



## 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.

**11th Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 9th, 2026      10:00 a.m.**

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### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

#### PRELUDE

#### WELCOME

#### THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

#### CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 85

<sup>8</sup> 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.

<sup>9</sup> **Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,  
that his glory may dwell in our land.**

<sup>10</sup> Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;  
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

<sup>11</sup> **Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,  
and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

<sup>12</sup> The LORD will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup> **Righteousness will go before him  
and will make a path for his steps.**

#### OPENING PRAYER

Open up to us today, Dear Lord, avenues of perspective to comprehend your presence and discern your Spirit. Tune our hearts to transformation. Craft our conduct to discipleship. Shape our souls so that our dependence fully rests on your providence and we can worship in joy. Amen.

**HYMN PH #12** “Immortal Invisible God only Wise”

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

After Jesus’ death, the disciples reverted back to their old ways, doubting and failing to see what was right in front of them.

Did they forget what Jesus had accomplished?

Did he not tell them many times about what was to come?

The disciples' story is our story.

In spite of promises we make, we revert back to old ways and forget all Jesus has accomplished. Yet, when we confess our forgetful ways, our short-sightedness, our many, many doubts, God has mercy upon us and shows us the error of our ways. Together with all of the disciples, we confess our sins.

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (In Unison)

**Lord of all creation, you have called us each by name. We are yours, and yet, what is yours is not ours. We seek control where we have none. We mock your work because we're too lazy to pick up after ourselves. We neglect our covenant with you. We ignore your Word. Grant us your grace and peace in the midst of our brokenness. Forgive us, O Lord.**

(Silent prayer)

**Help us to trust more in you and your timing. Guide us to be good stewards of your creation. Teach us to delight in your promises to us. Inspire us, in all we do, to cling to your Word. Amen.**

### **DECLARATION OF PARDON**

Believe what the story says: The Lord will restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. We are forgiven, sisters and brothers. To God be the power forever and ever. Amen.

### **PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Almighty God, Come. Shake the heavens. Rattle the earth. Disturb the sea. Fill this house with splendor. Come, Holy Spirit. Come dwell among us again, Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Show us what you are doing in our midst. Amen.

### **EPISTLE LESSON:** Romans 10:5-15

<sup>5</sup> Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” <sup>6</sup> But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup> “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup> But what does it say?

“The word is near you,  
in your mouth and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), <sup>9</sup> because<sup>[a]</sup> if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe<sup>[b]</sup> in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For one believes<sup>[c]</sup> with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with

the mouth, leading to salvation. <sup>11</sup> The scripture says, “No one who believes<sup>[d]</sup> in him will be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup> For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

<sup>14</sup> But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed?<sup>[e]</sup> And how are they to believe<sup>[f]</sup> in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? <sup>15</sup> And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

**SPECIAL MUSIC:**                      Leaning on the Everlasting Arms                      Gary Smith, Bass

### **NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:** John 8:1-11

<sup>1</sup> while Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. <sup>2</sup> Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and began to teach them. <sup>3</sup> The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and, making her stand before all of them, <sup>4</sup> they said to him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. <sup>5</sup> Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” <sup>6</sup> They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. <sup>7</sup> When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, “Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” <sup>8</sup> And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. <sup>9</sup> When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. <sup>10</sup> Jesus straightened up and said to her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” <sup>11</sup> She said, “No one, sir.” And Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.”

### **TABLETALK WITH GOD’S CHILDREN**

**SERMON**              The Savior and the Sinner                      Pastor Lindsey Carnes

### **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**HYMN PH #192**                      “Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining”

### **BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD**

### **OFFERING**

Whatever you do, put your whole self into it; do it for God: if you are an Encourager, build others up; if you are a giver, show generosity; if you are a leader, be diligent; and if you are compassionate, work with a glad heart. Whatever you do, put your whole self into it, and do it for God.

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

This is what we have to offer. Lord, take these gifts. Lord, use these gifts. Lord, bless these gifts. This is what we have to offer. Amen.

*Will the Ushers Please come forward.*

**OFFERTORY**      “Here I Am, Lord”      Bonnie Griffith      Arr. Daniel Schulte

## **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.*

**HYMN PH #697**      “Take My Life, and Let it Be”

### **CHARGE**

Praise God as you walk on campus; consider God’s call as you study, write, work, sit in class, and do research. Seek God’s direction everywhere! Know and believe Christ shines through you— in who you are, and in all you do.

### **BLESSING**

Hear these words from the prophet Isaiah: The Lord is everlasting and does not get worn out. God sees those who are tired and weak and gives them strength. That strength is renewed through hope in the Lord. Just like eagles that soar gracefully through the air, so will God’s people go, without getting exhausted. Amen!

### **POSTLUDE**

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

### Announcements

**Be sure to visit the sign-up table before you leave on Sunday mornings! There are many opportunities to volunteer and serve.**

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### **Women's Bible Study – *Angels* by Melissa Spoelstra**

What does the Bible really say about angels? Join us for this inspiring 8-session Bible study as we journey through Scripture from Genesis to Revelation, discovering who angels are, what they do, and how their work always points to the power and purpose of God. Together we'll find hope, grow in our understanding of God's presence, and gain confidence that He reigns over both the seen and unseen world.

**Choose the session that works best for you:**

- **Wednesday Mornings: 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. beginning September 9**
- **Thursday Evenings (Zoom): 6:30–8:00 p.m. beginning September 10**

**Book Cost: \$22**

**To register,** call the church office or sign up in Fellowship Hall. All women are welcome!

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### **Plant Sale – Sunday, August 23**

Mark your calendars! Sunday, August 23, Rita Vadasz will have homegrown flowers and plants available for donation. All donations will support our Refugee Welcome Ministry.

