



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.

20th Sunday after Pentecost
October 18th, 2020 10:00 a.m.

RING AROUND THE WORD

DRESSING THE TABLE

WELCOME

A MOMENT FOR HOUSEHOLD WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 106

- 1 Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever.
- 2 **Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord, or declare all his praise?**
- 3 Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.
- 4 **Remember me, O Lord, when you show favor to your people;**
help me when you deliver them;
- 5 that I may see the prosperity of your chosen ones,
that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory in your heritage.

- 47 **Save us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the nations, that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.**
- 48 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. And let all the people say, "Amen."

Praise the Lord!

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you come to us in so many different ways. You speak through the Words of Scripture and through the changing of seasons. There is no place in which we could be that you cannot not go. Come to us now. Shatter in us, whatever is placed between you and our hearts so that we might be healed, filled and sent into the world you love. Amen.

HYMN #35

“Praise to The Lord, the Almighty”

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.

ENCOUNTER

(A time for silent and personal prayer...)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In U,llllllllllk[]m,nison)

God of majesty, you have drawn near to us, but we have turned away from your light. You have chosen us to be your people, but we confess that we have lived as thought we belonged to ourselves.

Forgive us for going the way of the world, doing the works of darkness, and forgetting your law of love toward God and Neighbor. Empower us by your Spirit to be faithful followers of Jesus, who taught us by word and example how to live as your children, to your honor and glory.

DECLARATION OF PARDON:

Christ died and was resurrected so that we may have new life and be forgiven of our sins.
This is wonderful news!
Now go out and act as loved and forgiven people.
Be at peace and know that you’re forgiven.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

2 We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly **3** remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. **4** For we know, brothers and sisters[a] beloved by God, that he has chosen you, **5** because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. **6** And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, **7** so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. **8** For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. **9** For the people of those regions[b] report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, **10** and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.S

SERMON Christian Mission: Passing it On

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

What does the Gospel mean to you?

In what ways does faith, love and hope capture the essence of the Christian Life?
How do these virtues make a practical difference in your life?

According to 1 Thes 1:9-10 turning, serving, and waiting are prominent features of Christian conversion. What might these dimensions look like in your life?

HYMN #630 “Fairest Lord Jesus” (1st and 4th verse)

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from the Heidelberg Catechism

Q 122. What does the first petition mean?

A. “Hallowed be your name” means: Help us to truly know you, to honor, glorify, and praise you for all your works and for all that shines forth from them: your almighty power, wisdom, kindness, justice, mercy, and truth. And it means, Help us to direct all our living—what we think, say, and do— so that your name will never be blasphemed because of us but always honored and praised.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

O God, bless those who have no hope; make your home with them. Bless those who grieve; strengthen them with gladness in the midst of heartache. Bless those who have been brought low; remind them that they are your children. Bless those who long for things to be made right; fill them with a vision of your future. Bless those who hunger and thirst; move us to share. Bless those who show mercy; may they experience your grace. Bless those who work for peace; assure them that they are not alone. Bless those who are harassed for doing what is right; grant them the courage of obedience. Bless those who face insults, lies, and gossip for who you have made them; fill them with a strong core of joy.

We lift up to you those who are ill....
We pray for healing.

We lift up to you those who are grieving...
We pray for joy.

We rejoice with those who rejoice!...
May joy sustain us and glorify you.
Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER

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.*

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

OFFERING

In the midst of struggle, wrestling with doubt and confusion, pinned to the ground and breathless, we ask God for a blessing.

In our emptiness, we feel like we have nothing to give.

Then God reminds us that we are never worthless, that we can always offer something—even the vulnerability of welcoming someone into our emptiness.

So we find blessing in being honest, in standing side by side with others in need, in volunteering what we have and in sharing what we lack.

Let's come to God with all we have and all we are.

Let's close our worship by giving our gifts to the Lord!

SPECIAL PRESENTATION FROM WYCLIFFE TRANSLATORS

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God, we realize that what we have to offer is not nearly enough.

But we give anyway, as a response to all you do and have done for us.

Please take what we have given, and bless it.

Bless us now too, so that we can continue to give even more.

Thank you for receiving this offering, just as it is, and for receiving us, just as we are.

In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

God grants us grace and blesses us; The Lord's face shines on us, so that the ways of the Lord will become known on all the Earth, and so salvation may become known among all the nations!

We get to be a part of that!

May the Lord continue to bless us for the sake of all people here on earth! Amen!

HYMN #720

“Jesus Calls Us Over the Tumult” (verse 3)

Flowers on the Communion Table Given by David and Terrie Fisher celebration of 32 years of wedded BLISS!

