



## 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 of Easter Memorial Day Weekend

May 25th, 2025 10:00 a.m.

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### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

#### PRELUDE

#### WELCOME

John 14:23 Jesus said: Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

**INTROIT** “Rejoice, Ye Pure In Heart”

#### CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 67

- 1 May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face to shine upon us,
- 2 that your way may be known upon earth,  
your saving power among all nations.**
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide the nations upon earth.**
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 The earth has yielded its increase;  
God, our God, has blessed us.**
- 7 May God continue to bless us;  
let all the ends of the earth revere him.

#### OPENING PRAYER

Great and loving God, your will for us in Jesus is the peace which the world cannot give; your abiding gift is the Advocate he promised. Calm all troubled hearts, dispel every fear. Keep us steadfast in love and faithful to your word, that we may always be your dwelling place. Grant this through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from

the dead, who lives with you now and always in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

**HYMN PH #338** “O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

**CALL TO CONFESSION** - based on Romans 8:39

We know that nothing is able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. Let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (In Unison)

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

**DECLARATION OF PARDON** from Revelation 22:1-5

There is a river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. 3 Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; 4 they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. 5 And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever. Let us walk in the Light of Christ!

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

*Join with me in today's prayer of Illumination:*

Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.

**Let not my doubts nor my darkness speak to me.**

Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.

**Let my heart always welcome your love. Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Deuteronomy 34:1-12

**1** Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the LORD showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, **2** all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, **3** the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. **4** The LORD said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants.’ I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.” **5** Then Moses, the servant of the LORD, died there in the land of Moab, at the LORD’s command. **6** He buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. **7** Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired, and his vigor had not abated. **8** The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. **9** Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom because Moses had laid his hands on him, and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the LORD had commanded Moses. **10** Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face. **11** He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, **12** and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

**ANTHEM**    Lead On, O King Eternal

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:** Acts 2:14-36

**14** But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. **15** Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. **16** No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

**17** ‘In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

**18** Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit,  
and they shall prophesy.

**19** And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

**20** The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

**21** Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

**22** "Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— **23** this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. **24** But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. **25** For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

**26** therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

**27** For you will not abandon my soul to Hades  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

**28** You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

**29** "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. **30** Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. **31** Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

**32** "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses. **33** Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you see and hear. **34** For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

'The Lord said to my Lord,  
"Sit at my right hand,

**35** until I make your enemies your footstool."

**36** "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

**SERMON**

“Made to be Filled”

Pastor Chris Thomas

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD****A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION**

What elements of your life might crowd out your ability to be filled with God’s Spirit? How might you begin letting go of the elements you listed above to make room for God’s Spirit to shine in and through you?

**HYMN PH #327**

“From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

**BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD****OFFERING**

Give to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come before him.

**We will sacrifice a thank offering to God and call on the name of the Lord.**

**We will fulfill our vows to the Lord, in the presence of all God’s people.**

Let each of us use whatever gift we have received, faithfully sharing God’s grace in many forms.

**Freely we have received; freely we will give.**

Let us pray...

Blessed are you, God of all creation; through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

**Blessed be God forever. 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**

Memorial Medley

Morris Fulcher

**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

But you, O LORD my Lord,  
 act on my behalf for your name's sake;  
 because your steadfast love is good, deliver me.

22 For I am poor and needy,  
 and my heart is pierced within me.

23 I am gone like a shadow at evening;  
 I am shaken off like a locust.

24 My knees are weak through fasting;  
 my body has become gaunt.

25 I am an object of scorn to my accusers;  
 when they see me, they shake their heads.

26 Help me, O LORD my God!  
 Save me according to your steadfast love.

27 Let them know that this is your hand;  
 you, O LORD, have done it.

28 Let them curse, but you will bless.  
 Let my assailants be put to shame; may your servant be glad.

29 May my accusers be clothed with dishonor;  
 may they be wrapped in their own shame as in a mantle.

30 With my mouth I will give great thanks to the LORD;  
 I will praise him in the midst of the throng.

31 For he stands at the right hand of the needy,  
 to save them from those who would condemn them to death.

## 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 #547** "Go, My Children, with my Blessing"

**CHARGE**—based on Ephesians 1:18-19

As you leave the sanctuary today, may you know the hope to which God has called you, experience the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and trust his incomparably great power for us who believe. Amen.

**BENEDICTION** “God Be With You Till We Meet Again”

**POSTLUDE**

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