



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

## Fourth Sunday of Easter April 26, 2026 - 10:30 am Service

PRELUDE "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" *Diane Bish*  
Organist, Linda Vollweiler

WELCOME Greg Allen-Pickett

CHORAL INTROIT "Open Our Eyes, Lord" *arr. John Purifoy*  
Youth Choir, director Linda Johnson  
Mary Plock, accompanist

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,  
to reach out and touch Him, and say that we love Him.  
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.  
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Psalm 139 & Psalm 25) Damen Jensen-Heitmann  
O Lord, you have searched us and known us. You know our sitting down and our  
rising up; you discern our thoughts from far away.

***Where can we go from your Spirit? Or where can we flee from your  
presence?***

Even in the darkness, you are there. Even on the road we think we control, you  
meet us with truth and grace.

***Teach us your ways, O Lord; lead us in your truth, and teach us.***

Come, let us worship the God who calls us by name, who transforms our hearts,  
and sends us out in faith.

***Come, let us worship God!***

\*HYMN "Open My Eyes, That I May See" 451  
Linda Johnson, song leader

CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious and searching God, you meet us on the road of our lives—sometimes gently, sometimes with blinding clarity. Yet we confess that we resist your call. Sometimes we cling to our own certainty, confident in our own righteousness, blind to the ways we harm others. Sometimes we hesitate when you call us by name, afraid of where obedience might lead, questioning whether we have heard you rightly. Forgive us, O God. Open our eyes when we are blind. Soften our hearts when they are hardened. Give us courage when we are afraid. Help us to trust your voice— even when it challenges us, even when it sends us toward the unexpected. By your grace, transform us, that we may follow you more faithfully.**

## SILENT CONFESSION

How can I let God soften my heart? When have I been afraid to follow my faith?

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, Hear the good news: The same God who met Saul on the road to Damascus meets us in our brokenness and our need.

**In Jesus Christ, our sight is restored, and we are made new.**

Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and loved!

**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.)

## SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

## TIME WITH CHILDREN

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Living God, sometimes you speak to us in a flash of light and sometimes in the quietness. Speak to us now through your Word.**

**Open our eyes to see your truth.**

**Open our ears to hear your voice.**

**Open our hearts to receive your call.**



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

Rose Koepp

***Give us the faith to wrestle honestly with you and the courage to follow where you lead. By your Spirit, transform us through the reading and proclamation of your Word. Amen.***

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING – Isaiah 6:1-8

ANTHEM

“Go Light Your World”  
Olivia Canady, soloist

*Chris Rice*

There is a candle in ev’ry soul;  
some brightly burning, some dark and cold.  
There is a Spirit who brings a fire,  
ignites a candle and makes His home.

So, carry your candle, run to the darkness,  
seek out the hopeless, confused and torn.

Hold out your candle for all to see it.  
Take your candle and go light your world.  
Take your candle and go light your world.

Frustrated brother, see how he’s tried to  
light his own candle some other way.  
See now your sister, she’s been robbed and  
lied to,  
still holds a candle without a flame.

So, carry your candle, run to the darkness,  
seek out the lonely, the tired and worn.

Hold out your candle for all to see it.  
Take your candle and go light your world.  
Take your candle and go light your world.  
We are a fam’ly whose hearts are blazing  
So, let’s raise our candles and light up the  
sky!

Praying to our Father, in the name of Jesus,  
make us a beacon in darkest time.

So, carry your candle, run to the darkness,  
seek out the helpless, deceived and poor.

Hold out your candle for all to see it.  
Take your candle and go light your world.

So, carry your candle, run to the darkness,  
seek out the hopeless, confused and torn.

Hold out your candle for all to see it.  
Take your candle and go light your world.  
Take your candle and go light your world

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING – Acts 9:1-19

SERMON

Variations of faithfulness

\*HYMN

“Here I Am, Lord”

69

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (An affirmation inspired by Acts 9 by Greg Allen-Pickett)

***We believe in God, who seeks us out on the roads of our lives,  
meeting us in moments of certainty and in seasons of doubt.***

***We believe in Jesus Christ, who confronts us with truth and calls us  
to new life, turning us from what we have been into who we are  
created to be.***

***We believe in the Holy Spirit, who speaks to us, guides us, and gives  
us courage to respond.***

***We believe that faith is both encounter and response:  
the transforming grace of God and the faithful  
obedience of God's people.***

***We believe we are called to listen, to question, to trust,  
and to go where God sends us. In faith, we follow.***

***Amen.***



INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Ring Joyfully”  
Youth Bells, director Byron Jensen

*Susan E. Geschke*

\*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

609

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***Generous God, you have given us life, grace, and calling.  
You meet us where we are and invite us into your work in the world.  
Receive now these gifts, signs of our gratitude and our trust. Use  
them to bring light where there is darkness, healing where there is  
brokenness, and hope where there is fear.  
And use us, O God—like Saul and Ananias— as instruments of your  
transforming love. In Jesus' name, we pray. 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

“Lord, You Give the Great Commission” (vs. 1-2, 5)

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\*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

“March in C”

*Handel*

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

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

**Sunday, May 3: Confirmation Sunday!**

**8:30am Contemplative Worship in the Chapel**

**9:15 Sunday School for all ages**

**10:30am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary led by our Confirmands**

**Stay-at-Home Broadcast live on YouTube: [www.youtube.com/@FPCHastings](http://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 loving memory of Ty Chapel by the Chapel family and in memory of Kevin Charles Heineman, Mary Alice and Joe Heineman by family and friends.

