



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.

Easter Sunday

April 20th, 2025 10:00 a.m.

1

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE Easter Alleluia Bell Choir

WELCOME

INTROIT Germain Easter Carol Bell & Chancel Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP —based on 1 Peter 1:3-5

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He has given us new life and hope. He has raised Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own.

He has brought us out of darkness. He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

OPENING PRAYER

We give you thanks, great God, for the hope we have in Jesus, who died but is risen and rules over all. We praise you for his presence with us. Because he lives, we look for eternal life, knowing that nothing past, present, or yet to come God of glory, fill your church with the power that flows from Christ's resurrection so that, in the midst of the sinful world, it may signal the beginning of a renewed humanity, risen to new life with Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

HYMN PH #248 BH #104 "Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"

CALL TO CONFESSION: —Isaiah 30:15, 18, NIV

In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it.

Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion.

For the LORD is God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death.

We overlook the poor and the hungry and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy.

Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen.

Choral Response “Oh Lord hear My prayer”

DECLARATION OF PARDON —1 Corinthians 15:54-57, NRSV

“Death has been swallowed up in victory.”

“Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

God of life, your Spirit raised Jesus from the dead. Your Spirit inspired the prophets and writers of Scripture. Your Spirit draws us to Christ and helps us to acknowledge him as Lord. We ask that you will send your Spirit now to give us deeper insight, encouragement, faith, and hope through the proclamation of the Easter gospel. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 65:17-25

17 For I am about to create new heavens
and a new earth;

the former things shall not be remembered
or come to mind.

18 But be glad and rejoice forever
in what I am creating,

for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy
and its people as a delight.

19 I will rejoice in Jerusalem
and delight in my people;

no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it
or the cry of distress.

20 No more shall there be in it

an infant who lives but a few days

or an old person who does not live out a lifetime,

for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,

and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

21 They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

22 They shall not build and another inhabit;
they shall not plant and another eat,

for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,

and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

23 They shall not labor in vain

or bear children for calamity,

for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD—

and their descendants as well.

24 Before they call I will answer,

while they are yet speaking I will hear.

25 The wolf and the lamb shall feed together;

the lion shall eat straw like the ox,

but the serpent—its food shall be dust!

They shall not hurt or destroy

on all my holy mountain,

says the LORD.

ANTHEM

“Agnus Dei/ How Great Thou Art”

Chancel Choir

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Luke 24:1-12

24 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. **2** They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, **3** but when they went in they did not find the body. **4** While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. **5** The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. **6** Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, **7** that the Son of Man must be handed over to the hands of sinners and be crucified and on the third day rise again.” **8** Then they remembered his words, **9** and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. **10** Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. **11** But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. **12** But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

SERMON But on the First Day of the Week...

Pastor Robbie Carnes

RESPONDING TO THE WORD**PROFESSION OF OUR CHURCH’S FAITH —from A Brief Statement of Faith****In life and in death we belong to God.****Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,****and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.****We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.****Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,****forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.****Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,**

suffering the depths of human pain
 and giving his life for the sins of the world.
 God raised Jesus from the dead,
 vindicating his sinless life,
 breaking the power of sin and evil,
 delivering us from death to life eternal.
 With believers in every time and place,
 we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
 can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.
 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMN PH #620 BH #478 “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (verse 1 & 2)

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

OFFERING

I urge you, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God— this is your spiritual worship.

Let us pray...

Living God, you have given us so much in Jesus Christ: hope, joy, and peace. Above all, you have given us life! What can we give in return? If the whole world were ours, it would not be enough. What little we have we humbly offer to you. Thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto you. 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 Jubliente

Bell Choir

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

We worship you, Jesus, our Savior; you conquered death by your cross: you are the stone rejected by the builders; you have become the cornerstone: make all of us living stones in your church. We pray to you for Christians: may they live in the joy of the resurrection and be a visible sign of your presence by their mutual love. We pray to you for the leaders of your church: as they celebrate your resurrection with all your servants, may they be strengthened for your service.

We pray to you for the leaders of the nations:

may they exercise their office as servants of justice and peace.

We pray to you for all who are suffering from illness, grief, old age, and exile: may your resurrection be a source of comfort and aid for them. Amen.

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 #232 BH #123 "Jesus Christ is Risen Today!"

CHARGE

As Christ burst forth from the tomb, may new life burst forth from us and show itself in acts of love and healing to a hurting world. And may that same Christ, who lives forever and is the source of our new life, keep your hearts rejoicing and grant you peace this day and always. Amen.

BENEDICTION "Alleluia Chorus by G.F. Handel"

POSTLUDE

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