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
July 27th, 2025 10:00 a.m.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

INTROIT "Going Home" Gary Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 85

1 LORD, you were favorable to your land;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
2 You forgave the iniquity of your people;
you pardoned all their sin.
3 You withdrew all your wrath;
you turned from your hot anger.
4 Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away your indignation toward us.
5 Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
6 Will you not revive us again,
so that your people may rejoice in you?
7 Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.
8 Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.
9 Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.
10 Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
11 Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.

12 The LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.
13 Righteousness will go before him
and will make a path for his steps.

OPENING PRAYER
O God, we joyously come together to worship, realizing we need not summon you into our midst, for you are here. We need not call you into the secret places of our hearts, for you are there. We need our eyes of faith to be opened, that we may see you; our ears to be unstopped, that we may hear you; our minds to be sensitive, that we may know you; our hearts to be tender, that we may receive you. Grant each one a blessing, O Lord, as each has need, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

HYMN PH #299 "You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim"

CALL TO CONFESSION:
Let us confess together the loving and merciful goodness of God and our individual and collective failure to live in the light of the Gospel. Let us pray…

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

O God of love and justice, we live as a people caught in a storm. Around us rage the powers of anger and violence, the floods of rage and fear. Around us grows a reality that would claim our allegiance and our love. It is not easy to weather the storms, O God, and too often we find ourselves caught in their fury. We begin to take on anger and frustration, and we participate in the brokenness and suffering which surround us. Forgive us, God of love. Have mercy on us for our unbending spirits and our willful ways. Forgive us, God of justice. Touch us with the newness of life we have in You, and create in us the power to declare Your justice with our lives. For in truth, it is You we claim as Sovereign, and it is to You that we give allegiance--now and always in the name of Christ, Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON—1 Peter 2:24, NRS
Jesus himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. Alleluia and Amen!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
Dear Jesus, open our ears so that we might hear your words today. Open our hearts that we might learn what you would have us learn today. Strengthen our hands and feet so that we might go and do your will in this world. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 110:1-2

1 The LORD says to my lord,
"Sit at my right hand
until I make your enemies your footstool."
2 The LORD sends out from Zion
your mighty scepter.
Rule in the midst of your foes.

ANTHEM "Living Hope"
Presby 4: George Hamlin, Brian Lewis, Shoran Goeman, and Nancy Castill

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Colossians 3:1-4

3 So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **2** Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, **3** for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. **4** When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 24:50-51

50 Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. **51** While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.

SERMON The Return of the King Pastor Lindsey Carnes

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

CONFESSING OUR FAITH

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN PH #260 "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

OFFERING
(If you would like a written prayer request included in our prayers today, please indicate that and an usher will collect them)

Responding to God's invitation, we offer our gifts today for the work this Spiritual Community. Let us Pray…

O Mighty One, you have done great things for us, and holy is your name. Bless all we offer you-our selves, our time, and our possessions— that through us your grace and favor may be made known to all the world, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

Will the Ushers Please come forward.

OFFERTORY "I Shall Not Be Moved"

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.

PRESENTATION OF DEACON SCHOLARSHIPS

TABLETALK WITH GOD'S CHILDREN

HYMN PH #2 "Come Thou Almighty King"

CHARGE
In your journeys to and fro God directs you; in your happiness and pleasure God blesses you; in care, anxiety, or trouble God sustains you; in peril and in danger God protects you. The grace of God be with you all, now and always.

BENEDICTION "Fruit We Bear"
Let Us Agree, That We Will Be
Signs Of The Life To Come
And May We Believe, And Freely Receive
All That God Has Done

May The Fruit We Bear Be Christ
May The Harvest Be Ripe
Oh The Fruit Won't Fall So Far From The Tree
Abide In You, Abide In Me
And The Father Is Glorified
And The Fruit We Bear Is Christ

As We Live, May We Forgive
Gratefully Each Day
And For Peace, For Love To Increase
Holy Spirit, We Pray

May The Fruit We Bear Be Christ
May The Harvest Be Ripe
Oh The Fruit Won't Fall So Far From The Tree
Abide In You, Abide In Me
And The Father Is Glorified
And The Fruit We Bear Is Christ

POSTLUDE

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