



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.

4th Sunday after Pentecost
June 16th, 2024 10:00 a.m.

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GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

INTROIT PH #402 BH #207 “How Lovely, Lord”

CALL TO WORSHIP —adapted from Psalm 121:1–2

We lift up our eyes to the mountains-
where does our help come from?

**Our help comes from the LORD,
the Maker of heaven and earth.**

As the Maker of heaven and earth greets us this morning,
let us open our hearts to receive.

OPENING PRAYER

God of light and truth, you are beyond our grasp or conceiving. Before the brightness of your presence the angels veil their faces. With lowly reverence and adoring love we acclaim your glory and sing your praise, for you have shown us your truth and love in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

HYMN PH #15 BH #455 “All Creature of Our God and King”

CALL TO CONFESSION: —based on 1 John 1:8-9, NRSV

God’s Word assures us: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Lord, you said, “If you love me, you will obey what I command.”

Forgive us our lukewarm love and our disobedience.

Lord, you said, “You may ask for anything in my name.”

Forgive us when we think we need to solve our own problems.

Lord, you said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”

We confess that our lives are often consumed by worry and anxiety.

Lord, you said, “If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit.”

Forgive us our barren lives, Lord.

Lord, you said, “You must testify, for you have been with me.”

We confess, Lord, that we have been too often silent.

Lord, you said, “Love each other as I have loved you.”

In this and in so many other ways, we confess our failures and shortcomings. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. Alleluia and Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord Christ, we believe in you. Help our unbelief. Tune our hearts to your word and our hands to your will. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 35

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus **2** it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and shouting.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

3 Strengthen the weak hands
and make firm the feeble knees.

4 Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;

6 then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert;

7 the burning sand shall become a pool
and the thirsty ground springs of water;

the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp;
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

8 A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;

the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God’s people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

9 No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;

they shall not be found there,
 but the redeemed shall walk there.
10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
 and come to Zion with singing;
 everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain joy and gladness,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

SPECIAL MUSIC Be Thou My Vision

Nancy Casteel ~ Soprano

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Philippians 2:1–11

2 If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, **2** make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. **3** Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. **4** Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. **5** Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

6 who, though he existed in the form of God,
 did not regard equality with God
 as something to be grasped,
7 but emptied himself,
 taking the form of a slave,
 assuming human likeness.
 And being found in appearance as a human,
8 he humbled himself
 and became obedient to the point of death—
 even death on a cross.
9 Therefore God exalted him even more highly
 and gave him the name
 that is above every other name,
10 so that at the name given to Jesus
 every knee should bend,
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
11 and every tongue should confess
 that Jesus Christ is Lord,
 to the glory of God the Father.

SERMON **A Neighborly Heart**

Pastor Robbie Carnes

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

How does the Spirit help us look to the interests of others?
 Would something be lost in the community if our church were gone?
 Are we contributing to those around us?
 Do we live for others, not just ourselves?

HYMN PH #726 “Will You Come and Follow Me”

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

OFFERING

God has shown us the meaning of generosity in the beautiful diversity of creation, in the overflowing love of Jesus Christ, in the never-ending gift of the Holy Spirit. God has abundantly blessed us and called us to be a community that honors each other, to serve others with joy, to share our love and material possessions. Let us rejoice in what we have been given and in what is ours to give. Let us pray...

We dedicate our gifts today to your service, Lord. Use them to your glory, for your mission and in your will. 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

Lullabye

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 Using God Vision

HYMN PH #69 BH #525 "Here I Am Lord"

CHARGE

As you leave this place,
may God guide your feet.
As you step into an unknown future,
may you have confidence in the faithfulness of God.
As you live out your calling to be
Christ's hands and feet,
may you see opportunities to serve
and to love your neighbor,
grounding both your work and your rest in Christ.
Amen.

BENEDICTION The Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you
Make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you
The Lord turn His face toward you
And give you peace
Amen, amen, amen
Amen, amen, amen
May His favor be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family and your children
And their children, and their children
May His presence go before you
And behind you, and beside you
All around you, and within you
He is with you, he is with you
In the morning, in the evening
In your coming, and your going
In your weeping, and rejoicing
He is for you, he is for you
Amen, amen, amen
Amen, amen, amen
The Lord bless you and keep you
Make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you
The Lord turn His face toward you
And give you peace

POSTLUDE

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