



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FENTON

To be a loving community of faith dedicated to helping people know Jesus Christ and grow, share and serve as his disciples.

4th Sunday after Epiphany

January 30th, 2022 10:00 a.m.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

### DRESSING THE TABLE

### WELCOME

### MOMENT FOR HOUSEHOLD WORSHIP

### INTROIT

“Prayer of the Norwegian Child”

George Hamelin and Steve Sutton

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Our faith and hope are in the Lord.

**God is our refuge and our rock.**

Now faith, hope, and love abide;

**And the love of God will never end.**

### OPENING PRAYER

Holy god, you sent Jesus Christ to fulfill the promise of Scripture. Help us to hear and believe the gift and challenge of the gospel, so that we may accept and follow Jesus as our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### CALL TO CONFESSION:

As believers in the Creator God  
and followers of Jesus Christ,  
we have a longing to confess our sins-  
because sin is what gets in the way  
of our relationships with God and one another.  
So we come to this time of confession,  
knowing and believing  
that God’s grace is already at work  
even before we mumble a word.  
For where sin increases,  
grace increases all the more.  
We humbly pray together now  
and confess the burdens of our hearts.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (In Unison)

**God our Redeemer, we confess that our lives do not reflect your glory. You are loving, patient, and kind; we are envious, boastful, and arrogant. You rejoice in the truth; we revel in our wrongdoing. Forgive us, God of grace. Put an end to our selfish ways and teach us to love one another as you have loved us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**DECLARATION OF PARDON:**

Christ died and was resurrected so that we  
may have new life and be forgiven of our sins.  
This is wonderful news!  
Now go out and act as loved and forgiven people.  
Be at peace and know that you're forgiven, Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Jesus, Beloved Son of God,  
reveal yourself to us,  
beneath the bright wings of the Holy Spirit.  
Dazzle us with your brightness,  
overshadow us with your glory,  
speak to us.  
We are listening. Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Jeremiah 1:4-10

**4** Now the word of the Lord came to me saying,  
**5** "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,  
and before you were born I consecrated you;  
I appointed you a prophet to the nations."  
**6** Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." **7**  
But the Lord said to me,  
"Do not say, 'I am only a boy';  
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,  
and you shall speak whatever I command you."  
**8** Do not be afraid of them,  
for I am with you to deliver you,  
says the Lord."  
**9** Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me,  
"Now I have put my words in your mouth."  
**10** See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,  
to pluck up and to pull down,  
to destroy and to overthrow,  
to build and to plant."

## ANTHEM

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross George Hamelin and Steve Sutton

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Mark 14:1-11

It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; **2** for they said, “Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.”

### The Anointing at Bethany

**3** While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. **4** But some were there who said to one another in anger, “Why was the ointment wasted in this way? **5** For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.” And they scolded her. **6** But Jesus said, “Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. **7** For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. **8** She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. **9** Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.”

### Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

**10** Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. **11** When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

## SERMON

Passionate Worship

Pastor Robbie Carnes

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

Can you remember a time when you worshiped God passionately?

What about that time made it special?

## BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

## OFFERING

Friends, God shows us mercy.

How should we respond?

By pouring out our lives recklessly.

By following God into uncharted waters.

By letting God shape us into something different

from the world around us.  
This is what it means to be spiritual;  
this is what it means to worship:  
to offer ourselves to God.

*(If you would like a written prayer request included in our prayers today, please indicate that and an usher will collect them)*

*(Financial Offerings can be placed in dropbox located in the New Narthex)*

## **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

All-powerful God,  
use these gifts,  
use our lives,  
and use this faith community  
to further your reach and reign  
in a hungry and hurting world.  
May your power be at work in and through us  
so that we will do justice, love mercy,  
and humbly serve others  
Wherever we are.  
Use us right here, in our church and in our community.  
Amen.

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Joining our hearts and minds in prayer, let us call on the name of the Lord, saying O God of grace, **bless us with peace.**

We pray for the church...  
Help us to be a true and living sign of the faith, hope and love we have in you, reaching out for the life of the world. O God of grace...**bless us with peace.**

We pray for the world...  
Uproot systems of oppression, weed out violence and corruption, and plant new seeds of life and hope. O God of grace...**bless us with peace.**

We pray for this community...  
Rescue those who are in trouble in our streets and in our homes. Protect the vulnerable from danger. O God of grace... **bless us with peace.**

We pray for loved ones...  
Comfort and help those who are sick, and give us the wisdom and grace to help them in their suffering. O God of grace...**bless us with peace.**

Mighty God, strengthen your people so that we may live in the world as those you have chosen and called, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **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.*

## **ANTHEM**

### **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

As you leave this place,  
remember to praise God.

And also remember:

Praise is not just acknowledging God's goodness  
when things are going your way.

Praise is also crying out when you are struggling—  
because praise is an act of trust.

Praise the Lord who watches over you now and forevermore.

Hallelujah! Amen!

**MUSICAL RESPONSE** "Peace I Leave with You My Friend" George Hamelin and Steve Sutton

## **POSTLUDE**

Peace be with you!

*...and also with you!*