



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.

19th Sunday after Pentecost
October 4th, 2026 10:00 a.m.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

You have heard the great news about being forgiven. So now show what that means to you: Share the peace that Christ gives you! Pass the peace to those surrounding you! Because immeasurable love is not something we keep to ourselves. May the peace of Christ be with you all!

CALL TO WORSHIP

What does the Holy One require of us?

To do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with God.

Let us worship God.

OPENING PRAYER

Mighty and merciful God, lover of justice and equity, you call us to support the weak, to help those who suffer, and to disciple, baptize and teach all nations. By the power of your Holy Spirit, make us advocates for your justice, instruments of your peace, and speakers of your Gospel, so that all may be reconciled in your beloved community; through Jesus Christ Our Savior. Amen.

NEW SONG

Rise with the Sun

CityAlight

Verse 1

There's a song that's sung through the nations
Of joyful thanks to the king
Where the countless saints who are rescued
Praise Jesus who set them all free

Verse 2

Hear the anthem sung in the islands
Where sun first touches the earth

Over land and sea it advances
Now joined by the saints of this church

CHORUS

Rise with the sun, lift up his name
All through the earth we sing out his praise
East to the west, night to the day
Join in the song and sing out his praise

Verse 3:

I will add my voice to the chorus
Of many people and tongues
For we share the gift of salvation
And share in the life yet to come

CHORUS

Rise with the sun, lift up his name
All through the earth we sing out his praise
East to the west, night to the day
Join in the song and sing out his praise

BRIDGE

And the church will sing
Holy, holy, holy are you Lord
You're the glorious one
We lift up your name
And the church will sing

Tabu, Heilig, Oli are you Lord
You're the lamb who was slain
We lift up your name
And the church will sing

Shèngjié, Santo, Kadosh are you Lord
You're the king who was raised
We lift up your name
And the church will sing

Holy, holy, holy are you Lord

Now you reign evermore
 We lift up your name
 Over all of the world
 We lift up your name

CHORUS

Rise with the sun, lift up his name
 All through the earth we sing out his praise
 East to the west, night to the day
 Join in the song and sing out his praise

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, as we read Scripture, we admit: Sometimes we don't understand the stories and the passages we read. Sometimes we ask questions of it and are left searching. Sometimes, we simply don't know what to say. So now, we ask for help from your Holy Spirit: help for understanding, help for our questions, help to find words, and help for how to apply your Word to our lives. For guidance and wisdom, we give you thanks. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Genesis 12:1-3

12 Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

ANTHEM "God Is" Arr. Donald Moore The Chancel Choir

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Revelation 7:9-11

12 Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

TABLETALK WITH GOD'S CHILDREN

SERMON The Great Commission: Why do International Mission?

Pastor Isaac Chung

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING

What we have been given through the gracious work of our Savior on the Cross is incomparable with anything that we could offer now. Yet God uses our gifts, however large or small, to further God's work in the world. Let us give in gratitude and worship.

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

Let us pray: Merciful and gracious God, you abound in steadfast love and faithfulness. With gratitude, we bring our gifts to you. Bless these gifts and bless our lives that together we may share your mercy and grace for the world you dearly love. 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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

On the Lord's Day, Christians from around the world gather at the table, one family sharing one meal. On this day, we focus our attention on that global gathering that happens every time we share the cup and the loaf. Christ invites us: "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink." (John 7:37–38)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Holy God, we come before you in prayer hungering for justice, thirsting for righteousness, longing for peace. We pray with a great multitude from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages. We pray with saints of every time and place, those who have gone through the great ordeal ...

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.

CALL TO CONFESSION

As a mother does not forsake her nursing child, so God will not abandon us, even in our weakness. In the hope of this promise, we can show God all our faults, all our failures, all our wounds and bruises. That's why we come to confess, because we know that, unlike anyone else, God will not turn us away.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

You, O God, offer us more than we could ever ask, blessing us beyond compare. You feed us with compassion, hold us up with hope, and clothe us with grace. You call us to feed others, hold others up, and clothe them with peace, joy, and love. But we worry about the food on our own plates before offering it to others. We pay more attention to our own survival than to the well-being of those around us. We ensure that our own backs are covered before seeking out the world's most vulnerable. Lord, all we can do is ask for your forgiveness. We don't know why we do the things we do. All we know is that we're sorry; we want a clean slate. Help us to be messengers of humility, patience, and peace. Bind us together—with you and with one another—so that we may follow the risen Lord who feeds us and holds us up. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON:

By grace we have been saved through faith, and this is not our own doing; it is nothing less than God's gift for God's people! It's not accomplished by our works, so that we'd be able to brag about it. No—we are who God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life. Believe this good news! We have been saved. We have been redeemed. We have been forgiven.

COMMUNION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give you thanks and praise, loving God, creator and sustainer of life. You planted the first fields — wheat, barley, rice, and maize — and made us in your image to care for your creation. You fed your people in the wilderness with

man from heaven, leading them to a land of milk and honey. When human greed trampled the poor you spoke through the prophets, calling us to worship you with justice and peace. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent Jesus Christ, the living bread, to lift up the oppressed and lowly and fill the hungry with good things. Therefore we praise you. We praise you, most holy God, for Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh. He taught us to share the abundance of your love, feeding the multitude, eating with sinners and strangers, offering his own body to save us, and pouring out his life for the world. When the risen Christ appeared to his disciples, he made himself known to them in the breaking of the bread. Even now he sets the table for us, inviting all to taste and see that you are good.

