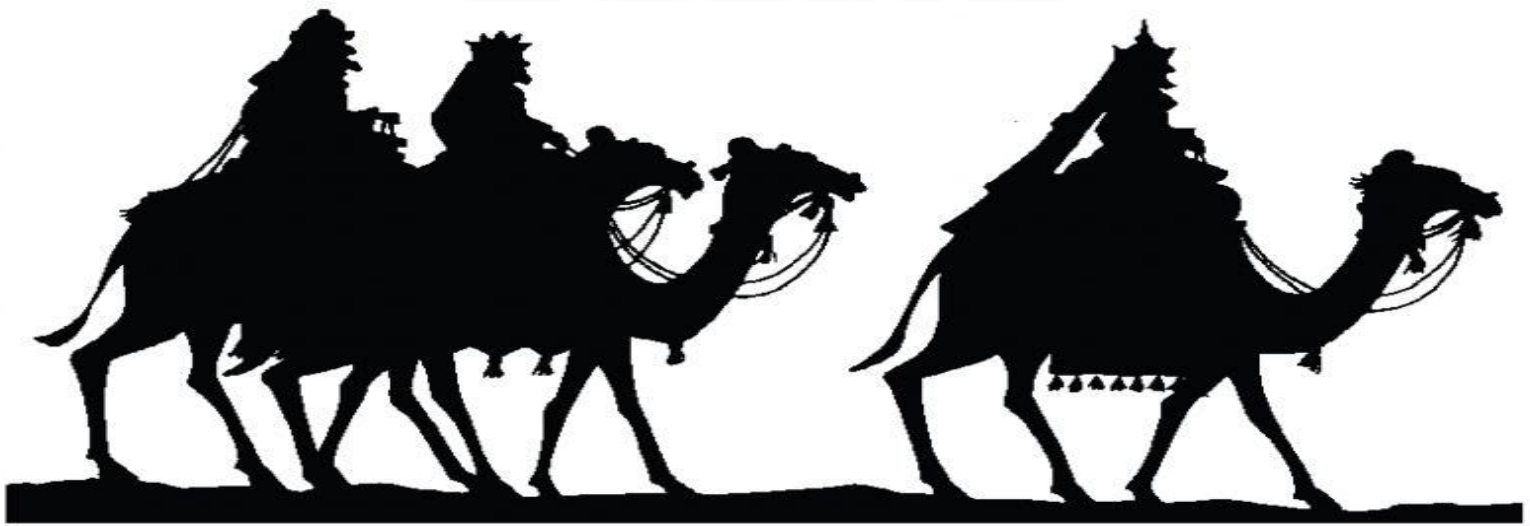


First Presbyterian Church
602 Vermillion St., Hastings, MN 55033
651.437.9656 www.fpchastingsmn.org

Wise men still seek HIM



WELCOME GUESTS. We are delighted to have you with us this morning! We hope that you will stay following the service to meet others and enjoy light refreshments. Our ushers can offer activity bags for children attending worship. Visiting children are invited to join other children in the chancel for Time with Young Disciples. Your child may be more comfortable if you come along.

**The Order of Worship
Epiphany of the Lord (A)
January 8, 2017**

(Let us prepare for worship as we enter the Sanctuary)

As you enter the sanctuary, we invite you to make the transition from “getting here” to “being here.” Take these moments of quiet time to come fully into the presence of God and the faith community.

Before our worship, listen to and speak quietly with God...
during worship, hear God speak to you...
following worship, speak to one another in love.

Large Print Hymnals are available from the ushers.

*Please rise as you are able

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

**All: The brightness of God’s light
shines upon all the nations.**

All are welcomed to the brightness of God’s dawn.

One: God gathers us from far away and carries us.

With radiant eyes, with rejoicing hearts,
we receive the abundance God gives.

All: We respond in praise.

With our gifts, with our very selves, we worship God.

***Hymn** *“Bring We the Frankincense of Our Love”* insert

***Prayer of Confession:** (Praying first in silent confession)

One: The Gospel of John tells us the basis for our judgment is this:

“The light came into the world,
and people loved darkness more than the light,
for their actions are evil.”

We confess our sins to God,

to whom we have access through faith in Christ.

We come in boldness and confidence,

not according to our merit, but according to God's grace.

**All: God of justice,
we confess that our actions are evil
whenever we remain passive
while others are oppressed;
whenever we guard our own prosperity
at the expense of those who are poor;
or when we ignore the cries
of those in need of help.**

**Forgive us, we pray,
for hiding in the darkness of this world
more than loving the light of your righteousness
made known to us in Jesus Christ.**

**Judge us with mercy, we pray,
and extend your grace to us.**

**Strengthen our faithfulness to you
and to all who are precious in your sight.**

We pray in the name of Christ, our Light. Amen.

