



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.

9th Sunday after Pentecost
August 10th, 2025 10:00 a.m.

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GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP Based on Psalm 133

Friends, how very good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

Like the oil and spices mixed to become one holy blend that was used to anoint Aaron as priest.

Like all the drops of dew which fall on the mountains of Zion.

When we are united, we become God's very ordained blessing now and forevermore. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN PH #12 BH #263 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

CALL TO CONFESSION: Ephesians 4:1-3

The Apostle Paul urges us to "lead a life worthy of our calling, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love." Let us confess where we have failed to live in the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison) Updated From Anglican Book of Common Prayer
Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But You, O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to Your promises declared to us in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful Father, for His sake, that we may live a disciplined, righteous, and godly life, to the glory of Your holy Name. Amen.

ACCLAMATION OF PARDON

You open horizons in my life
 Of limitless And cloudless hope
 You defy the gravity in me
 And give wings to
 My flightiness

Christ has set me free

From negativity

From impossibility

Christ has set me free

All hope has been released

O Christ has set me free

You have taught my future how to shine
 All the colors of
 Eternity

You've given my soul the space to breathe
 And discover what
 It is to simply be

Christ has set me free

From negativity

From impossibility

Christ has set me free

All hope has been released

O Christ has set me free

PROCLAIMING THE WORD**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** Based on prayer of John Chrysostrom

O Lord Jesus Christ, open the eyes of our hearts, that we may hear Your Word and understand and do Your will. Make us always to obey Your commandments, and to delight in that which is pleasing to You, for You are the light of our souls and bodies, O Christ our God, and to You we give glory with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Daniel 12:1-3

12 “At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. **2** Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting contempt. **3** Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Ephesians 4:4-6

4 there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

GOSPEL LESSON: John 17:20-24

20 “I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, 21 that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, 23 I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. 24 Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

SERMON Unity of the Body Pastor Chris Thomas

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 #300 “We Are One in the Spirit”

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

OFFERING

Since our Father in Heaven has not hesitated to give all good things, let us bring our gifts, our offerings to our God and fulfill our vows that we have pledged to the work of God’s Kingdom.

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

Holy God, we present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to You, which is our spiritual worship. Take our lives and use them for the work of Your kingdom. Unite us in one faith, one baptism, one hope, that we may serve You in love and proclaim the resurrection and the life of the world to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 #321 BH #442 “The Church’s One Foundation”

CHARGE

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION Instrument of Peace

**Lord, make me an instrument of peace,
an instrument of peace.**

**Lord, make me an instrument of peace,
an instrument of peace.**

Where there is hatred, let me sow love.

Where there is darkness, let me sow light.

**For in the giving, we shall re-ceive,
and in the dying, we're given life.**

**Lord, make me an instrument of peace,
an instrument of peace.**

**Lord, make me an instrument of peace,
an instrument of peace.**

Where there is sorrow, let me sow hope.

Where there is doubt, let me sow faith.

**Where there is inju-ry, your pardon give,
Your conso-la-tion to those in pain.**

**Lord, make me an instrument of peace,
an instrument of peace.**

**Lord, make me an instrument of peace,
an instrument of peace.**

A - men, a - men.

POSTLUDE

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