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus, on the night before he died, took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way Jesus took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Remembering all that you have done in Jesus Christ, we offer our lives to you with great thanksgiving as we share this feast of love and grace. Great is the mystery of faith: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, and one with all who share this meal, a great multitude from every nation. Keep us faithful to Christ's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers, sharing our goods with one another, and giving our possessions to those who are in need, so that all people may have their daily bread, this day and every day. Just as the grain, once scattered across the hills, was gathered together in this loaf of bread, gather your people from the ends of the earth, so that we may feast with you in glory in the joy of your new creation. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

SHARING THE FEAST

COMMUNION PRAYER

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Call to creator and ruler of the universe, for you have satisfied our souls with this feast of your grace. Keep us faithful in your service until your realm of glory comes; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

HYMN PH #634 “To God be the Glory”

CHARGE

The blessing of the holy, triune God, who was and is and is to come — first and last, beginning and end, Alpha and Omega-- be with you now and always. Alleluia! Go in peace to love the Lord your God with heart and soul and mind and strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself. Amen.

POSTLUDE

May the Peace of Christ 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.

Missing Kitchen Dishcloths and Aprons - A few dishcloths and aprons are missing from the church kitchen. If you took any home to wash or borrowed them for an event, please check and return them to the kitchen when you can. Thank you for helping us keep the kitchen ready for everyone who uses it!

A Full Size Adjustable Bed Frame is available at no cost to anyone who can use it. Please contact Janet Stork or the Church Office for more information.

Love Your Neighbor lawn signs are available in the church office for \$6. Make a peacemaking statement, see Pastor Robbie for more information.

WORK GROUP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Saturday, October 17 | 9:00 AM–12:00 PM

Help us prepare the church for the colder months! Volunteers are needed for preventive and seasonal maintenance on the church's HVAC system. Thank you for helping care for our church building!

DONATIONS NEEDED: An Event So Good It's Scary!

We're collecting candy and non-candy treats for the **An Event So Good It's a Scary community event!** Help us offer something fun for everyone by donating candy or items such as stickers, pencils, and small toys.

LET'S FIGHT HUNGER! Join Us for the CROP Walk

Sunday, October 4 • Bush Park, Fenton

Registration: 1:30 PM | Walk Begins: 2:00 PM



CROP Hunger Walk - Please join us at 1:30pm on October 4th in Fenton's Bush Park for the CROP Hunger Walk. This year they'll be donuts, apples, and cider, and Uncle Ray's ice cream as always. They'll be fun, educational activities as we walk the park, so bring your children and grandchildren! Rocking chairs will be available if you're unable to walk. Pastor Robbie has agreed to take a pie in the face if 30 of us register at the Walk. Sign up in the fellowship hall so we can track this. You can donate to the office, to anyone who signs up, at the Walk, or online here:

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/chw/team/fenton-first-presbyterian-church>

 **Senior Fiesta Luncheon**  Members and friends 70+ years of age are invited to join us for a Senior Fiesta Luncheon on Saturday, October 10 at 11:00 AM! Come enjoy a festive afternoon filled with Mexican-inspired food, colorful fun, and wonderful fellowship with friends. Guests will have a choice of entrée and dessert, along with sides and beverages. Please RSVP to the Church Office by October 5th.

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!

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.

Wednesday Mornings: 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Thursday Evenings (Zoom): 6:30–8:00 p.m.

Flowers for Worship - 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.

Tuesday Adult Bible Study will resume Tuesday, September 22nd, 2026, from 11:00 AM–12:15 PM in the Conference Room. Based on the book, “The Good Shepherd, A Thousand-Year Journey from Psalm 23 to the New Testament” by Dr. Kenneth E. Bailey, we will be exploring the theme of the Good Shepherd through the Old and New Testaments striving to learn more about the character of God and the actions of Jesus in our world. We will be using videos of Kenneth Bailey speaking on the matter as well as examining scripture ourselves. Whether you've attended before or are thinking about joining us for the first time, we'd love to have you. The coffee is always hot, and the conversation is always fruitful! Come grow in faith, ask questions, share insights, and enjoy fellowship together.

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 Zimbler for more information.

Growing Personally & Spiritually (GPS) - Mondays • 4:00–5:00 p.m.

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. 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.

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

Sunday Evening Adult Study - Exploring the Ten Commandments

05:00 PM (Most Sundays) Conference Room at 4Square Tax & Accounting - 205 Lincoln St., Fenton, MI. Starting September 13th, for the first **5–7 weeks**, we'll take a closer look at the **Ten Commandments**—their history, meaning, and how they apply to our lives today. The Ten Commandments appear in both **Exodus 20** and **Deuteronomy 5**, but the two versions are not identical. There are also differences in their wording, numbering, and interpretation among Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox traditions. Each week, we'll explore **one or two commandments**, consider these different perspectives, and discuss what these ancient teachings mean for us today. Videos from **The Bible Project** will also be included. **Everyone is welcome!**

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🎵 Come Make a Joyful Noise!

Our Handbell Choir and Chancel Choir are back, and there's always room for more! Join us on Wednesday evenings for music, fellowship, and the joy of making music together. Whether you're a longtime musician or simply looking for a new way to get involved, we'd love to have you join us!



Handbell Choir: 6:30–7:15 PM



Chancel Choir: 7:30–9:00 PM