



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.

5th Sunday after Epiphany
February 6th, 2022 10:00 a.m.

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GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

DRESSING THE TABLE Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Robbie Carnes

WELCOME

MOMENT FOR HOUSEHOLD WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 138

1 We give you thanks, O Lord, with our whole hearts;
before the gods we sing your praise;

**2 We bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness;**
for you have exalted your name and your word
above everything.

**3 On the day we called, you answered us,
you increased our strength of soul.**

4 All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.

**5 They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
for great is the glory of the Lord.**

6 For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly;
but the haughty he perceives from far away.

**7 Though we walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve us against the wrath of our enemies;**
you stretch out your hand,
and your right hand delivers us.

**8 The Lord will fulfill his purpose for us;
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

OPENING PRAYER

Holy God, by your grace: you touch our fears with the fire of your compassion; you touch our brokenness with the fire of your forgiveness; you touch our hearts with the fire of your love. Today, in this place, may we be transformed anew by your holy touch. Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM “All Creatures of Our God and King”

Robbie Carnes

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Dear God, help us to hear your Word today and do what it says. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 6:1-8

6 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. **2** Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. **3** And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;

the whole earth is full of his glory.”

4 The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. **5** And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. **7** The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” **8** Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Mark 14:12-31

12 On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, “Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?” **13** So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, “Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, **14** and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, ‘The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ **15** He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.” **16** So the disciples set out and

went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

17 When it was evening, he came with the twelve. **18** And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.” **19** They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, “Surely, not I?” **20** He said to them, “It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. **21** For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.”

The Institution of the Lord’s Supper

22 While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is my body.” **23** Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. **24** He said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. **25** Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

Peter’s Denial Foretold

26 When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. **27** And Jesus said to them, “You will all become deserters; for it is written,

‘I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep will be scattered.’

28 But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.” **29** Peter said to him, “Even though all become deserters, I will not.” **30** Jesus said to him, “Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.” **31** But he said vehemently, “Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And all of them said the same.

SERMON Remembering Redemption

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

Have you ever been in awe of what Jesus has done for you?

How best can you respond?

OFFERING

Let us offer our gifts to God as an act of worship.

(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

God who alone is holy, we offer our gifts, our lives, our compassion, our service to others, and to your creation. Bless all that we offer, so that we might be blessings of hope, peace, and grace. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

CALL TO CONFESSION:

It is so simple to say, yet so difficult to live out - 'do not be afraid!' Yet, whatever fear burdens us, God will lift from our souls. Whatever foolishness we have uttered, God whispers mercy to us. Whatever wrong we have done, God's forgiveness is poured out upon us. I invite you to join with me as we pray to the One whose love is constant in every moment, in every place, of our lives.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

God of wonder and joy, we look in the mirror and do not see holiness reflected back. We long to be sisters and brothers with others, but don't want to be an intrusion in our friends' lives. We yearn to be more compassionate, yet it is often spite and malice we offer to someone else. We are so busy listening to those

internal earbuds, that we have trouble hearing the cries of loneliness coming from those around us.

Forgive us, God who longs to be enthroned in our hearts. You call us to different lives, so we might make a difference for all who hurt. You invite us into your kingdom, so we might show the others the way. You challenge us to take a risk by following Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, so we might become your children once again.

DECLARATION OF PARDON:

The One who alone is Holy became wholly human so we might see the face of grace. The One who is seated in the heavens endured the cross so we might see the face of salvation. This is our good news: we are forgiven!

By God's grace, with God's grace, we are who we are meant to be: forgiven, restored, called people. Thanks be to God. Amen.

COMMUNION

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Beloved of God, lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the One who knows us and loves us.

Beloved of God, give thanks to the Lord our God.

Our praise is continually offered to our Hope, our Trust, our God.

In that time when there was only You, you walked in the midst of chaos, shaping all that is good and beautiful.

In that place where there was only your Love, you stretched out your hands scooping up the dirt off earth's floors, shaping us in your image, breathing Spirit into our lungs.

In that silence where there was only your Hope, you called us to be your people, God of glory and wonder.

But the world sang its seductions, sin called us to follow its despair, death blinded us to the life you offered.

And so, pouting and stamping our feet because you would not give us our way, we turned away going down another path.

You would not pay attention to our foolish tantrums, nor would you leave us in the grasp of death and sin, trusting that if we encountered the grace wrapped in your holiness, we would turn to you in joy.

And so, believing that you have reached out and called us to service with you, and touched our lips with songs of hope, we join our voices with those who, in every time and in every place sing of your ways forever:

Holy are you, Sanctuary of our hearts, and blessed is Jesus Christ, Word of joyous grace.

In that time when we had lost our way, he called to us, so we could follow him into your joy.

In that time when all hope had died, he touched our lips with the bright fire of your love.

In that time when death's cold grip wrapped tightly around our hearts, he came, to surround us with your love.

While we cannot understand the mysteries of your wonder and grace, when we are called to Christ's side we can only cry, 'here we are; we will follow' even as we hope for that faith which was his.

In this time of silence, Spirit of God, may this bread which is broken become our wholeness.

In this time of grace, may this cup which is poured touch our lips with healing.

In this time when we feel the brush of your fingertips caressing us,

may we believe that your justice and peace are to be shared with all people; that our hearts can bear the burdens of others; that we may bring joy to the lonely and suffering.

Then, when our journey is ended,
and we have followed you into eternity,
we will gather around your Table,
Sharing the grace and love that abounds even now. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Communion Prayer:

Eternal God,
you have graciously accepted us
as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his body and blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Filled with God's grace, we will go,
**to share hope with those in despair,
to befriend the lonely and afraid.**

Filled with God's grace, we will follow Jesus,
**to offer justice to those forgotten by the world,
to embrace those filled with grief and loss.**

Filled with God's grace, we are empowered by the Spirit,
**to bring peace into all the brokenness around us,
to walk in faith beside our sisters and brothers.**

POSTLUDE

May the Peace of Christ be with you...

...And also with you!