



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 after Pentecost
June 23rd, 2024 10:00 a.m.

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GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

INTROIT PH #400 “I Rejoiced When I Heard Them Say” (Psalm 122) (Verses 1, 4,5)

CALL TO WORSHIP

In view of God’s mercy,

we offer our bodies as a living sacrifice,

holy and pleasing to God—

this is our true and proper worship.

As we gather,

we open ourselves up to the power of the Holy Spirit,

who transforms our hearts and minds

so that we will recognize God’s presence,

hear God’s voice,

know God’s will,

and walk in God’s way.

May God renew us as we praise his great and glorious name.

OPENING PRAYER

You, O God, are mighty forever. You cause the wind to blow and the rain to fall. You sustain the living, give life to the dead, support the falling, loose those who are bound, and keep your faith with those who sleep in the dust. Who is like you, O God of mighty acts? Praise be to you forever. Amen.

HYMN PH #821 “My Life Flows On (How Can I Keep From Singing)?”

CALL TO CONFESSION:

In spite of God’s love for us and gift of love to us, we often act in destructive and hateful ways. We close our hearts to God and disobey God’s law. Together let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison) —based on Daniel 9:4-19

O Lord, great God, all holy, Father most gracious, filled with mercy and steadfast love, we are embarrassed to come before you, for we have preferred the ways of this world to your ways, for we have rebelled against your wisdom and we have gotten into trouble, for we have rejected your fatherly guidance and have gotten lost altogether. To you belongs righteousness, O Lord, and to us confusion of face. O Lord, great God, all holy, filled with awe, Father, most gracious, filled with mercy and steadfast love, incline your ear to our troubles. Hear us when we pour out our sorrows

before you. Forgive us, not on the ground of our own righteousness, but on the ground of your great mercy. On the ground of your great mercy in the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. It is in his name that we pray, for he is our Savior and the mediator of the covenant of grace. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON—Psalm 32:1-2, NRSV

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. Find forgiveness in the Love of God and be at Peace.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Pastor addresses all present:

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ: All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age. (Matt. 28:18–20)

Hear also these words from Holy Scripture:

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of the One who called you out of darkness into God's marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)

Obedying the word of our Lord Jesus, and confident of his promises, we baptize those whom God has called. In baptism God claims us, and seals us to show that we belong to God. God frees us from sin and death, uniting us with Jesus Christ in his death and resurrection.

By water and the Holy Spirit, we are made members of the church, the body of Christ, and joined to Christ's ministry of love, peace, and justice. Let us remember with joy our own baptism, as we celebrate this sacrament.

Elder: On behalf of the session, I present Athena Holcomb, daughter of Samantha and Michael for baptism.

Pastor: Do you desire that Athena be baptized?

Parent(s) respond: I do.

Pastor: Relying on God's grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith, and to teach that faith to your child?

Parent(s) respond: I do.

To the Congregation

Pastor: Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Athena by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging *them* to know and follow Christ and to be faithful *members* of his church?

The People respond: We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Pastor: With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

THE BAPTISM

Pastor: Athena, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
 Amen

LAYING ON OF HANDS

WELCOME

Pastor: Athena, has been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church through baptism.
 God has made *her* a member of the household of God, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ.
 Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**The People respond: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ’s church to share
 with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ.**

Musical Response PH #486 “Child of Blessing, Child of Promise” verses 1&4

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION—based on Psalm 85:8

Lord God, help us turn our hearts to you and hear what you will speak, for you speak peace to your people through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Habakkuk 3:17-19

17 Though the fig tree does not blossom
 and no fruit is on the vines;
 though the produce of the olive fails
 and the fields yield no food;
 though the flock is cut off from the fold
 and there is no herd in the stalls,
18 yet I will rejoice in the LORD;
 I will exult in the God of my salvation.
19 GOD, the Lord, is my strength;
 he makes my feet like the feet of a deer
 and makes me tread upon the heights.

ANTHEM "Give Me Jesus"

George Hameline~ Tenor

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Romans 12:9–21

9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; **10** love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. **11** Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. **12** Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. **13** Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. **15** Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. **16** Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. **17** Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. **18** If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. **19** Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." **20** Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." **21** Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

SERMON For the Love of God

Pastor Lindsey Carnes

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

What does sincere love look like?

What does it mean to love someone not because of what they can do for us, but because of who they are in Christ?

HYMN PH #693 "Though I May Speak"

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

OFFERING

(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 The President Sang Amazing Grace Robbie Carnes, guitar

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 #634 "To God Be the Glory"

CHARGE

May our Lord Jesus Christ,
 who prayed that we would be one,
 even as he and the Father are one,
 so grace you with his Spirit
 that you may grow in grace and fellowship
 and discover joy in walking together
 as part of Christ's body—
 so that the world may know of God's love for us 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!