

## 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.

6th Sunday after Epiphany

February 12th, 2023

10:00 a.m.



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### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

#### PRELUDE

#### WELCOME

INTROIT #475 “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

#### CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 119

1 Happy are those whose way is blameless,  
who walk in the law of the Lord.

**2 Happy are those who keep his decrees,  
who seek him with their whole heart,**

3 who also do no wrong  
but walk in his ways.

**4 You have commanded your precepts  
to be kept diligently.**

5 O that my ways may be steadfast  
in keeping your statutes!

**6 Then I shall not be put to shame,  
having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.**

7 I will praise you with an upright heart,  
when I learn your righteous ordinances.

**8 I will observe your statutes;  
do not utterly forsake me.**

#### OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, You alone are the sovereign Lord of creation, awesome in all Your goodness. To You alone belongs all glory and honor and praise. The whole creation bows before You in humility and adoration. We thank You for this faith community into which you have brought us for life together in Christ. We thank You for vibrant youth, prayerful leaders, and faithful volunteers, and imaginative staff. We are so grateful for Your rich blessings to us. Amen.

HYMN #634 To God be the Glory

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Acknowledging that we have fallen short of who we should be is never easy. We fear that with confessing, shame will quickly follow. Yet, the good news of the Gospel is that if we confess our sins HE is faithful to forgive. Let us pray together...

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (In Unison)

**God of Glory, we confess that we have not sought your face. We look to false gods for help and turn away from you. We say yes to what is evil and no to what is good. Forgive us; give us grace. Help us to resist temptation and choose a better way: to show the wonder of your love in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**DECLARATION OF PARDON:**

God's forgiveness dwells in our hearts; Christ's love fills us; the Spirit's peace guides our steps.

**Our feet are set on the journey. Walking in faith and hope with our God, we will be servants to the world. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.**

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Blessed with the fresh breeze of your presence and power, we seek to follow you, trusting that you will lead us into making the right choices as the disciples of Jesus. May we hear your word to us today, Transforming Spirit. Amen.

**ANTHEM** "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"

Bob Chappelle

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:** 1 John 3:2

**SERMON** Fear of Dying

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**HYMN #630** Fairest Lord Jesus

## BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

**OFFERING**

Let us pray for the offering:

God in Heaven, Help us to share from our abundance, rather than choose selfishness.

Help us to be incredibly generous, rather than choose to be misers.

Help us to seek reconciliation, rather than choosing to remain broken.

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** "Take My Life and Let it Be"

Bob Chappelle

**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 #625** "How Great Thou Art"**CHARGE**

Let us go into the world with God's love,  
**choosing to share it with everyone we meet.**  
Let us go into our neighborhoods with Jesus' hope,  
**choosing to care for all who are in need.**  
Let us go with our lives full of the Spirit's peace,  
**choosing to offer it in all the broken places around us.**

**BENEDICTION #701** "Sanctuary"

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

**POSTLUDE**

**Flowers on the Communion Table** In in celebration of Bev Welch's birthday given by Pam Coffin