

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and sovereign God, we come before you in this season of Lent, honest about who we are and the ways we fall short. Like Peter, we have denied you in moments when faith felt costly. Like Pilate, we have questioned the truth and then turned away from it. Like the crowds, we have given our loyalty to powers that do not bring life.

We confess that we are often more concerned with comfort than courage, with winning than with love, with protecting ourselves than with following Christ. Forgive us, O God, for the times we have said with our lives, “We have no king but Caesar” when we know in our hearts that we are ultimately citizens of the kingdom of God.

Turn our hearts back to you. Reorder our loyalties. Teach us again what it means to follow Jesus the King, who reigns in humility and love.

QUESTION FOR SILENT CONFESSION & CONTEMPLATION

Who or what do I give my loyalty to? How do my lived values reflect that?

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, hear the good news of the Gospel: The same Jesus who was denied, rejected, and condemned is the one who meets us with grace.

Christ does not abandon us in our failure. Christ forgives us, restores us, and calls us again.

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and loved.

Thanks be to God!



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

*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

Bear Your Light Upon Me, Lord



Bear your light u - pon me, Lord. Guide me through this time of sor - row

5
so that love and peace will pour from me for a new to - mor - row.

9
When the dark - ness of the val - ley ov - er sha - dows all that I see,

13
I pray you are e - ver with me, please bear your light u - pon me, Lord.

SCRIPTURE READING – John 14:1-9

ANTHEM

“Lenten Song”

Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

Chancel Choir, director Miggi Angangco

Maggie deFreese, oboe; Linda Vollweiler, keyboard

All ye that pass by, To Jesus draw nigh to you is it nothing that Jesus should die? Your ransom and peace, your surety He is, Come, see if there was ever sorrow like His, Sorrow like His, sorrow like His. He dies to atone for sins not His own. Your debt He hath paid, and your work He hath done. Ye all may receive the peace He did leave, who made intercession, “My Father forgive, Father forgive, Father, forgive.” For you and for me (Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison) He prayed on the tree; The

prayer is accepted, the sinner is free! The sinner am I, who on Jesus rely, and come for the pardon, come for the pardon, come for the pardon God cannot deny. His death is my plea; My advocate see, and hear the blood speak that hath answered for me: He purchased the grace which I now embrace; O Father, thou knowest He died in my place, died in my place, died in my place! (Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison.) For he died in my place.

SERMON

“We have no king but...”

*HYMN

“Lead On, O King Eternal!”

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

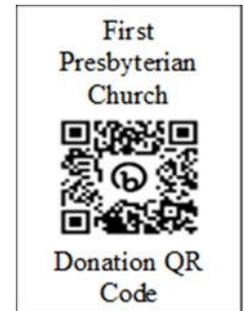
We believe in one God, creator of all that is, whose light shines in the darkness and whose love never fails.

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

Reflections on “The Old Rugged Cross”
Chancel Bell Choir, director Byron Jensen

Jason Krug

*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

609

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, you are the giver of every good gift and the ruler of a kingdom not built on power, but on love.

We offer these gifts to you as a sign of our trust and our devotion. Take what we have given and use it for your purposes— to bring hope where there is despair, truth where there is confusion, and love where there is division.

Shape us as a people whose lives reflect your reign, so that in all we do, we proclaim not the power of this world, but the grace of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

DEDICATION OF THE SANCTUARY CROSS

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

arr. Fritz Mountford

Angie Amaya & Clark Boettger, soloists

Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand;
The shadow of a mighty rock
Within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness,
A rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat
And the burden of the day.

Upon that cross of Jesus
Mine eye at times can see
The very dying form of One
Who suffered there for me;

And from my smitten heart, with tears,
Two wonders I confess:
The wonders of his glorious love,
And my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow
For my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
the sunshine of His face;
Content to let the world go by,
To know no gain or loss;
My sinful self my only shame,
My glory all the cross.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious and loving God, we give you thanks for this holy space, for the generations who have gathered here before us, and for the ways your Spirit continues to move among us. Today we give thanks for this cross, a vision first placed in the heart of your servant Frank Medsker, who saw with clarity and conviction that Christ must remain at the center of our life together. We thank you for his faith, his generosity, and his witness to the gospel. As we dedicate this cross to your glory and in his memory, we remember a life rooted in your love and a ministry centered in your Son.

We give thanks for all who helped bring this vision to life: for those who discerned, approved, designed, and created. We give thanks for patient waiting through seasons of delay and for the hands and hearts that made this work complete. And now, O God, we dedicate this cross to your glory. May it be more than wood. May it be a sign that points beyond itself to the mystery of your redeeming love. In this empty cross, remind us that death does not have the final word. Remind us that Christ is risen, that grace abounds, and that love is stronger than fear. When we gather in this sanctuary, and when our eyes are drawn to this cross, center us again in Christ. May this cross humble us, unite us, and then send us out. Make us a people who do not simply look upon the cross but who take up the way of the cross, living lives of compassion, justice, mercy, and hope. We dedicate this cross in the name of the Creator, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit. 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

“The Lord is Your Home”

Hannah Jensen-Heitmann

The Lord Is Your Home

Be - lieve in the life, be - lieve in the love, be - lieve in the

7

hope the Lord shares with us. Go, all who were wear-y. Go, with friends or a-

13

lone. Go, griev-ing or joy - ful now. The Lord is your home. Be - lieve in the life, be -

20

lieve in the love, be - lieve in the hope the Lord shares with us.