***The Assurance of Pardon**

One: Friends, God is for us and not against us.

For that very reason God sent the Son into the world—
not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved
through him. We declare the good news of the Gospel:

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven
and set free to live a new life in him.
Thanks be to God!**

***Celebration of Pardon#155 “Raise a Song of Gladness”**

*“Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.
Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to ev’ry heart.
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to ev’ry heart!
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to ev’ry heart!”*

CCLI#3257029

***The Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

You are invited to greet those around you with words and signs
of God's reconciling peace.

Time with Young Disciples

Sung Prayer for Illumination #452

“Open the Eyes of My Heart”

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 60.1-6

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2.1-12

One: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon *“The Detour”* Rev. Dr. April Davis Campbell

***Hymn#151** *“We Three Kings”*

***Affirmation of Faith**

from A Declaration of Faith, PCUS

We Believe God sent the promised Deliverer to his people.

Jesus, the long expected Savior,

came into the world as a child, descended from David,

conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of Mary, a virgin.

He lived as a Jew among Jews.

He announced to his people the coming of God's kingdom

of justice and peace on earth.

We affirm that Jesus was born of woman as is every child,

yet born of God's power as was no other child.

In the person and work of Jesus,

God himself and a human life are united but not confused,

distinguished but not separated.

The coming of Jesus was itself

the coming of God's promised rule.

Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection,

he brings about the relationship

between God and humanity that God always intended.

Prayers of the People

(Prayer requests can be made on the blue prayer cards and picked up during the Time with Young Disciples.)

Invitation to Prayer (Let us sing together)#469 CCLI#3257029

*“Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your spirit in this place,
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love,
send us pow’r, send us grace!”*

Prayers of Intercession

One: Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

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.**

Reception of Tithes & Offerings:

Offertory Response:

#716 “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending” All Verses

***Unison Offertory Prayer**

**Though we are least among the saints, O God,
still you have given us the gift of your grace
that we might share with others
the boundless riches of Christ,
and also the resources we hold in trust.**

Receive now, we ask, what we have given today.

**Use these offerings and use us
for your plans and purposes.
We pray in Christ's name. Amen.**

***Hymn#150** *“As with Gladness Men of Old”*

***Charge and Blessing
Postlude**

Portions of the liturgy adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1* © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press.

THIS SERVICE is broadcast each Sunday on station KDWA 1460 AM/97.7FM, and is lived streamed on www.kdwa.com

Volunteers This Morning:

Lay Leader/Reader: Marcia Caneff

Greeter: Carlotta Mullins

Ushers: Mary Crawmer

Sunday School Teacher: Kaitlin Christian

Prayer Requests/Prayer Chain: Prayer requests can be written on the blue cards found in the pew racks. The confidential prayer chain of FPCH will continue in prayer for your request, if you write that on the card. Pass the card to the center aisle to be picked up by the ushers during children's time. If you have a prayer request at any time, please see the kiosk for the Prayer Chain members and the Deacons to call to begin the prayer chain.

Volunteers Next Week:

Lay Leader/Reader: Dennis Brown

Greeter: Karen Altpeter

Ushers: The Tiefenbruck family

Sunday School Teacher: Kaitlin Christian

Please join us for a time of fellowship and snacks after worship. We look forward to meeting you.

Activities This Week:

Wednesday, January 11 7 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry

Friday, January 14 Annual Reports due

Birthdays this week: Monday January 8 Pat Dymacek
Wednesday, January 11 Lee Rossing

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS...please submit to Pastor April (april@fpresby.org) no later than Wednesday of bulletin week.

Looking Ahead:

Annual Congregational Meeting and Potluck is Sunday, January 22, 2017 following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to review and receive the 2016 annual reports, elect the slate of officers presented by the nominating committee and vote on the terms of call for Rev. Dr. April M. Davis Campbell.

Per Capita for 2017 is \$33.75 per member. Please submit to the church office by May 1st.

Newsletter Information and Deadline...

Please e-mail information for the newsletter to Becky Tiefenbruck at: mrsbect@gmail.com or put a copy of your contribution in the Newsletter Box in the office. The deadline for January articles is December 15th.

Ministers: Every member of the congregation

Pastor: Rev. Dr. April M. Davis Campbell april@fpresby.org

Lead Musician: Pat Dymacek

Organist, Pianist: Karen Altpeter

Session: Dennis Brown, Mary Crawmer, David Hume, Carlotta Mullins, Marcia Rash, Brenda Reiter, Grant Tiefenbruck

Clerk of Session: Grant Tiefenbruck

Deacons: Judy Becker, Margaret Brown, Carolyn Blumeyer, Helen Ott, Sylvia Tayson, Becky Tiefenbruck

Our Mission:
Following Christ,
We strive to love and serve the world
so that all may grow in faith
and experience true joy.