



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH EAST

October 25, 2020
Reformation Sunday

Gregg D. Townsend, Pastor
Pastor Gregg: (814) 460-3123
Email: pastortownsend@yahoo.com

Jane Livingston, Music Director
Church Phone: (814) 725-8641
Website: FPCNE.ORG

GATHERING MUSIC: “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”

Bell Choir

GREETING: Pastor Gregg Townsend

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP: “Speak O Lord” arr. Bettcher

*** CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER**

Leader: Come, bow down and worship, kneel to the Lord, our Maker.

Together: This is our God, our shepherd, we are the flock led with care.

—Psalm 95:6-7, TP

Lord, our God, we trust your promise to be among us as we gather. We come in the name of Christ, drawn by your Spirit, eager to hear your Word. Fill our hearts with your Spirit and prepare us for faithful service. **Amen.**

*** OPENING PRAISE:** “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

1. A mighty fortress is our God. A bulwark never failing.
Our helper He amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and pow’r are great and armed with cruel hate. On earth is not his equal.

2. Did we in our own strength confide? Our striving would be losing.
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing?
Dost ask who that may be: Christ Jesus it is He.
Lord Sabaoth His name from age to age the same and He must win the battle.

3. And though this world with devils filled should threaten to undo us.
We will not fear for God hath willed. His truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim. We tremble not for him.
His rage we can endure for lo his doom is sure. One little word shall fell him.

4. That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them abideth.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go. This mortal life also.
The body they may kill. God's truth abideth still. His kingdom is forever.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

For the times we have lied to one another and the times we have been lied to,
heal us, Jesus, Savior of the world.

For the times we have laughed at another's pain and the times we have been laughed at,
heal us, Jesus, Savior of the world.

For the times we have spoken when we should have remained silent and the times we have remained silent when we should have spoken,
heal us, Jesus, Savior of the world.

For the times we have not respected another's freedom to be different from us,
heal us, Jesus, Savior of the world.

For the times we have betrayed a friend and the times we have been betrayed,
heal us, Jesus, Savior of the world.

O God of heaven and earth, you emptied yourself of your power and became a helpless baby in order that you might heal the sick world. Teach us to empty ourselves of the things that destroy us and keep us alone. Empty us of our jealousy, of our meanness, of our fear of others. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

ASSURANCE 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.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

—Psalm 32:1-2, NRSV

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 10:38-42

MESSAGE

RESPONSE: "All of Me"

PASTORAL 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.

*** CLOSING SONG:** "Spirit of God"

1. Spirit of God descend upon my heart. Wean it from earth through all its pulses move.
Stoop to my weakness mighty as Thou art and make me love Thee as I ought to love.

2. I ask no dream no prophet ecstasies. No sudden rending of the veil of clay.
No angel vision no opening skies but take the dimness of my soul away.

3. Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh. Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear.
To check the rising, doubt the rebel sigh, teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.
4. Hast Thou not bid me love Thee, God and King, all, all Thine own soul heart and strength and mind.
I see Thy cross there teach me to cling. O let me seek Thee and O let me find.
5. Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love. One holy passion filling all my frame.
The presence of Thy descended Dove. My heart an altar and Thy love the flame.

* BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE

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OFFLINE: OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND

For our online worshippers: there are four easy ways to give your financial gift to the church:

1. Send in your financial support via the **US mail**.
2. Contact the church office (814-725-8641) to set up **direct deposit** from your bank account to the church.
3. You can also now give through **PayPal**. Just click on the link: paypal.me/fpcne. Or click on the "Shop Now" button on the church Facebook page, which will take you to the link.
4. Download the "**Give Plus† Mobile**" app from the App Store. Enter our zip code (16428) and select "First Presbyterian Church."

CHURCH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THERE WILL BE A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TODAY following the worship service. Please plan to attend in-person at 25 West Main Street.

TODAY'S FLORAL ARRANGEMENT IS IN HONOR OF JANICE FINK'S BIRTHDAY on October 24. Happy birthday Janice!

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK LIVE WEDNESDAY evenings at 7:00 PM for a time of prayer and devotion.

WE NEED 2-3 MORE RINGERS FOR OUR BELL CHOIR. Won't you consider giving ringing a try? Practice is held on Thursday evenings from 6:00-7:00 PM. We will teach you everything you need to know. No experience is necessary. Please speak with Jane Livingston or just show up on Thursday night!

OUR ANNUAL CLOTHING GIVE-AWAY is coming up on November 7, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM (EST). We will also provide bagged lunches while supplies last. We'll need 6-8 people on Thursday and Friday, November 5 and 6 to set up. On Saturday, November 7, we will need about 7 volunteers from 9:00 AM to noon and 7 from noon to 3:00 PM. Sign-ups coming soon. Masks will be required, and social distancing will be followed.

PASTOR GREGG IS PLANNING SOME STUDY OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU. He will be leading a **HIP HAPPENIN' THEOLOGY** groups plus a **READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR** group. To plan, please connect with Pastor Gregg if you are interested in either of these Christian education opportunities.

CHECK OUT ALL OUR ANNOUNCEMENTS at [FPCNE.ORG](https://fpcne.org). Just click on the "News" link. We upload a new announcement flier each week to help keep you updated on what's happening at FPCNE.