Announcements:

Guest Speakers

Today, October 18th we will have some special guests visiting our worship service. Rachel and Michael Aubrey will come to share about their work with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Wycliffe was started in 1942 and seeks to translate the Bible into people's own languages. This is done in the hope that they can come to know Jesus better by being able to read Scripture in their own tongue. This should be a fun and informative moment this Sunday.

Mission Opportunity

All those interested in taking part in a Food Bank Mission event are asked to either sign up in Fellowship Hall or call Ken Wensel at 810-513-1340. The date is Saturday, November 14'20 from 9 am to noon. Those interested in sharing rides can meet at the church at 8:20 am.

Food Bank volunteer rules are :

- we are limited to no more than 15 volunteers.
- Must be fifteen years of age or older.
- must wear a mask at all times.
- they will provide gloves.

We will be the only volunteer group there .

We urge you to view this as a great opportunity to assist this tremendous organization feed so many food deprived people .Let's put our faith to work !!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting on November 8th directly after the 10am worship service for the purpose of voting on a 25 year parking lot lease agreement with the City of Fenton and electing Elders and Deacons for the upcoming year. Information regarding these two items will be posted in the membership portion of the church website as well as be available upon request from the Church Office. We are expecting to be able to worship in our sanctuary and hold our congregational meeting in person in that same room. For those who are unable to attend in person, a Zoom meeting will be established with the intention that those attending online can contribute and vote via the chat function. It is Session's hope that via Zoom this Congregational Meeting can include as many church members as possible.

Flowers on the Communion Table

Dates are available for October 25th, and November 8th. Please contact Heidi Roberts 810-625-4637 or hroberts6862@gmail.com.

Equal Exchange

It's Equal Exchange time!!

The Holidays are just a few months away. It's time to think about what you'll need to buy so you can bake your treats.

Just a reminder, Equal Exchange offers organic coffees, teas, hot chocolate, baking cocoa, chocolate chips, chocolate bars, olive oil, and so much more. Stock up now, there won't be another order until next year.

A designated table will be set up in the entryway of the church beginning Monday, October 5th and will remain through Monday, October 19th. This table will contain information on the Equal Exchange program, as well as catalogs and order forms. Payment is due to the office when the order is placed. Please contact Kelley Sunman-Davis at office@ffpc.org with questions.

Blood Drive

First Presbyterian Church of Fenton is hosting a blood drive on Monday, October 26th from 11am to 4:45 with the Red Cross. Blood donation is a safe process and precautionary steps are in place to provide everyone with peace of mind. During the outbreak of the coronavirus Red Cross employees follow extensive safety protocols at each blood drive. If you want to donate please call Red Cross @ 1-800-RED CROSS or visit RedCrossBlood.org to schedule your appointment. If you wish to volunteer you can contact Jo Beardslee or Sherry Hunt.

Calling All Techies

The Worship Committee is looking for additional sound and video technicians to help produce worship services and maintain our ability to stream live services. Willingness to learn is all you need to help in this crucial way. Please contact Jay Kirkey for more information (jaykirkey@icloud.com).

Working Flat Screens Needed

Have you upgraded in the recent past? Have an extra working tv that you no longer need? We are looking for flat screen televisions that can be easily hung on a wall. We are hoping to upgrade the technology within the church to assist us in furthering our ministry. If you have one that you would be willing to donate, please contact the church office at 810-629-7801 or office@ffpc.org. Thank you

We Need Your Helping Hands

If you are willing to:

- 1) provide rides for small errands such as picking up a few groceries, prescriptions, or Doctor appointments or
- 2) do simple household chores for those unable to do them for themselves., then WE NEED YOU

You can now sign up on the FFPC website for Helping Hands.
Once you sign up, we can contact you to assist others needing help.

*Those willing to drive a church member somewhere must complete a form and provide a valid driver's license and proof of current auto insurance. These forms are available in Fellowship Hall next to the sign up sheet or in the church office. We will help you complete the form. Contact Nancy Berger, 810-701-6556

If you have any questions, please contact the church office or Nancy Berger.

FFPC Winter Coat Drive - Update

We have been joyfully overwhelmed with the donations of coats for the Back to School/Winter coat drive. However, we still need boots. There are two ways you can help with boots. 1) Bring in any lightly used or new boots to the church lobby and put them in the bin. 2) Make a monetary donation to the church office and we will take advantage of a special offer from Community Threads to purchase boots at \$4.99 a pair.

If you have any questions, please contact Becky Lawrence or Debbie Hoeglund.