



## 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.

21st Sunday after Pentecost  
October 18th, 2026 10:00 a.m.

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### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

#### PRELUDE

#### WELCOME

#### GREETING OF NEW MEMBERS

Elder: Let us welcome Wayne and Sharon as they join with us in the worship and mission of the church.

**The People respond: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you to share with us in the ministry of Christ, for we are all one in him.**

#### THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

#### CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 96:1-9 (NIV)

- <sup>1</sup> Sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
- <sup>2</sup> **Sing to the LORD, praise his name;  
proclaim his salvation day after day.**
- <sup>3</sup> Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.
- <sup>4</sup> **For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;  
he is to be feared above all gods.**
- <sup>5</sup> For all the gods of the nations are idols,  
but the LORD made the heavens.
- <sup>6</sup> **Splendor and majesty are before him;  
strength and glory are in his sanctuary.**
- <sup>7</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, all you families of nations,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- <sup>8</sup> **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
bring an offering and come into his courts.**
- <sup>9</sup> Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness;  
**tremble before him, all the earth.**

## OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God, you have called us to be members of one body. Join us with those who in all times and places have praised your name, that, with one heart and mind, we may show the unity of your church, and bring honor to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**HYMN PH #722** “Lord Speak to Me That I May Speak”

## CALL TO CONFESSION

We know, despite our sincere efforts to live in God's way, that all too easily we slip off the path of the kingdom. Trusting that God will answer our prayers and forgive us, let us confess our sins, as we pray together.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (In Unison)

**Great Lover of Justice, hear our prayers: called to treat all people equally, we take sides and pick favorites; chosen to be your children, we arrogantly assume others are not so honored; challenged to be examples of faith, we reveal our worst natures to our families and friends. Forgive us, Giver of Rest. Enable us to stop putting you to the test, so we can open our hypocritical hearts to your healing touch of compassion and hope. As Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, has given all for us, may we give ourselves to you - confidently, completely, faithfully.**

## DECLARATION OF PARDON

Hear the good news: the One who created goodness and beauty is also the One who shows no partiality, but offers grace and peace to all.

**God has heard our prayers and done the very thing we asked - forgiven us, healed us, restored us. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Blessed you are, Lord, great God, for the testimonies of the prophets we bless you. For the statutes of the law we bless you. For the gospel of Christ and the witness of the apostles we bless you, O glorious God. Grant to us the Spirit of your glory and the brightness of your presence that we might read your Word and understand. Through Jesus Christ, our gracious Lord. Amen.

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Exodus 33:12-23

<sup>12</sup> Moses said to the Lord, “See, you have said to me, ‘Bring up this people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ <sup>13</sup> Now if I have found favor in your sight, please show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight.

Consider, too, that this nation is your people.”<sup>14</sup> He said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”<sup>15</sup> And he said to him, “If your presence will not go, do not bring us up from here.”<sup>16</sup> For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.”

**ANTHEM**    Amazing Grace

arr by Donald Moore

### **NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:** Luke 10:1-12

**10** After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. <sup>2</sup> He said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. <sup>3</sup> Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. <sup>4</sup> Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. <sup>5</sup> Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house!’ <sup>6</sup> And if a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it will return to you. <sup>7</sup> Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. <sup>8</sup> Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; <sup>9</sup> cure the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ <sup>10</sup> But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, <sup>11</sup> ‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.’ <sup>12</sup> I tell you, on that day it will be more tolerable for Sodom than for that town.

### **TABLETALK WITH GOD’S CHILDREN**

**SERMON**    The Great Commission: People of Peace

Pastor Robbie Carnes

### **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

#### **A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION**

Have you noticed a Person of Peace in your life?

How are you going to respond to the Holy Spirit nudging?

**HYMN PH #721**    “Lord, You Come to the Lakeshore”

## BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

### OFFERING

As recipients of abundant life in Christ, we now offer our gifts to God.

*(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: You do not choose favorites, Holy God, but pour out your blessings on all your children, trusting that we will empty our hearts, our lives, our treasure in meeting the needs of those around us. Bless these gifts, and use them to bring healing and hope to your people. 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.*

### HYMN PH #726 "Will You Come and Follow Me"

**CHARGE** —based on 1 Corinthians 16:13; 1 Thessalonians 5:13-22; 1 Peter 2:17

Go out into the world in peace:

have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; help the suffering; honor all; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**With God's help we will.**

**BENEDICTION** The Lord be with You

### 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.**

**Congregational Meeting on November 8** - A congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, November 8, to elect elders and deacons. All members are encouraged to participate as we prayerfully select those who will help lead and serve our church family.

