

Fair Street Reformed Church

Morning Worship ~ February 14, 2021

Worshipping together since 1849, Fair Street is a community striving to live into our call to love God and neighbor. We welcome you, friend and neighbor, into this space and time to worship, in hopes that you will be able to experience God's love, grace, presence and welcome in these moments.

Please note:

Entering the Zoom Worship Space PRIOR to worship: you are welcome to say hello and check in with everyone. The Space will be open and active by 9:30am each week.

If you join us after 10am, please enter the room quietly and mute your microphone. As long as you can hear Pastor Kendra, you will be able to participate in worship.

Please note that if you are able to join us on video but not print up the liturgy, the liturgy will now be shared on the Zoom screen as we worship!

*For prayer requests, joys and concerns please email pastorkendra1@gmail.com by Saturday night, or you can text her on her cell phone. You will also be able to send them in the chat conversation that will be to the right of the video screen on Sunday.

*Following worship, remain online, unmute yourself and join us for our virtual coffee hour!

*Be sure to check the Fair Street Weekly for updates and announcements for the week!

This morning Pastor Kendra begins a four-week series, sharing the favorite Bible Stories of the newest consistory members! This morning we will hear Deacon George Campbell's favorite Bible Story!

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God Gathers the Church

GATHERING AND WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to worship God in our need,

bringing with us the needs of the world.

We come to God, who comes to us in Jesus,

and who knows by experience what human life is like.

We come with our faith and with our doubts,

we come with our hopes and with our fears.

We come as we are because it is God who invites us to come,

and God has promised never to turn us away.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CALL TO AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, you said, "If you love me, you will obey what I command."

Forgive us our lukewarm love and our disobedience.

Lord, you said, "You may ask for anything in my name."

**Forgive us when we think we need to solve
our own problems.**

Lord, you said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

**We confess that our lives are often consumed
by worry and anxiety.**

Lord, you said, "If you remain in me and I in you,
you will bear much fruit."

Forgive us our barren lives, Lord.

Lord, you said, "You must testify, for you have been with me."

We confess, Lord, that we have been too often silent.

Lord, you said, "Love each other as I have loved you."

**In this and in so many other ways,
we confess our failures and shortcomings. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

GUIDE FOR GRATEFUL LIVING

John 13:34

Hear the teaching of Christ: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another just as I have loved you."

GLORIA PATRI

God's Word Is Proclaimed

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

John 5:1-13

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

² Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. ³ In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. ⁵ One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" ⁷ The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me." ⁸ Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." ⁹ At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a sabbath. ¹⁰ So the Jews said to the man who had been cured, "It is the sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your mat." ¹¹ But he answered them, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Take up your mat and walk.'" ¹² They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take it up and walk?'" ¹³ Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had disappeared in the crowd that was there.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Kendra VanHouten

The Church Responds to God

THE SHARING OF THE GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE WITH OUR GIFTS:

While the social distancing makes it a challenge to worship in person, and serve alongside one another, ministry is still happening. We ask that you consider either mailing in your offering contribution or sending it online through our secure website: <https://fairstreetreformedchurch.org/>, and click on the [support us](#) page. Your offering supports the work and ministry of the church as we continue to seek for ways in which we can love our neighbor, with no exceptions, even from a distance.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts/debtors)*

BENEDICTION

Sunday, February 14, 2021

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