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

**NURSERY** Kim Bogan, Meredith Oliver

**ACOLYTES** Student Volunteers

**USHERS** Captain-Duane Huber, Steve Illingworth, Daveta & Dick Brader, Lois Hafer

**GREETERS**

April Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
26	Melissa Davis	Susan Cole

**May Ushers (Team #3)** Captain – Dave Fisher, Andy Barrows, Phil Odom, Doug Soderquist, John Pershing

May Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
3	Kili & Justin Wenburg	Lynette & Paul Krieger
10	Dick & Daveta Brader	Carolyn & Richard McKenzie
17	Dixie & Gale McDonald	Volunteer Needed
24	John & Linda Carllson	Sue Medsker
31	Ann & Robin Koozer	Carol Harrenstein



Hands Around the World Store  
has received new items for  
Spring.

Stop by the store  
and check out  
our new merchandise!

**serrv**



VBS 2026  
**THE SEARCH FOR GODLY TREASURES**

JUNE 22-25  
8:30-11:30 AM

INCOMING  
PREK-5<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS

Join us for a 4-day adventure to find the  
treasures of God's Kingdom!  
All are welcome!  
Register online [fpchastings.org](http://fpchastings.org)



Church Women United, Inc.  
*Agreed to Differ – Resolved to Love – United to Serve*

## May Friendship Day Luncheon 2026

Sponsored by Hastings/Juniata Church Women United



*Psalm 24:1*

*"The Earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."*

### THEME: "A Place Called Home"

Church Women United invites YOU to attend the  
**May Friendship Day Salad Luncheon.**

We will be acknowledging Megan Dwyer as our Outstanding Young Woman

**Friday, May 1, 2026 • 12:00 noon**

**First United Methodist Church**

614 N. Hastings Ave. • Hastings NE 68901

Tickets: \$10.00

(Contact your local Church Women United members for tickets.)

Tickets are also available in the First Presbyterian Church office.



**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 MISSION COMMITTEE THANKS YOU.



## P.W. Mother's Day Offering

Presbyterian Women collect a Mother's Day offering each year in honor of, or in memory of, our mothers. We will set up in the Memorial Room for 4 Sundays (April 19, April 26, May 3, and May 10). This year the offering will go to help young women in the Revive program.


Revive exists to provide a safe, supportive environment for women who are seeking freedom from addiction and the opportunity to rebuild their lives. Our program focuses on whole-person recovery-supporting women physically, emotionally, and spiritually as they work toward long-term healing and stability. Many of the women who come through Revive have faced significant challenges, including addiction, trauma, unstable housing, and separation from their children. When they enter our program, they are stepping into a new chapter-one that focuses on recovery, personal growth, accountability, and hope for the future.

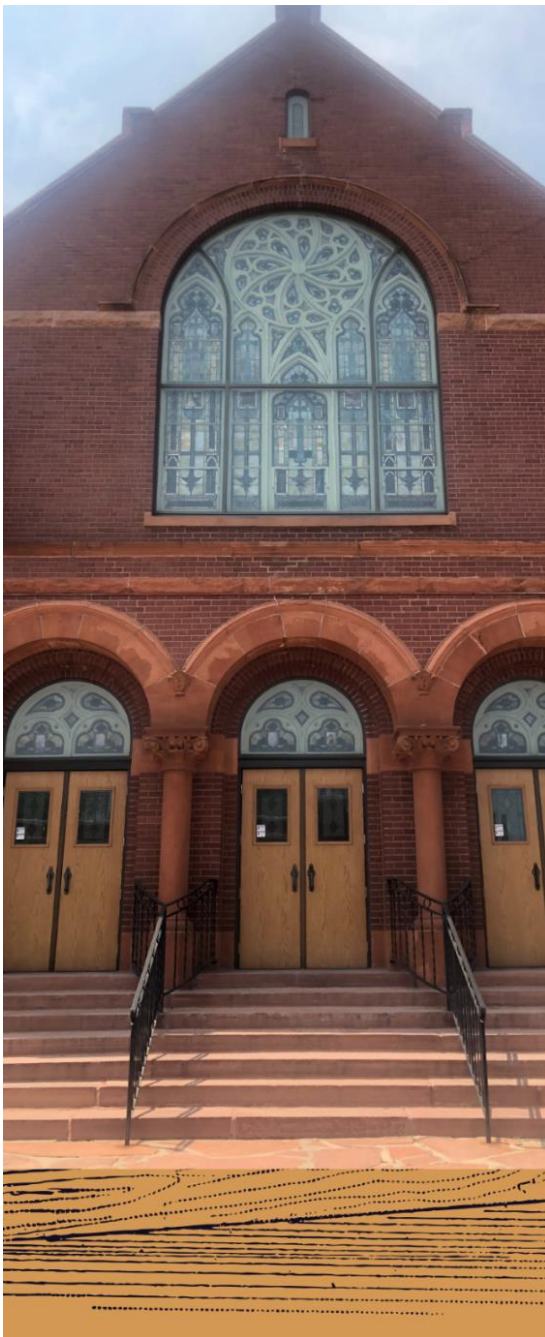
During their time with us, the women participate in structured recovery programming, life-skills development, mentorship, and community support. We walk alongside them as they rebuild confidence, establish healthy routines, pursue employment and education opportunities, and begin restoring relationships with their families and children.

