



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.

22nd Sunday after Pentecost, Deacon Sunday
October 25th, 2026 10:00 a.m.

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GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Welcome to worship today!

We are all here because of God's hospitality.

We share the privilege of extending that hospitality to each other.

[Announcements]

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Hear the teaching of Christ:

A new command I give you,

that you love one another as I have loved you.

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us greet each other with the Peace of Christ

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 90:13-17

¹³ Turn, O LORD! How long?

Have compassion on your servants!

¹⁴ **Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

¹⁵ Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us
and as many years as we have seen evil.

¹⁶ **Let your work be manifest to your servants
and your glorious power to their children.**

¹⁷ Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us
and prosper for us the work of our hands—

O prosper the work of our hands!

OPENING PRAYER

God of light and truth, you are beyond our grasp or conceiving. Before the brightness of your presence the angels veil their faces. With lowly reverence and adoring love we acclaim your glory and sing your praise, for you have shown us your truth and love in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

HYMN PH #1 “Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty”

CALL TO CONFESSION

The psalmist testifies: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION from —Psalm 25:6-8, 11, 16-18, NRSV (In Unison)

Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness’ sake, O LORD! Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. For your name’s sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great. Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me out of my distress. Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. Happy are we, who know our Redeemer lives, loves, and forgives us! Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION —based on Psalm 25:4-5

Lord God, help us to know your ways; teach us your paths. Lead us in your truth, and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation; for you we wait all day long. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Leviticus 19:15-18

¹⁵ “You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. ¹⁶ You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand idly by when the blood^[a] of your neighbor is at stake: I am the LORD.

¹⁷ “You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. ¹⁸ You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

ANTHEM

May the Mind of Christ My Savior

Chancel Choir

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

² You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, ² but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. ³ For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, ⁴ but, just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals but to please God, who tests our hearts. ⁵ As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed, ⁶ nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, ⁷ though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. ⁸ So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

TABLETALK WITH GOD’S CHILDREN

Story Time

“The Gift of Nothing”

SERMON**RESPONDING TO THE WORD****HYMN PH #729**

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD**OFFERING**

Friends, out of the abundance of Christ's love, we are called to bear one another's burdens and care for the vulnerable among us. Let us give joyfully as an act of our 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 Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us— our selves, our time, and our possessions—signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us— 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

"God of mercy, you have called us to love not just in word, but in truth and action. We lift up to you today those in our community who are sick, lonely, or facing hardship. Comfort those who grieve, grant peace to those anxious about the future, and use our hands and feet to be the physical expression of your comfort. Fill us with compassion so that we

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 #687 "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

CHARGE

Go out into the world in peace. Have courage. Hold fast to what is good. Return no one evil for evil. Strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, and honor all people. Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. 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.

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 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

GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays

Sunday, November 22 • 11:30 AM • Youth Room

The holidays can be especially difficult when you're grieving the loss of someone you love. Join us for GriefShare's *Surviving the Holidays*, a time of encouragement, support, and practical guidance for navigating the season. Wherever you are in your grief journey, you are welcome. You don't have to face the holidays alone. **Please sign up in Fellowship Hall.**

As part of our annual Giving Tree collection, Bookbinders will be collecting new and gently used books, along with socks, hats, scarves, underwear, pajamas, and clothing in infant sizes through size 16. The Giving Tree will be up in the new narthex beginning November 22. Thank you for sharing warmth and love with children in need! ❤️

2027 Lay Reader sign-up - We are seeking Lay Readers for next year, please consider. The sign-up is in Fellowship Hall, on the information table. If you have questions, contact Debera Bard or Ceil Ladd.

ATTENTION ALL USHERS - As you line up to come forward for the collection, PLEASE lower your voices. You can be heard from the back rows in the Sanctuary, also the people on the balcony can hear you. Thank you, Worship Committee

Rise Against Hunger Meal Packaging Event

Sunday, November 15, 2026 • 4:00 PM

Hosted by Fenton Ministerial Group

St Jude's Episcopal Church

106 E Elizabeth St., Fenton, MI

Grab a hairnet, find your station, and get ready to make an impact! Join neighbors from area churches for a fun, fast-moving experience as we package nutritious meals for communities around the world. Our fundraising goal is \$4,100, and donations begin October 11. Whether you volunteer, make a financial contribution, or both, you can help provide the nourishment people need to thrive. Register to volunteer and help us turn compassion into action!

<https://tinyurl.com/mryb9by7>

