FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

Living Through Ambiguity: Holding Hope
First Presbyterian Church
November 22, 2026

PRELUDE "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" *arr. Diane Bish*
Linda Vollweiler, Organist

WELCOME Damen Jensen-Heitmann

INTROIT "Trust and Obey" *John H. Sammis*
Children's Bell Choir, Director Susan Oliver *arr. Daniel B. Towner*

*CALL TO WORSHIP Dan Deffenbaugh

The world belongs to God,
The earth and all of its people.
How good and lovely it is
To live together in unity.
Love and faith come together,
Justice and peace join hands.
Lord, open our lips,
And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

*OPENING HYMN "O Day of Rest and Gladness" 393
Tyler Koepp, Song Leader

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, O God, that our thoughts are not your thoughts. We see endings where you have created new beginnings. We dwell on despair when you have planted seeds of hope. Though we try, we cannot always see the world as full of fresh possibilities, and we do not understand the future to be open-ended. Forgive us, O God, for our brushes with nihilism. Move us past our existential dread. Open our hearts so that we might embrace your vision of peaceful and hopeful days yet to come. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION & CONTEMPLATION
What peace are you hoping to find?

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
Let the family of faith rejoice!
We have planted our feet on the mountain of God.
Let the family of faith take heart.
Our sins are forgiven. We are loved.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE "Glory Be to the Father" 581

*PEACE OF CHRIST (Greet one another by sharing the Peace of Christ with those around you.)
The Peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TIME WITH CHILDREN Rose Koepp
(While the children are coming forward, the congregation will sing "Jesus Loves Me")

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
As the scripture is read and proclaimed, O God, let it sink into our very bones. Let it fill us and strengthen us. Let it renew and rekindle us. Let it connect us once more to your very being and guide us through the days ahead. Amen.

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

1st SCRIPTURE READING – Isaiah 36:1-3, 13-20

ANTHEM "Unto Us a Child is Born" *Laura Farnell*
Children's Choir, Director Teresa Canady
Mary Plock, Accompanist

2nd SCRIPTURE READING – Isaiah 37:1-7; 2:1-4

SERMON

*HYMN "We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom" 378

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
We believe in God, the true sovereign and Lord of all. We believe that God desires peace for all people and that God provides hope even amid the unimaginable.

We believe in Jesus the Christ, God's anointed. We believe that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, came into the world to reconcile people to one another and also to God.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God. We believe that the Holy Spirit inspires within us the gifts we need to follow God's command. Through the work of the Spirit, we are led to turn our hatred into love and our destructive habits into habits of renewal.

We believe that we are called to build up the church, support the weak, act with justice, and be makers of peace in the world.

First Presbyterian Church

Donation QR Code

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY "We Gather Together" *arr. Anna Laura Page*

Youth Bell Choir, Director Byron Jensen

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" 606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Through these gifts and our very lives, hasten the days until your true peace reigns. Make quick, O God, the time until all swords are turned into ploughshares and none of us study the ways of violence any longer. 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 "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout" 100

*BENEDICTION

*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 "Fanfare (from Water Music)" *G.F. Handel*

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

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

Sunday, November 29
NO Contemplative Service
NO Faith Enrichment Hour
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 ROSES are given by Marie & Don Rasmussen in honor of their 75th wedding anniversary.

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

NURSERY Kim Bogan

ACOLYTES Student Volunteers

USHERS (Team #3) Captain – Dave Fisher, Phil Odom, Doug Soderquist, John Pershing

GREETERS

November	Memorial Room	Narthex
22	Jane & Chuck Bauer	Melissa Davis
29	Sally Hatcher	

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

December Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
6	Volunteers Needed	Melissa Davis
13	Kathy & Curtis Reimer	Melissa Davis
20	Paul & Lynette Krieger	Cathy & John Pershing
Christmas Eve 5:30 p.m. 24	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
Christmas Eve 7:30 p.m. 24	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
27	Marnie & Doug Soderquist	Volunteers Needed







Celebrate the Advent Season at First Presbyterian Church Hastings at the

Congregation Nativity Set Share

Display is open in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, December 12 (1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.) and Sunday, December 13 (8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.) This will be in conjunction with the Tour of the Churches event.

Instructions:
Bring your family's nativity set to Fellowship Hall
Saturday, December 12
between 8:30 a.m-12:30 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



Ushers and Greeters Needed for Christmas Eve

We are in need of Ushers and Greeters for the 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. services on Christmas Eve.
Please let Melissa know if you are able to help out.
(melissa@fpchastings.org or 402-462-5147)
Thank you!

Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher
Tarah Davis & family
Matt Campbell
Janey Nottage-Tacey
Bob Wolf
KyMani Riek
Tony Glenn
Summer Postlewait and family
Kathy Struss
Ken Fisk
Pat Kelley
Sally Smith
Andy Barrows
Pam Canady
Zsuzsanna Fazakas
Judd Carrier
Carl Utley
Barry Thomson
Greg Howard
Francisco Diaz (Beto)
Dana Odom
family of Lexi Longshore
Nancy Grams and family
Pastor Nominating Committee
Kathy (Adams) Carrier
family of Janet Schawang
family of Gary Whitcomb
Marilyn Nielsen

In memory of

Gary Whitcomb, who passed away on 10/16/2026
Janet Schawang, who passed away on 10/22/2026

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 a non-profit to be determined.

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

American Red Cross

The American Red Cross and First Presbyterian Church are hosting a blood drive on Tuesday, December 1, from 12pm-6pm. There is a critical need for donated blood. Please consider making an appointment to give blood during this drive. To make an appointment go to redcrossblood.org, select the drive at First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, and make your appointment.

HASTINGS COLLEGE

A Very Hastings College
Christmas with the
HC Band and Choir

Sunday, December 6
5 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church
of Hastings
Sanctuary

Sun. 11/22	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	9:15am	Faith Enrichment Hour for all ages	Various
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Radio, YouTube
	11:30am	Hanging of the Greens	
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	5pm	HCMA Fallin' for Jazz Concert	Sanctuary
Mon. 11/23	8:30am	Walkers/Coffee group	PEACE Center
	9am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	5:30pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir room
Tues. 11/24	8:30am	Walkers/Coffee group	PEACE Center
	9am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	6pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	2nd floor Middle School Youth and Choir Rooms
Wed. 11/25	**Church Office Closes at 12 p.m.**		
	8:30am	Walkers/Coffee group	PEACE Center
	9am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
		NO WNL	
		NO Chancel Bell Practice	
		NO Chancel Choir Practice	
Thur. 11/26		Church Offices Closed	
Fri. 11/27		Church Offices Closed	
Sun. 11/29		NO Contemplative Service	
		NO Faith Enrichment Hour	
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, YouTube, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library




JOIN US FOR A
CHRISTMAS
CRAFT
MAKE-AND-TAKE EVENT!
Free Event
Saturday
5 December 2026
10am-1pm
First Presbyterian Church
621 N Lincoln Ave
Hastings, NE 68901
Bring your family to make a Christmas craft that they can give as a gift this holiday season! Enjoy a hot chocolate bar while our volunteers help your children craft!
Crafts are tailored towards elementary students, but fun for all ages!
FREE LUNCH FROM 11-1
Sponsored by FPC Hastings
&
Leapfrog Village


Hanging of the Greens
Sunday,
November 22
11:30 a.m.
All are welcome!


HCMA
KERI CHRYST
+
FLATWATER JAZZ ORCHESTRA
+
COMMUNITY MUSICIANS
Present
"Fallin' for Jazz"
Join us for an evening of community and jazz music
Sunday, November 22nd
5:00 pm
First Presbyterian Church
Free and open to the public

