



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.

Christ the King Sunday

November 24th, 2024 10:00 a.m.

1

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

INTROIT This is the Day

CALL TO WORSHIP —Psalm 95:1-7, NRSV

O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God, you set Jesus Christ to rule over all things, and made us servants in your kingdom. By your Spirit empower us to love the unloved, and to minister to all in need. Then at the last bring us to your eternal realm where we may worship and adore you and be welcomed into your everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

HYMN #41

“O Worship the King, All Glorious Above”

CALL TO CONFESSION:

Let us come before the Mercy Seat of the Living God and confess our sins together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison) Hymn # 227

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

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1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions.

2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. **(Refrain)**

4 Against you, you alone, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

5 Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

6 You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

(Refrain)

7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

8 Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

9 Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. **(Refrain)**

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

11 Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

(Refrain)

DECLARATION OF PARDON—based on Revelation 5:5, 9-10, NIV

Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. With his blood he has purchased people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. He has made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.

Thanks be to God!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O God Most High! Everlasting Lord, mighty and lifted up! Grant to us your Holy Spirit, that in these words of Holy Scripture our hearts might be lifted up and our minds set on heavenly realities, that contemplating the reign of our ascended Lord we might long to be with him and enter into the joy of his eternal kingdom. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Daniel 7:9-10; 13-14

9 As I watched,
 thrones were set in place,
 and an Ancient One took his throne;
 his clothing was white as snow
 and the hair of his head like pure wool;
 his throne was fiery flames,
 and its wheels were burning fire.

10 A stream of fire issued
 and flowed out from his presence.

A thousand thousands served him,
 and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.

The court sat in judgment,
 and the books were opened.

13 As I watched in the night visions,

I saw one like a human being
 coming with the clouds of heaven.
 And he came to the Ancient One
 and was presented before him.
14 To him was given dominion
 and glory and kingship,
 that all peoples, nations, and languages
 should serve him.
 His dominion is an everlasting dominion
 that shall not pass away,
 and his kingship is one
 that shall never be destroyed.

ANTHEM Heaven

Andre Thomas

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: John 14:1-12

14 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. **2** In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? **3** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. **4** And you know the way to the place where I am going.” **5** Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” **6** Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. **7** If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” **8** Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” **9** Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? **10** Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. **11** Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. **12** Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.

SERMON “I am going to prepare a place for you.” Pastor Robbie Carnes

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

What does the term ‘Hope in Christ’ mean to you?

HYMN PH #494 BH #510 “Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts”

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

OFFERING

Lord God, heavenly King, we offer these our gifts as a sign of love, devotion, and praise. Through these, as through our praises, we acknowledge that you are our Lord. In your name we pray. 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 City of God Dan Schutte

Let us build the city of God. May our tears be turned into dancing!
For the Lord, our light and our love, has turned the night into day.

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 #12 “Immortal, Invisible, God only Wise”

CHARGE —1 Timothy 6:13-16, NRSV

In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion.

Amen.

BENEDICTION The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Lutkin

POSTLUDE

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

Flowers on the Communion Table given in loving memory of my wife, Suzanne Carter, given by Jim Carter.