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### **GriefShare Support Group - You don't have to walk through grief alone.**

GriefShare is a caring, welcoming support group for anyone who has experienced the loss of a family member, friend, or loved one. Each weekly session offers encouragement, practical insights, and the opportunity to connect with others who understand the journey of grief.

### **Beginning Sunday, September 6**

**11:30 a.m. following worship**

After worship, grab a cup of coffee or tea, enjoy a few treats, and join us downstairs in the Youth Room. Whether your loss is recent or happened years ago, you'll find a compassionate, Christ-centered community where you can share, listen, and begin to heal at your own pace.

**Facilitated by Hannah Hall. Books and materials are provided.**

**For more information, contact the church office or sign up in Fellowship Hall.**

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**WE NEED YOUR HELP!** - We are looking for people willing to help run the technology parts of our weekly worship service. We need people to run the slides, operate the audio system, and help with the online streaming. Training is available, all that is required is a willingness to serve. Please contact Kelly Sunman-Davis or Pastor Robbie and we will schedule training.

## Growing Personally & Spiritually (GPS)

Are you longing to grow deeper in your faith while finding greater emotional and spiritual health? Join us as we begin our new study, *Journey of the Soul: A Practical Guide to Emotional and Spiritual Growth* by Bill and Kristi Gaultiere.

Together we'll discover how God meets us in every season of life, helping us move beyond feeling stuck and continue growing in grace, hope, and Christ-centered living.

**Mondays • 4:00–5:00 p.m.**

**Beginning September 14th in the Conference Room**

Please sign up in Fellowship Hall or contact the church office so we can order your copy of the book. Participants are also welcome to purchase their own copy if they prefer.

**Wherever you are on your journey, you'll find a place to belong. Everyone is welcome!**

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### **Ice Cream Social – Sunday, August 23**

Join us for a sweet time of fellowship during **Coffee Hour on Sunday, August 23!** We'll be serving delicious ice cream with a variety of toppings for everyone to enjoy. To help make the event extra special, **please consider signing up to bring an ice cream topping.** A sign-up sheet is available in **Fellowship Hall** with a variety of topping suggestions. Stay after worship, visit with friends, meet someone new, and enjoy a fun summer treat together. **Everyone is welcome—we hope you'll join us for this fun summer fellowship event!**

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**Tuesday Knitting Group** - Weekly at 1pm in the church library. Come join us for a cozy and creative time at our Tuesday Knitting Group! Whether you're an experienced knitter or just getting started, all are welcome. Bring your current project—or simply come to learn, share ideas, and enjoy friendly conversation together. It's a wonderful way to relax, connect, and create something meaningful. We'd love to have you join us!

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### **First Presbyterian Saturday Grounds Beautifying Work Group -**

Volunteers are needed to help keep our flower gardens clean, attractive, and weed-free.

**When:** 3rd Saturday of each month, May–September

**Time:** 9:00 AM

If you are interested in participating, please contact the church office at **810-629-7801**, or see **Deb Bard** or **Mary Zimbler** for more information.

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**Flowers for Worship** - We greatly value having fresh flowers on the communion table each Sunday and would like to continue this meaningful tradition. If you would like to provide flowers for worship, we invite you to bring flowers from your garden or purchase a bouquet from a grocery store or florist of your choice. If you plan to provide flowers, please contact Heidi Roberts in advance. This helps us: Acknowledge your contribution in the bulletin and Coordinate flower donations so that multiple arrangements are not scheduled for the same Sunday.

**Help Us Tell Our Story!** Do you have photos from worship, fellowship events, mission projects, youth activities, picnics, or other church gatherings? We're collecting photos that capture the life and ministry of Fenton First Presbyterian Church. Your photos may be featured on our website, social media, newsletters, and other church publications. Email them to [office@ffpc.org](mailto:office@ffpc.org)

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### **FFPC Book Binders Book Group**

**“Get lost in a good book...and find great friends along the way!”**

Join us on the **second Tuesday of each month at 2:00 PM** as we gather to discuss a new book and enjoy great conversation with fellow book lovers! Expect thoughtful discussion, a few laughs, and plenty of book-loving fun. Contact Mary Zimmler for more information. Happy Reading! 📖

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**Deacons' Back-to-School Project** - Help Refugee Students Start the School Year Strong! Through August 16, the Deacons of Fenton First Presbyterian Church are focusing on monetary donations to provide school supplies for the refugee families our church supports. This year, we are serving 11 families, including 6 elementary students, 10 middle school students, and 7 high school students. Your financial gift allows us to purchase the specific school supplies each student needs, ensuring every student begins the school year prepared, confident, and ready to learn.

### **How to Give**

- Please make checks payable to Fenton First Presbyterian Church and write "Back-to-School Project" in the memo line.
  - Monetary donations may be placed in the offering, dropped off at the church office, or given directly to one of the Deacons.
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### **Help Others Find a Church Home**

Has First Presbyterian Church of Fenton been a blessing in your life? Consider leaving a Google review! Your words can help someone searching for a church home feel welcomed before they ever walk through our doors. Scan the QR code or use the link to share your experience. Thank you for helping us extend Christ's welcome to our community. <https://g.page/r/CQnBYwpLGho5EBM/review>

### **Financials as of 8/4/26**

**Offerings \$7,458.00 Fiscal \$202,069.25**

**Expenses \$4,882.64 Fiscal \$158,440.18**