POSTLUDE

“Lift High the Cross”

arr. Larry Shackleton

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

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

Palm Sunday, March 29

8:30 Contemplative Worship in the Chapel with Communion

9:15 Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary with Procession of Palms

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 Dedication of the Sanctuary Cross

In 2019, the Rev. Frank Medsker, a retired pastor and beloved member of First Presbyterian Church of Hastings, invited Pastor Greg to walk with him into the sanctuary. As they stood together and looked toward the pulpit and choir loft, Frank gently observed that something was missing: there was no cross.

For Frank, this was not a matter of decoration but of devotion. He believed that when people gather for worship and lift their eyes, they should be drawn to the central symbol of our faith—the cross of Jesus Christ. In that moment, he shared his desire to make a gift, through his pastor's pension, to provide a cross for the sanctuary.

This proposal was brought to the Trustees and the Session, both of whom gave their approval, with the shared commitment that any cross added to the space would honor and complement the architectural beauty and design of our sanctuary.

Soon after, however, the world changed. The COVID-19 pandemic, followed by the many celebrations and initiatives surrounding our church's 150th anniversary and capital campaign, required our time and attention. The cross project was prayerfully set aside for a season.

In 2024, the vision was renewed. Session and Trustees reaffirmed their support, and one of our own church elders, Brian Johnson, was selected to design and fabricate the cross with some input from Frank's daughters, Sue Medsker and Nan Huey. With careful attention to craftsmanship, proportion, and theological meaning, the cross was created and installed in the fall of 2025. Earlier this month, the lighting was completed, illuminating the cross as a focal point of our sanctuary.

Today, we give thanks as we dedicate this cross to the glory of God, and in honor and loving memory of Rev. Frank Medsker—one who faithfully kept Christ at the center of his life and ministry, and who continues to inspire us to do the same.

In the Reformed tradition, Presbyterians place an empty cross in the sanctuary, rather than a crucifix. This is a profound theological witness: Christ is no longer on the cross. He is risen.

The empty cross proclaims the victory of life over death, of grace over sin, and of love over all that would divide or destroy.

As we gather in worship, may this cross draw our eyes and our hearts ever toward Christ, who is the source of our hope, our unity, and our life.

THE FLOWERS are given by First Presbyterian Church of Hastings.

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

NURSERY Kim Bogan, Esther Allen-Pickett

ACOLYTES Student Volunteers

USHERS (Team 1) Captain-Chuck Hastings, Kim Creech

GREETERS

March Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
22	Melissa Davis	Volunteers Needed
29	Kay Georgiana	Volunteers Needed

April Greeters and Ushers

April (Team #2) Captain – Duane Huber, Steve Illingworth, Daveta & Dick Brader, Lois Hafer

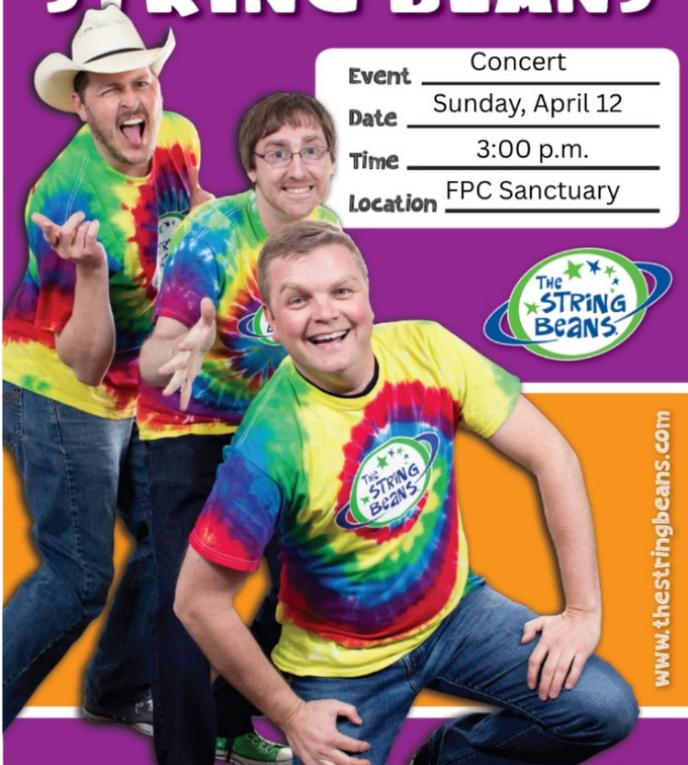
April Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
Easter 8:30am 5	Volunteers Needed	Melissa Davis
Easter 10:30am 5	Harold & Milrae Korb	Jan Bolliger
12	Damen & LaRaesha Kugal	Melissa Davis
19	Lynne Friedewald & Chuck Shoemaker	Jenna Jorgensen
26	Jane & Chuck Bauer	Susan Cole

Easter Greeters and Ushers Needed We are in need of Ushers and Greeters for the 8:30 a.m. service on Easter. Please let the church office know if you are able to help out. Thanks so much!

