



## 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 of Easter  
April 28th, 2024 10:00 a.m.

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### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

#### PRELUDE

#### WELCOME

INTROIT “I Will Worship the Lord”

Rutter

#### CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 22

25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

**26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.**

**May your hearts live forever!**

27 All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the LORD,  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before him.

**28 For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
and he rules over the nations.**

29 To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
and I shall live for him.

**30 Posterity will serve him;  
future generations will be told about the Lord**

**31 and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying that he has done it.**

#### OPENING PRAYER

Glory to you, O God: you won victory over death, raising Jesus from the grave and giving us eternal life.  
Glory to you, O Christ: for us and for our salvation you overcame death and opened the gate to  
everlasting life. Glory to you, O Holy Spirit: you lead us into the truth. Glory to you, O Blessed Trinity,  
now and forever. Amen.

HYMN PH #624 BH 457 “I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art”

#### CALL TO CONFESSION:

Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because  
as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to

do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We have nothing to fear! Let us come before our God in prayer...

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (In Unison)

**Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen**

**DECLARATION OF PARDON**

The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds. The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down. In the name of Jesus we find forgiveness, be at peace.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

God, our helper, by your Holy Spirit open our minds and lead us into your truth for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Psalm 118:19-25

- 19** Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them  
and give thanks to the LORD.
- 20** This is the gate of the LORD;  
the righteous shall enter through it.
- 21** I thank you that you have answered me  
and have become my salvation.
- 22** The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23** This is the LORD's doing;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24** This is the day that the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- 25** Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!  
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

**ANTHEM** "Christ has no Hands but Our Hands"

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:** 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

**6** As we work together with him, we entreat you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. **2** For he says,

"At an acceptable time I have listened to you,  
and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

Look, now is the acceptable time; look, now is the day of salvation! **3** We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, **4** but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: in great endurance, afflictions, hardships, calamities, **5** beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; **6** in purity, knowledge, patience, kindness,

holiness of spirit, genuine love, **7** truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; **8** in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors and yet are true, **9** as unknown and yet are well known, as dying and look—we are alive, as punished and yet not killed, **10** as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing and yet possessing everything.

**11** We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. **12** There is no restriction in our affections but only in yours. **13** In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

**SERMON**

“Bonding to Others”

Pastor Robbie Carnes

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION**

Is it easy or hard for you to open up to others?  
How can you safely practice trust today?

**HYMN PH #286 BH #316** “Breath on Me, Breath of God”

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

**OFFERING**

Let us give as we have promised and as we are led to the glory of God. Let us pray...

Take all of these gifts Lord, and sanctify them to your work in our community, in our fellowship and our hearts. Multiple these gifts so that your Gospel may be proclaimed. Amen.

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

*Will the Ushers Please come forward.*

**OFFERTORY**

Wondrous Love ~ Gary Smith, bass

**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.*

**TABLETALK WITH GOD’S CHILDREN**

**HYMN PH #450 BH #339** “Be Thou My Vision”

**CHARGE**

Apart from God you can do nothing.

Abide in Jesus and let Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, abide in you.

He is the vine, we are the branches.

Allow what needs to be pruned to die and come alive to the Spirit’s nurture.

The Father is glorified by you bearing much fruit and being Jesus’ disciple.

Let us go out together to love and serve the Lord.

**BENEDICTION** “The Peace of God”

**POSTLUDE**

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