



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.

14th Sunday after Pentecost

September 11, 2022 10:00 AM

1

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE "Prayer for Peace"

Rebekah Ratza

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP based on 1 Timothy 1:12-17

We are grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who strengthens us, because he judged us faithful and appointed us to his service,

even though We were formerly blasphemers, persecutors, and people of violence. But We received mercy because we had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for us with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

You are the King of ages, o God. Where else can we go to hear the words of life? As we enter your presence, quiet our hearts and focus our minds. So that we might truly know your love and hear your truth and having heard it, obey your will. Amen.

HYMN BH #263, PH #12 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

CALL TO CONFESSION:

We seek mercy from God, according to his steadfast love, because all of you have fallen short. We trust in God's mercy to blot out our transgressions because of Jesus' death on the cross.

Let us prayerfully approach our savior to be washed from our iniquity and cleansed from our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

We know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Against you, you alone, have We sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

Indeed, We were born guilty, sinners when our mothers conceived us.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach us wisdom in our secret heart. Purge us with hyssop, and We shall be clean; wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow.

Let us hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Hide your face from our sins, and blot out all our iniquities.

Create in us clean hearts, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us.

DECLARATION OF PARDON:

Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

We praise you for your scripture Lord. What a wonder it is to hear your story throughout history and learn your character. Speak to us today through these ancient words. Breathe your life into them so that we might hear and obey. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Ezekiel 1:26-28

26 And above the dome over their heads there was something like a throne, in appearance like sapphire, and seated above the likeness of the throne was something that seemed like a human form. **27** Upward from what appeared like the loins I saw something like gleaming amber, something that looked like fire enclosed all around, and downward from what looked like the loins I saw something that looked like fire, and there was a splendor all around. **28** Like the bow in a cloud on a rainy day, such was the appearance of the splendor all around. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord.

When I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard the voice of someone speaking.

ANTHEM “The Goodness of God” Rhonda Pierce

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Revelation 1:1-3

1 The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place, and he made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, **2** who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw.

3 Blessed is the one who reads the words of the prophecy, and blessed are those who hear and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

[Video: How to Read the Bible Apocalyptic Literature 6:58 minutes]

SERMON Introduction to the Revelation of John

Pastor Lindsey Carnes

If you would like to learn more check out these youtube videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5nvVVcYD-0w&t=94s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QpnIrbq2bKo&t=5s>

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

Has the Holy Spirit revealed anything to you today?

What can you do about it?

OFFERING

Let us bring our gifts and fulfill our pledges with joy, knowing that the Lord honors faithfulness and delights in bringing about his will in our lives.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We give you these gifts, dear God, as an act of worship. Use them as you will. We give freely because you have freely to us. May these offerings be used to nurture the Gospel in empty hearts. 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 “You Are Worthy”

Rebekah Ratza

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.

COMMISSION TEACHERS

*Thanking Chaperones (Donna shares)
Commissioning Teachers*

PRESENTING 3rd GRADE BIBLES**CLOSING MUSIC** Living in the Overflow

Rhonda Pierce

*Congregation is invited to join in on the chorus***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION****Isaiah 40:28 Do you not know?****Have you not heard?****The LORD is an eternal God,
the Creator of the whole earth.****He does not get tired or weary;
there is no limit to his wisdom.****40:29 He gives strength to those who are tired;
to the ones who lack power, he gives renewed energy.****40:30 Even youths get tired and weary;
even strong young men clumsily stumble.****40:31 But those who wait for the LORD's help find renewed strength;
they rise up as if they had eagles' wings,
they run without growing weary,
they walk without getting tired.****POSTLUDE** Rebekah Ratza

Peace be with you!

...and also with you!

Flowers on the Communion Table in remembrance of Robert and Barbara Lyons & Ted and Marie Bradley form Jerry and Judy Hope and family.