Mother's Day can be a particularly meaningful time for many of the women in our program. Some are mothers working toward reunification with their children, while others are rebuilding their identities and healing from the pain that addiction has caused in their families. Small acts of kindness during this time can remind them that they are valued, supported, and not alone in their journey.

Your willingness to donate something for the women on Mother's day is incredibly thoughtful and will mean so much to them. Gestures like this help encourage them and remind them that their community believes in their recovery and their future.

Thank you again for our generosity and for helping us support the women at Revive. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or if there is anything we can coordinate to make your donation process easier.





# New Members Class

Sundays 9:15 a.m.-10:15 a.m.

April 26

May 3

May 10

Child care will be available.

**CALL 402-462-5147  
FOR DETAILS  
AND TO REGISTER FOR THE NEW  
MEMBERS CLASS.  
ALL ARE WELCOME!**



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF HASTINGS**  
SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

## Volunteers Needed at the Rain Garden

The PEACE Center Rain Garden is waking up! Volunteers are needed to help weed the garden and encourage plants and bushes to mature. An attractive garden provides habitat for birds, butterflies, and pollinators, while also creating a colorful landscape. The work can be done at your convenience. If interested, contact John Nelson at 402-469-6001 or [njcelk11@gmail.com](mailto:njcelk11@gmail.com)

<b>Sun. 4/26</b>	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	9:15am-10:15am	Sunday School for all ages	Various
	9:15am-10:15am	New Members Class	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor Confirmation Room
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Radio, YouTube
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
<b>Mon. 4/27</b>	<del>9am-11am</del>	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	<del>1-3pm</del>	1 <sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	<del>6-8pm</del>	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room
<b>Tues. 4/28</b>	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In person
	11:45am	Habitat for Humanity	Room 203
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor Middle School Youth and Choir Rooms
	6-8pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
<b>Wed. 4/29</b>	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> Grade WNL	various
	5:30pm	Adult Game Night	Fellowship Hall
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers Meet	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
<b>Thur. 4/30</b>	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor Middle School Youth and Choir Room
	6-8pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Fri. 5/1</b>	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	10am-12pm	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
<b>Sat. 5/2</b>	11:30am	Elmer Heeren Funeral with Luncheon to follow	Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall
<b>Sun. 5/3</b>		Confirmation Sunday	
	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	9:15am	New Members Class	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor Confirmation Room
	9:15am	Sunday School for all ages	Various
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Radio, YouTube
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library

## PW May Luncheon

The Presbyterian Women invite all women to attend their May luncheon on Wednesday, May 6, at 11:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. We are breaking out our china from our weddings or mothers.

We are pleased to welcome Lisa Ewald, Chaplain at Mary Lanning Health Care, as our guest speaker.

The cost is \$5 per person. Please call the church office with reservations by Monday, May 4th, so we have enough china dusted off for all of you!

## Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher  
Tarah Davis & family  
Matt Campbell  
Janey Nottage-Tacey  
Bob Wolf  
KyMani Riek  
Carole Pedersen  
Tony Glenn  
Judd Carrier  
Mary Lewis

Zsuzsanna Fazakas  
The Unger family  
Carol Harrenstein  
Pam Canady  
Kathy Struss  
Carter Johnson  
Alyssa Donley  
Ken Fisk  
Sammy Nahorny  
Francisco Diaz (Beto)

Molly Kammerer and family  
Carl Utley  
Barry Thomson  
Greg Howard  
Lexi Longshore  
Nytha & Dave Glass  
family of Ramona Shetler  
family of Becky Foote

## In memory of

Becky Foote, who passed  
away on 3/18/26  
Ramona Shetler, who passed  
away on 4/3/26

***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 Anganco  
**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  
**Custodian:** Keidy Debbe  
**Bookkeeper:** Deb Hamburger  
**Scholar in Residence:** Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh