



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.

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

June 26, 2022 10:00 AM

1

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE "Be Thou My Vision"

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

Happy are those whose help is in the God of Jacob.

The Lord sets prisoners free and opens the eyes of the blind.

God lifts those who are bowed down, and loves the righteous.

God watches over strangers and upholds widows and orphans.

Praise the Lord, God of all generations.

OPENING PRAYER

Holy One, as Jesus heard a widow cry and raised her son from the dead, hear the cry of your people in this place and raise us from death to life so that all will glorify your name; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

HYMN "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

CALL TO CONFESSION:

The psalmist models a transparent faith with these words: Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. We express our longing for God's leading by our own transparent confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

God of the Prophets, we confess that we have failed to heed your word. You have the power to help and heal, yet we cling to our own provisions. You are able to raise us up to new life, yet we fail to trust what you can do. Forgive us, God of grace. Change our hearts and lives and challenge us to expect great things from your mighty acts of mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

DECLARATION OF PARDON - Ezekiel 36:25-26, NRSV

‘I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.’

With renewed hearts let us praise our forgiving God!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

What have you to do with us, Holy God? When others would push us away, you cradle us in your heart; when we have lost our directions, you hand us your map; when others would chain us to the fears and prejudices, you rush to rescue us. Speak to us now about who you are, who we are and who you are calling us to be. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 16

- 1 Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- 2 I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord;
I have no good apart from you.”
- 3 As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble ones
in whom is all my delight.
- 4 Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;[b]
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out
or take their names upon my lips.
- 5 The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.
- 6 The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.
- 7 I bless the Lord, who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.
- 5 The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.
- 6 The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.
- 7 I bless the Lord, who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.

ANTHEM *“Allegro from Mandolin Concerto RV 425”*

Rebekah Ratza

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Galatians 5:1, 13-25

5 1 For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

13 For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. **14** For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” **15** If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

16 Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. **17** For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. **18** But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. **19** Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, **20** idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, **21** envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, **23** gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. **24** And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. **25** If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 9:51-62

51 When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. **52** And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to prepare for his arrival, **53** but they did not receive him because his face was set toward Jerusalem. **54** When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” **55** But he turned and rebuked them. **56** Then they went on to another village.

57 As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” **58** And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” **59** To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” **60** And Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” **61** Another said, “I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” **62** And Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

SERMON “Scylla and Charybdis”

Rev. Dr. Joseph Novak

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

Do you tend toward *apathy* in your faith or *overzealousness*?

What might the Spirit be calling you to consider at this moment?

BEARING

THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

OFFERING

What have we to do with those who are hungry, who are lonely, who are afraid, who are hurt? Only everything. Let us offer back a portion of our blessings, so that others might know of our Savior's presence, healing, and grace in their lives.

(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 the offering plate or the dropbox located in the New Narthex)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

In Jesus' name, we present our gifts to you dear God. May they be given with generous and cheerful hearts. May they be used wisely and kindly. May they be blessed and expanded to your glory. Amen.

OFFERTORY How Firm a Foundation *with Haydn's Trumpet Concerto in E-flat Major*

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

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.

HYMN "Glorious things of Thee Are Spoken"

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION - Colossians 3:17, NRSV

Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

May the love of God enfold us.

May the grace of God uphold us.

May the power of God set us free

to love and serve all God's people.

POSTLUDE Rejoice, the Lord is King

Peace be with you!

...and also with you!

Flowers on the Communion Table Celebrating the birth of my new granddaughter, Emerson Ilene on 6/21 given by Heidi Roberts