generous thoughts and actions.

SILENT CONFESSION

What technicalities do you hold over others? What grace could you offer instead?

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Technically speaking, we don't deserve God's forgiveness.

But God doesn't operate on technicalities. God operates on love.

Through Christ, our sins are forgiven.

Through grace, our hearts are reconciled unto God.

*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

(While the children are coming forward, the congregation is invited to sing "Jesus Loves Me.")

Rose Koeppe

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Though we may not truly expect it, remind us, O God, that you often appear at our side. Make yourself and your will known to us in the reading and proclaiming of this holy word. May our spirits be open to receive your truth for our lives. Amen.



FIRST SCRIPTURE READING – John 4:46-54

ANTHEM

"O How Amiable"

Ralph Vaughan-Williams

O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts! My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord: My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house. They will be always praising thee The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper thou the work of our hands upon us. O prosper thou thy handywork. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING – John 5:1-18

SERMON

*HYMN

“Healer of Our Every Ill”

795

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (A creed for Epiphany by Greg Allen-Pickett)

We believe in one God, creator of all that is, whose light shines in the darkness and whose love never fails.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, the light of the world, who reveals God’s grace and glory. We believe that in Jesus Christ, the broken are made whole, the blind receive sight, the lost are found, and grace upon grace is poured out for the life of the world. Through his life, death, and resurrection, God’s love is made visible and God’s light is revealed.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who opens our eyes to see and our hearts to believe, calling us to follow Christ and to bear his light in the world.

We believe the Church is called to live as a sign of God’s grace, to love boldly, to serve faithfully, and to trust in God’s renewing work.

With hope and joy, we affirm this faith and commit ourselves to come and see as we seek to follow Jesus. Amen.



INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Be Thou My Vision”

arr. Edward Broughton

*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

609

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Into your hands we place the gifts of our hands and our hearts. May they be used to meet the needs of the world. May they 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.

*BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

*RESPONSE

“We Are the Church”

Avery & Marsh

***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

“Basse et Dessus de Trompette”

Louis-Nicolas Clerambault

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

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

Sunday, February 15:

8:30 a.m. Contemplative Worship in the Chapel with Communion

9:15 Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m. Youth Sunday with Communion and Youth Choir and Bells

THE FLOWERS are given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Foote and Mr. Robert L. Foote by the Foote family.

THE RADIO BROADCAST is given in memory of Mildred and Victor Lutkemeier by the Lutkemeier family.

NURSERY Kim Bogan, Vivian Fong

ACOLYTE Ivy Cooper

USHERS (Team #6) Chanda Essink, Lynne Friedewald, Chuck Shoemaker

GREETERS

February 2026	Memorial Room	Narthex
8	Jeni & George Howard	Julie Thomsen
15	Mary Fisk	Kim Creech
22	Bonnie & Kenton Grams	Volunteers Needed

LANGENBERG LESSON SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM was established to encourage the youth of our church in their musical pursuits through the generosity of the late Luella Langenberg.

- Parents of students in grades 1-12 may apply for up to \$250 per semester to offset the cost of private music instruction. Grants are limited to one per child.
- Areas of study include piano, voice, guitar, or any band/orchestral instrument.
- Parents must be members of First Presbyterian Church, and students must be active participants in the church choir/music program.

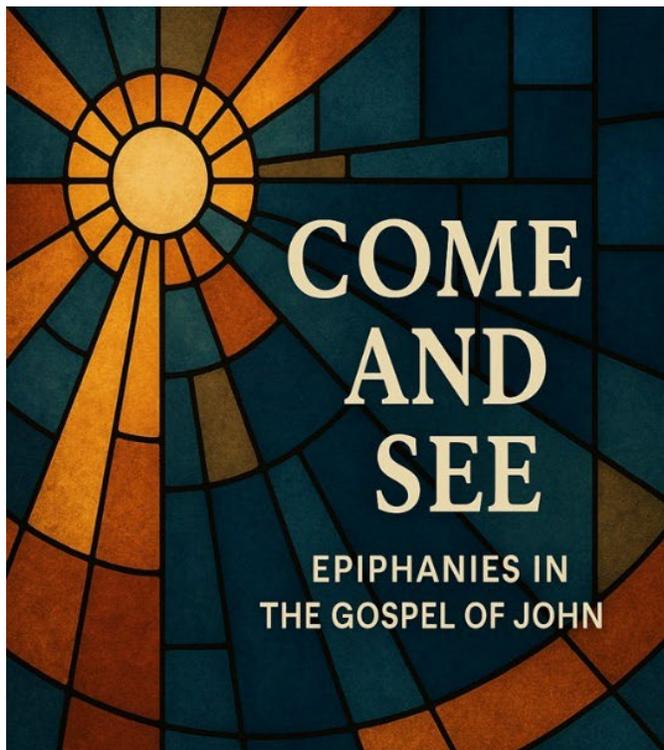
Application forms are available in the church office and on the church website.