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

**Donations & Volunteers Needed: Community Trick or Treat Event** - Help us welcome our neighbors on **October 30!** We're collecting candy and non-candy treats for our table, including stickers, pencils, and small toys, so we can offer something fun for everyone. Volunteers are also needed to help with setup, cleanup, and handing out treats. **Sign up in Fellowship Hall.** Thank you for helping make this a fun and welcoming evening for our community!

**Women's Lunch Gathering** - All women are invited! Join us for our next Women's Lunch on Thursday, October 29, at 1:00 PM at Boston's Restaurant & Sports Bar in Fenton! Come enjoy a delicious lunch, great conversation, and a relaxed afternoon together. Whether you're a regular at our gatherings or joining us for the first time, we'd love to see you! Bring a friend, neighbor, or family member—everyone is welcome! Please sign up in Fellowship Hall so we know you're joining us!

**Men's Lunch Gathering** - All men are invited! Join us for our next Men's Lunch on Friday, October 30, at 12:30 PM at Woody's Tavern in Fenton! Come enjoy a good meal, great conversation, and a relaxed afternoon with friends. Whether you're a regular at our gatherings or joining us for the first time, we'd love to have you! Bring a friend, neighbor, or family member—everyone is welcome! Good food, great company, and a chance to connect!

 **GAME NIGHT - Saturday, November 7th at 7:00 PM** - Come for the games, stay for the fellowship! Join us for a relaxed evening filled with games, laughter, and great company. Whether you're a board game enthusiast, love a good card game, or simply enjoy spending time with others, there's a place for you at the table! Feel free to bring a favorite game and a snack or beverage to share! We'll have plenty of games available too, so just come ready for a fun evening together! Invite a friend, bring the family, or come on your own. Everyone is welcome, and we'd love to see you there!

**Hanging of the Greens** - Sunday, November 22

Help us prepare our church home for Advent! Join us on Sunday, November 22, as we decorate for the season and enjoy food and fellowship together. Whether you enjoy arranging decorations or simply lending a helping hand, there's a place for you. Come help make our church warm and welcoming as we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth!

**Annual Turkey Dinner** – Gather around the table with us for one of our favorite traditions! Our Annual Community Turkey Dinner returns on Saturday, November 14th. Enjoy a delicious traditional turkey dinner and a wonderful evening of fellowship with friends, family, and neighbors throughout our community.

**November 14th, 2026, Doors open at 5:30 PM, with grace at 5:45 PM. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$7 for children 10 and under. To-go dinners will also be available!**

**Volunteers Needed!** Many helping hands make this special community tradition possible! Whether you can help with preparation, serving, or cleanup, we would love your support. Please sign up to volunteer in Fellowship Hall. Every helping hand makes a difference! **For tickets or additional information**, please contact the church office at 810-629-7801. Come hungry, bring a friend, and help us share the warmth of community!

**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!

**Men's Study** - 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 6 pm. Come join a group of men of all ages from our church and community, including some of our newest attendees, for a discussion on faith, philosophy, the bible, and personal testimony. The topic is freeform and may follow the book "Casket Empty." This group will meet at the fellowship hall to walk to a nearby establishment, weather permitting, or order food in when weather is inclement. Please contact [jonwenzel@gmail.com](mailto:jonwenzel@gmail.com) for more details.

**Women's Bible Study – Angels by Melissa Spoelstra** - **Wed. Mornings: 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. or Thurs. Evenings (Zoom): 6:30–8:00 p.m.** What does the Bible really say about angels? Join us 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.

**Tuesday Adult Bible Study** Tuesdays 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 are 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. 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!

**Sunday Evening Adult Study** - **Exploring the Ten Commandments**  
**05:00 PM (Most Sundays) Conference Room at 4Square Tax & Accounting** - 205 Lincoln St., Fenton, MI. We are taking a closer look at the **Ten Commandments**—their history, meaning, and how they apply to our lives today. **Everyone is welcome!**

**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.

**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.

**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 Zimble for more information.

 **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