

## 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.

7th Sunday after Pentecost, Communion July 7th, 2024 10:00 a.m.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

**PRELUDE** 

**WELCOME** 

**INTROIT PH #338 BH #564** "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"

CALL TO WORSHIP - from Psalm 89:1-4

I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;

with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;

your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David: 'I will establish your descendants forever, and build your throne for all generations."

**Praise the Lord!** 

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

We praise you for creating this world in all beauty, for redeeming the world through Christ, our Lord, and for sending us the gift of your Spirit to encourage, instruct, and sustain us. We long for your Spirit to work among us now, to inspire our praise, to challenge us with your truth, and to equip us for service in your world. Amen.

**HYMN PH #341** "O God, Show Mercy to Us"

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Teach us your way, O Lord, and lead us on a level path. Teach us, O Lord, to follow your decrees; then we will keep them to the end. Give us understanding, and we will keep your law and obey it with all our hearts. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Leviticus 11:44-45

44 For I am the Lord your God; sanctify yourselves, therefore, and be holy, for I am holy. You

shall not defile yourselves with any swarming creature that moves on the earth. **45** For I am the LORD who brought you up from the land of Egypt, to be your God; you shall be holy, for I am holy.

**ANTHEM** When I Survey

Nancy Castell, Soprano George Hameline, Tenor

# **NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:** Philippians 1:1-2

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**SERMON** The Message of Philippians: What is a Christian? Pastor Lindsey Carnes

#### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

#### A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

What does it mean to be a saint? Do you feel like a saint? Why or why not?

## OFFERING - Psalm 50:14

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High. Let us Pray...

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions—signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us—Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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** Star Spangled Medley Morris Fulcher, piano

## **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.

## **INVITATION TO THE TABLE**—from Matthew 11:28-29

Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

#### 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.

#### **CALL TO CONFESSION:** —based on 1 John 2:1-2

The apostle John wrote: My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sins to God.

# **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:**

Hear the good news!

Who is in a position to condemn?

Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

#### **COMMUNION**

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

With joy we praise you, gracious God, for you created heaven and earth, made us in your image, and kept covenant with us— even when we fell into sin. We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his life, death, and resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name. Thank you for these great gifts of love. Empowered by the Holy Spirit we gratefully take them to be your people and do your will. Amen.

God meets us in the sacraments, holy acts in which his deeds elicit our response. In the supper our Lord offers the bread and cup to believers to guarantee our share in his death and resurrection, and to unite us to him and to each other.

We take this food gladly, announcing as we eat that Jesus is our life and that he shall come again to call us to the Supper of the Lamb.

# WORDS OF INSTITUTION —based on Luke 13:29; 24:30-31

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from east and west, from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God. When our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, and blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him. This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast that he has prepared.

# SHARING THE FEAST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Glory to God the Father, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ and crowned him with glory and honor.

Glory to God the Son, who lives to plead our cause at the right hand of God and who will come again to make all things new.

Glory to God the Holy Spirit, who brings us the taste of the good Word of God and the power of the age to come.

Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor, power and might be to our Lord for ever! Amen.

### BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

# TABLETALK WITH GOD'S CHILDREN

**HYMN PH #546 BH #538** "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" (if using the blue hymnal note the Thy/Your difference)

# **CHARGE**—from Ephesians 4:1-6

Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to the one hope of our calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

**BENEDICTION PH #540 BH #537** "Farewell, Good Friends!/ Shalom, Chaerim!" (sing twice)

# **POSTLUDE**

May the Peace of Christ be with you... ... And also with you!