• *DEADLINE FOR THE Spring 2026 GRANT PROGRAM IS April 1, 2026.*

• **GRANTS ARE RENEWABLE; PARENTS MUST RE-APPLY EACH SEMESTER.**

Applications are available on the shelf outside the Church Offices or on the Church website at:

<https://fpchastings.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Langenberg-form-Spring-2026.pdf>



Six-week Epiphany series that traces a journey of awakening, revelation, and transformation through key stories in the Gospel of John.

- January 11: John 2 - Grace poured out
- January 18: John 2 - A Zeal for Justice
- January 25: John 3 - The Spirit Enters
- February 1 - John 4 - Seen and Known
- February 8 - John 4-5 - Rise and Walk
- February 15 - John 9 - Open eyes & Hearts

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers who would like to serve as additional Ushers for 2026.

Team 1 (March & September)

Team 3 (May & November)

Team 5 (January & July)

Team 6 (February & August)

Please let the Church Office know if you are able to help out.
We appreciate any help we can receive.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE



2/18/26

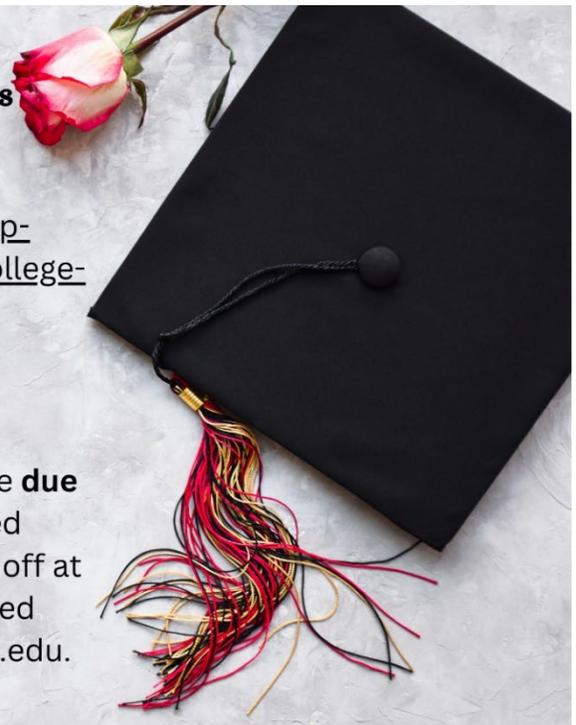
7:15 PM

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SANCTUARY

College Scholarship Applications

are available on
the church website at
<https://fpchastings.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/College-Scholarship-2026.pdf>
or
in the Church Office

The application and essay are **due March 1, 2026**. Completed applications can be dropped off at the church office or emailed directly to rstruss@hastings.edu.



Sunday 2/8	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, Radio, You Tube
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
Monday 2/9	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	12:30pm-3pm	PEO-GK	Fellowship Hall
	1-3pm	1 st Pres. 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	Choir Room
Tuesday 2/10	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 & Choir Rooms
	5:30pm	Congregational Life Meeting	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Trustee Meeting	PEACE West Classroom
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	Middle School Youth and Choir Rooms
	6-9pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
Wednesday 2/11	6:45pm	Deacons	Anderson Room
	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 th Grade WNL	Various
	5:30pm-7pm	Adult Game Night	Various
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir Practice	Choir Room
Thursday 2/12	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	4-6pm	Hastings College Choir Dress Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	Middle School Youth and Choir Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	6-10pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
Friday 2/13	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
		Jr. High Retreat	
	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
Saturday 2/14	10am-12pm	Mahjong	Basement Youth Room
		Jr. High Retreat	
Sunday 2/15	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, Radio, You Tube
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	3pm	HC Choir Concert	Sanctuary

Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher
Tarah Davis & family
Matt Campbell
Janey Nottage-Tacey
Bob Wolf
KyMani Riek
Janelle Baideme
family of Gayle Struss
Carole Pedersen
Charles Hermes
Tony Glenn
Francisco Diaz (Beto)
Pam Canady

Carter Johnson
Alyssa Donley
Ken Fisk
family of Elmer Heeren
Sammy Nahorny
Mary Lewis
Bruce Batterson
family of Yvonne Ziemba
Molly Kammerer and family
Willis Horton
Kathy Reimer
Carl Utley
Cassidy Georgiana

Barry Thomson
Greg Howard
Lexi Longshore
family of Dave Henderson
Zsuzsanna Fazakas
The Unger family
Judd Carrier
Nytha & Dave Glass
Elladee Ronhovde
Carol Harrenstein

In memory of

Elmer Heeren, who passed away on January 17, 2026

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's Choir Director: Teresa Canady
Children's Bells 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