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

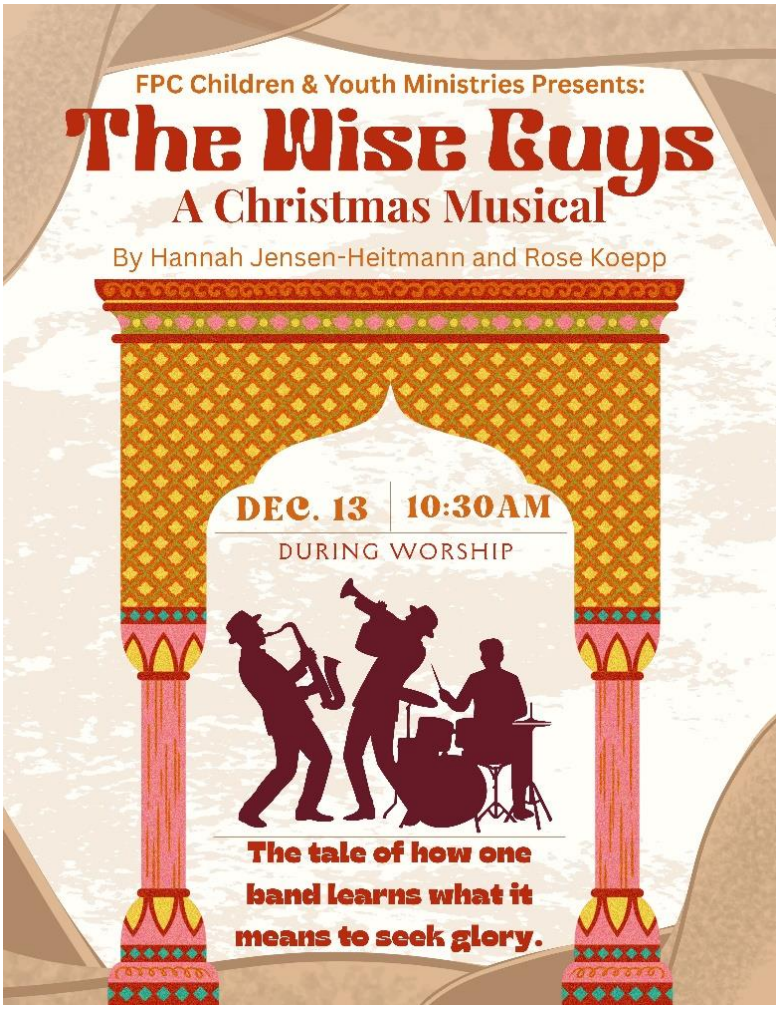
HANDS AROUND THE WORLD STORE CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 5, 2026
10:00AM-1:00PM

The beautiful and unique handcrafted items in our store are made and produced by artisans and farmers from around the world. By purchasing their works, you are helping support their families and provide hope for their future. Each month, a portion of revenue goes to the local mission, United Harvest, helping to support our local community.

serrv

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
621 N. LINCOLN AVE
HASTINGS



Tour of CHURCHES

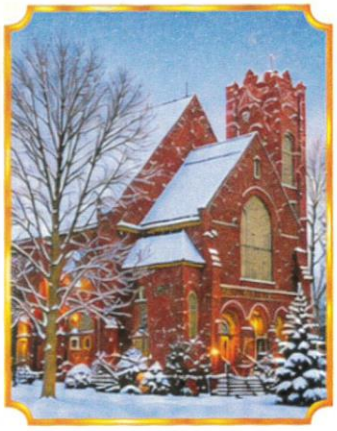
See them decorated for Christmas

December 12
2 PM to 5 PM

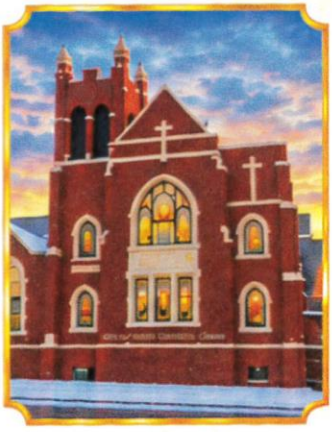
Churches to See:



Hastings First United Methodist Church



First Presbyterian Church



First St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Hastings



Berean Bible Church

Experience the Magic of Christmas!

Tour our beautiful churches adorned for the Christmas season, discover their rich history and lasting impact on our community, and enjoy delicious refreshments along the way.

TICKET SALES

$20 *Pre-sale*

$25 *at the door*

TICKETS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE AT ANY PARTICIPATING CHURCH

Thank you for supporting this special event!

Proceeds benefit CASA's Burling Center of Hope in Hastings.



TOYS FOR TOTS COLLECTION

This year our Senior High Youth are leading a collection of items for Toys for Tots. They are asking members of the congregation to bring in gift wrap, *new* books, board games, and sports balls to the church by Sunday, Dec. 6th. These items will be distributed by United Way on Dec. 15th.

UNITED WAY
South Central
Nebraska

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

Head of Church: Jesus Christ
Executive Administrator & Head of Staff: Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh
Organist and Music Director: Linda Vollweiler
Chancel Choir Director: Dr. Miggi Angangco
Chancel Bells & Youth Bells Director: Dr. Byron Jensen
Youth Choir Director: Linda Johnson
Director of the Langenberg Legacy Program: Dr. Robin Koozer

Ministers: Members of the Church
Associate Pastor: Rev. Damen Jensen-Heitmann
Director of Christian Education: Rose Koepp
Finance Administrator: Jennifer Davis
Church Office Administrator: Melissa Davis
Children's Choir Director: Teresa Canady
Children's Bells Choir Director: Dr. Susan Oliver
Accompanist and Music Coordinator: Mary Plock