



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.

6th Sunday after Epiphany
February 16th, 2025 10:00 a.m.

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GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 1 *(Please rise if you are able)*

1 Happy are those

who do not follow the advice of the wicked
or take the path that sinners tread
or sit in the seat of scoffers,

**2 but their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law they meditate day and night.**

3 They are like trees

planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.

In all that they do, they prosper.

**4 The wicked are not so
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous,

**6 for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

OPENING PRAYER

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens. From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise. Give us strength today to praise you, serve you and glorify you as we should and as is pleasing to you today. Amen.

HYMN PH #644 “Give Thanks, O Christian People”**CALL TO CONFESSION**

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)

God in Heaven, our proclamation is in vain and our faith is in vain. We have been found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ from the dead and we fail to live as if we believe that Jesus was raised from the dead. The dead stay dead, our faith is futile and we writhe in our sins. Our vision is dimmed and we are perishing.

Diffuse our darkness with your light, Lord. Resurrect our hearts. Grant us the hope of new life, for us, for our church, our communities and our world. In your mercy, lead us into lives of humility and obedience to you.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

This is the message we have heard from God and proclaim to you, that God is light and in God there is no darkness at all. If we walk in the light, as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Almighty God, plant in the desolation of our hearts your word. Nurture it with truth, grace and love. May our hearts and our lives spring forth with life and life abundant, as we hear your words today. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Jeremiah 17:5-10

5 Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

6 They shall be like a shrub in the desert
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,

in an uninhabited salt land.

7 Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.

8 They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

9 The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?

10 I the LORD test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

ANTHEM “Peace Prayer”

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Luke 6:17-26 (Pastor Ytterock will read)

Jesus Teaches and Heals

17 He came down with them and stood on a level place with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. 18 They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases, and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. 19 And everyone in the crowd was trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Blessings and Woes

20 Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

21 “Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

22 “Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you[a] on account of the Son of Man. 23 Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors

treated the prophets.

24 “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

25 “Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

26 “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

SERMON

“Purposefully”

Reverend Doctor Paul Ytterrock

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

Jesus focuses his eyes upon his disciples as he announces blessings and woes. As he looks upon you, his disciple, what word of blessing or woe lands close to your heart this morning? Why?

HYMN PH #743 “O God, You Are My God”

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

OFFERING *(Please be seated)*

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

Let us pray...

Generous God, we marvel at your lavish gifts to us: life and breath, food and shelter, opportunities for work and play, and, most especially, hope and peace in Christ. We now pledge ourselves to mirror and reflect the glory of your self-giving love, to continue in the pattern of generosity we see perfectly revealed in Christ, through whom 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

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 #32 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

CHARGE

Go in peace, in the knowledge of God's power.

Go in confidence, in the knowledge of God's strength.

Go in joy, in the knowledge of God's love.

BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE**

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