THE STRING BEANS

Free Concert!

Event Concert
 Date Sunday, April 12
 Time 3:00 p.m.
 Location FPC Sanctuary





You're Invited

To a Chili Cook-off!!!

Hosted by:
Congregational Life Committee

>>>>>

Sunday
March

22

🔥

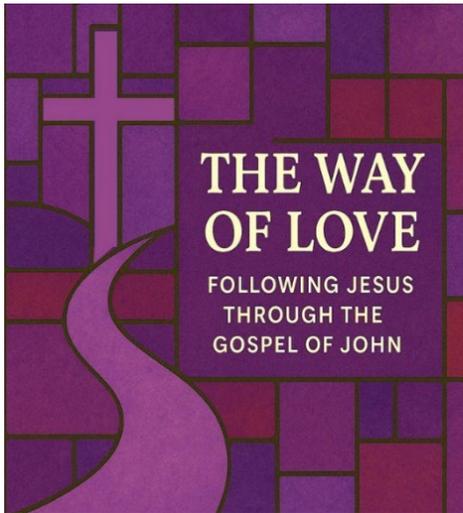
12

PM
Fellowship
Hall

>>>>>

Come enjoy chili that has been prepared by our various Church Committees, and vote for your favorites!





THE WAY OF LOVE

FOLLOWING JESUS THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Six-week Lenten series that invites us to walk The Way of Love: A path marked by compassion, courage, humility, and hope.

- 2/22: John 11 - Love that weeps
- 3/1: John 13 - Love that serves
- 3/8: John 18 - Love in the shadows
- 3/15: John 18 - Love on trial
- 3/22: John 19 - Love that bears
- 3/29: John 12 - Love that enters in



Noonday Book Club

The Noonday Book Group will begin a new discussion in the upcoming week. Elaine Pagel's book *The Gnostic Gospels* will be the focus. Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh will lead the weekly conversations online. All are welcome to log in at 11:55 a.m. every Wednesday. Please contact Sharon Brooks at sbbrooks52@gmail.com or Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh at ddeffenbaugh425@gmail.com for more information about connecting online.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

Team 1 (March & September)

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.



Holy Week 2026

3/29 Palm Sunday

Contemplative Service: 8:30 a.m. in Chapel
Traditional Service: 10:30 a.m. in Sanctuary
with kids and youth choir and bells at 10:30 a.m. service

4/2 Maundy Thursday

6 p.m. Table Fellowship & Service in Memorial Room

4/3 Good Friday

7 p.m. Service in Sanctuary

Good Friday - Easter morning

Easter Prayer Vigil in Chapel

4/5 Easter Sunday

8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Services in Sanctuary
with Cathedral Brass, Chancel Choir, and Chancel Bells at both services

Sun. 3/22	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, YouTube, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	12pm	Chili Cook-off	Fellowship Hall
Mon. 3/23	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	1-3pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE quilting room
	6-8pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7pm	PEO HT	PEACE West Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room
Tues. 3/24	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	10:30am	Becky Foote's Funeral with reception to follow	Funeral-Sanctuary Reception-Fellowship Hall
	11:45am	Habitat for Humanity	Middle School Youth Room
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	Middle School Youth and Choir Rooms
	6pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
Wed. 3/25	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	5pm-7:15pm	PreK-12 th Grade WNL	various
	5:30pm	Adult Game Night	Fellowship Hall
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir Practice	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
Thur. 3/26	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	Middle School Youth and Choir Rooms
	5:30pm	Session Meets	Anderson Room
	6pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	6pm-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE gym
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Fri. 3/27	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	10am-12pm	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
Sun. 3/29	Palm Sunday		
	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, YouTube, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library

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>

Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher	Bruce Batterson	Kathy Struss
Tarah Davis & family	Molly Kammerer and family	Carter Johnson
Matt Campbell	Willis Horton	Alyssa Donley
Janey Nottage-Tacey	Kathy Reimer	Ken Fisk
Bob Wolf	Carl Utley	Sammy Nahorny
KyMani Riek	Barry Thomson	Mary Lewis
Carole Pedersen	Greg Howard	Judd Carrier
Charles Hermes	Lexi Longshore	Nytha & Dave Glass
Tony Glenn	Zsuzsanna Fazakas	Elladee Ronhovde
Francisco Diaz (Beto)	The Unger family	Carol Harrenstein
Pam Canady	Monte Malouf	
family of Becky Foote	Lisha Payne	

In memory of

Becky Foote, who passed away on 3/18/26

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. Miggi Angangco
Chancel Bells & Calvin/Westminster Bells Director: Dr. Byron Jensen
Calvin/Westminster Choir Director: Linda Johnson
Praise/Alleluia Choir Director: 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 Koepp
Church Office Administrator: Melissa Davis
Facilities Manager: Tony Calhoun
Bookkeeper: Deb Hamburger
Scholar in Residence: Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh