



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 Pentecost

July 10th, 2022 10:00 a.m.

1

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE “Our Great and Glorious King”

Rebekah Ratza

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed is God, who created us and loves us beyond measure.

Blessed is God, who calls us to stop measuring out our love.

Blessed is God, who speaks and tells us stories about ourselves.

Blessed is God, who reveals to us who we are and who we could be.

Blessed is God, whose compassion is poured out on every single person.

Blessed is God, who gives us compassion to share

with every single person, even people we do not know or care about.

OPENING PRAYER

Holy God, Giver of mercy: you carry hope in your mouth and breathe it into our souls.

You take us by the hand, leading us out of the ditches we have dug for ourselves, into the brightly lit streets of the kingdom. We pray that we might walk in your country as free citizens and work in this world as your bold emissaries of grace. May our cup overflow with you Spirit today. Amen.

HYMN “Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

CALL TO CONFESSION:

Are you in love with God? Do you show it in your words, your thoughts, your actions? Are you in love with your neighbor? Do they know this by your presence, your grace, your friendship? Or are you so obsessed with yourself, that you have no time, no room, nor pity for others, or for God? Let us confess the limits we place on our love, so we might be filled with God's limitless mercy.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

They may not be beaten down or lying by the road, but there are people we pass by, Almighty God. Some are family and friends we take so much for granted we cannot see how we have stripped them of our love and compassion.

Others are neighbors: who have been left half-dead by crushing work; who have fallen into the hands of despair; who have been abandoned by all those who walked on by them.

Many are strangers, people we don't know, but quickly judge: they are weak, or poor, or the enemy or because they remind us of whom we once were, or could become.

Rescue us from the power of our sins, Righteous One of all generations. Pour out your justice on us, rather than your judgment, that we would be moved with pity, and spurred to action; that we would hear of the hope that is ours, and share it with our sisters and brothers; that we would shower mercy on all we meet, even as we have received forgiveness for our sins through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

DECLARATION OF PARDON:

Children of the Most High: you are forgiven and brought into the kingdom. Be filled with spiritual wisdom, lead lives worthy of your inheritance, bear fruit in all you say and do and think.

God has rescued us and redeemed us from our sins, setting aside judgment to shower us with mercy. We will go and do likewise. Thanks be to God. Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jesus our Guide, you explained the scriptures and revealed yourself to the disciples at Emmaus. Now, by your Spirit, enlighten our minds to understand their witness and ignite our hearts to receive you at the table. Amen

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 25:1-10

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD!

Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

ANTHEM "I'll Fly Away"

Pastor Robbie Carnes, Peggy Fowler, Peggy Fulcher

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Acts 4:23-31

23 After they were released, they went to their own people and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. **24** When they heard it, they raised their voices together to God and said, "Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth, the sea, and everything in them, **25** it is you who said by the Holy Spirit through our ancestor David, your servant:

‘Why did the gentiles rage
and the peoples imagine vain things?
26 The kings of the earth took their stand,
and the rulers have gathered together
against the Lord and against his Messiah.’

27 “For in this city, in fact, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the gentiles and the peoples of Israel, gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, **28** to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. **29** And now, Lord, look at their threats, and grant to your servants to speak your word with all boldness, **30** while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” **31** When they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness.

SERMON I Need to Make A Call (Prayer)

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

What is your favorite way to pray?

Is the Spirit prompting you to pray for someone right now?

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

OFFERING

Let us give generously as God calls us to give, knowing that God loves a cheerful giver.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

May these gifts which we offer be used to bring justice to the weak, a family to the orphan, fairness to the outcast, and hope to the needy. This we pray in Jesus’ name, Amen.

(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)

OFFERTORY “It’s - a - me - oh - Lord” Pastor Robbie Carnes, Peggy Fowler, Peggy Fulcher

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.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Now go, to be God's blessing to others.

We will not stop measuring out our love by the spoonful, but shower everyone with it.

Now go, to tell share the story of Jesus' love and hope for all.

We will go to speak of the One who, with grace and wonder, shows everyone who they are and who they might be.

Now go, to pour out the Spirit's compassion in every corner of your life.

We will go to care for everyone, even those we do not know.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Go in Peace"

Pastor Robbie Carnes, Peggy Fowler, Peggy Fulcher

Peace be with you!

...and also with you!