



## 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.

**11th Sunday after Pentecost**

**August 21, 2022      10:00 AM**

1

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

**PRELUDE**      “In Christ Alone”

Bonnie Griffith

### WELCOME

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Give to the Lord your whole trust.

**We place our lives in God’s care.**

Know that God has always and will always be with you.

**We place our spirits in God’s embrace.**

Worship God in confidence and peace.

**We open our hearts to God’s incredible love. AMEN.**

### OPENING PRAYER

Lord God, whose power and mercy have extended to all ends of creation, pour your love on us this day that we might be healed and be made ready to serve you by serving others in this world that you have created. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. AMEN.

**HYMN**      “For the Beauty of the Earth”

### CALL TO CONFESSION

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**      (In Unison)

Lord God, we are so bound by rules and regulations that we fail to see the human need that goes beyond the bounds of structures. We easily relegate compassionate service to those agencies in our society that have that as their mandate, forgetting that you have given us the supreme mandate to care for one another, even as you have cared for us. We turn our backs on those in need, giving the responsibility to someone else. “Let someone else do the work,” we proclaim. And in that proclamation we have revealed our selfishness and our inability to be your disciples.

Stop us from our selfish ways, and heal our hardened hearts. Forgive us, again, as you have so often before when we have failed to be your witnesses and workers. Help us become involved in ministries of peace and justice right where we are, for there is nowhere in creation where your love is not needed. Let us bring messages of love and hope to all people. Bring us to an understanding of the partnership of healing and hope that abides in your service. For we ask these things in Jesus’ Name. AMEN.

**DECLARATION OF PARDON**

Though we have failed time and time again to be God's people, yet God heals and forgives us. God is with us always, ready to lift and guide our lives. Place your life and your cares in God's loving presence. AMEN.

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD****PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Living God, help us to hear your Word that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe, and believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

Deuteronomy 31:6, Jeremiah 29:11

**6** Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you.”

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**11** For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

**ANTHEM**

“Andante et Scherzo”

Cameron Carlson

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**

Luke 4, James 2:14-18

**14** What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but does not have works? Surely that faith cannot save, can it? **15** If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food **16** and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? **17** So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

**18** But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from works, and I by my works will show you faith.

**SERMON**

What is Your Journey of Faith?

Elder Mike Vanderlipp

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD****A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION**

Where would you be without God’s presence in your journey of faith?

How can you grow in your relationship with God today?

## BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

### OFFERING

We give in grateful thanksgiving for all that God has given us. In the upside down world of the gospel, we measure our wealth not by what we have, but by what we can give away. Let us give generously in this offering to bless the church, the people, and God's creation.

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We make our offerings, small and large, with the hope and confidence that all we do, all we offer, all we say, all we think, and all we hope will take root in this world and be the source of new expressions of God's love, of God's justice, of God's character, of God's mission, and of God's reign. May God's will be done on earth, as it is in heaven through us, alongside us, despite us, and for us. Amen.

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

### OFFERTORY

"Lord, I Want to be a Christian"

Bonnie Griffith

### 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.*

### CLOSING MUSIC

"I Surrender All"

Sunday School Handbells

### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Lord, this day you have healed us and restored us. You have given us new strength and courage to serve you in this world. Now we go in peace and confidence, ready to be your people in all places and at all times. Praise be to you, Mighty God of love and mercy! AMEN.

### POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Lasst uns Erfreuen"

Bonnie Griffith

Peace be with you!  
...and also with you!