

SONGS

God Is Able – Hillsong
Great Is Thy Faithfulness (Beginning to End) –
one sonic society
Goodness of God – Jenn Johnson

GIVING

On Sunday: use wooden boxes at
back of auditorium
Online: npberean.org/give
Text: text any amount to 84321
Mail: 202 W. 8th St.
North Platte, NE 69101

COMING UP

- ♦ **Come Experience the Nativity Story! – Sun. 12/6 - Fri. 12/25, 5-10 p.m., NPBC:** Follow the Star to our self-guided, drive-through Nativity experience. The story begins at the northwest parking lot entrance. Engage by video or audio at npberean.org/nativity-story, or read the Scripture next to each station. For an extra-special experience, visit on Friday, Dec. 11 or 18 from 6-8 p.m., when we'll be delivering refreshments to your vehicle as you conclude the experience. Want to help direct traffic either of those two evenings? Please contact robbynhuffman@npberean.org or call the church office.
- ♦ **Christmas Eve Celebration – Thu. 12/24:** Watch our Christmas Eve Celebration! You can do so digitally from home (it will be available on our web site early on Christmas Eve) or with others in person in the auditorium. We're trying 3, 4, and 5 p.m. this year, but we need your help! To ensure we have good distancing and enough space for all who want to come, please RSVP at npberean.org/hope for which way you plan to engage the celebration (even if you'll be watching digitally from home). At that site, you'll also find more details, including info on the self-directed Christmas Eve Communion we'll be offering.
- ♦ **Hometown Hope:** During Advent, we're seeking to bring the light of Jesus into our community in practical ways. Here are 3 simple ways you can participate:
 1. Watch and share the #hometownhope videos on our Facebook page, and consider supporting these businesses by shopping local.
 2. Check out the Hometown Hope calendar npberean.org/hometown-hope. Then submit local events, savings, and opportunities that are missing from the page to help make it better!
 3. Tell your barista, cashier, or waiter they matter, through a simple You Matter card, along with a generous tip. The link on the card (npberean.org/youmatter) will point them to the gospel! Interested? Pick up cards at the information center on Sundays or at the church office during the week.

BEREAN CHURCH weekly 12.13.20

WELCOME!

Here are a few key details to help you make the most of our gathering today. For an even more complete resource, access this bulletin online: npberean.org/sunday. We'd love to connect with you and be a spiritual resource for you – please fill out a ConnectCard from the online bulletin (or a paper copy from the seat pocket in front of you).

NEW HERE?

- ♦ **Sunday large gatherings:** In-person at 8, 9:30, & 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; digital at 9:30 a.m. at facebook.com/npberean (replay anytime).
- ♦ **Need a Bible?** Free Bibles at information center in Commons.
- ♦ **Sound levels:** Assisted listening devices and earplugs available at sound booth in back of auditorium.
- ♦ **Office hours:** Mon.-Thu. 9-4 (closed Tue. 1:30-2:30 for staff meeting).
- ♦ **Find out more:** Text npconnect to 97000, visit npberean.org, email npberean@npberean.org, or call 308-532-7448.

FOR FAMILIES

- ♦ **Mother's Room:** A private room where you can care for your baby and still see and engage the gathering – north of auditorium (follow signs).
- ♦ **Kids Connect (infant-grade 5):** Available during 9:30 and 11 a.m. gatherings. Check-in at 252 area east of Commons or First Look area upstairs from foyer. Kids also welcome in large gatherings. At-home resources: npberean.org/kids-connect-at-home.
- ♦ **Sola (grades 6-12):** Meet at Garage Café (across Vine St.) – main gatherings Wednesdays 6:30-8:30 p.m.; middle school also meets Sundays at 11 a.m.

Our mission: Leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

Free Wi-Fi: NPBC-Guest ♦ **Password:** #Loving-others!

ROMANS 4:13-25 (NLT)

¹³Clearly, God's promise to give the whole earth to Abraham and his descendants was based not on his obedience to God's law, but on a right relationship with God that comes by faith. ¹⁴If God's promise is only for those who obey the law, then faith is not necessary and the promise is pointless. ¹⁵For the law always brings punishment on those who try to obey it. (The only way to avoid breaking the law is to have no law to break!)

¹⁶So the promise is received by faith. It is given as a free gift. And we are all certain to receive it, whether or not we live according to the law of Moses, if we have faith like Abraham's. For Abraham is the father of all who believe. ¹⁷That is what the Scriptures mean when God told him, "I have made you the father of many nations." This happened because Abraham believed in the God who brings the dead back to life and who creates new things out of nothing.

¹⁸Even when there was no reason for hope, Abraham kept hoping—believing that he would become the father of many nations. For God had said to him, "That's how many descendants you will have!" ¹⁹And Abraham's faith did not weaken, even though, at about 100 years of age, he figured his body was as good as dead—and so was Sarah's womb.

²⁰Abraham never wavered in believing God's promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God. ²¹He was fully convinced that God is able to do whatever he promises. ²²And because of Abraham's faith, God counted him as righteous. ²³And when God counted him as righteous, it wasn't just for Abraham's benefit. It was recorded ²⁴for our benefit, too, assuring us that God will also count us as righteous if we believe in him, the one who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. ²⁵He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God.

Sermon text next Sunday: Romans 5:12-19

HOPE AGAINST HOPE

Unshakable Hope ♦ Dan Smith ♦ 12.13.20

There's _____ reason to _____

Rom. 4:19

There's _____ reason to _____

Rom. 4:17-18
Rom. 4:20-21

We can _____

Rom. 4:23-25

TALK IT OVER

Keep growing in your relationship with Jesus through the Word, prayer, and community!

- ♦ Reach out to a few people you already know – friends, coworkers, etc. – and find a time when you can connect each week. (Note: due to the pandemic, we're recommending groups of 4-7.)
- ♦ Not sure how to start the conversation? Head to npberean.org/grow for a few simple ideas you can use to get started today!