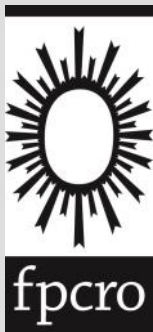


# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ROYAL OAK

APRIL 6, 2025 | 10:30AM

Fifth Sunday of Lent



*Spirituality | Service | Sharing*

## Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak

We hope you sense an authentic community here! This church is *not* for people who have everything about their faith figured out. It's not for people whose lives are neat and tidy. *This is a community gathered in Christ.* Together, we are seeking a world made whole. The Holy Spirit draws us together with our doubts, struggles, *and* our celebrations. God is at work transforming us and showing us glimpses of Christ's light in the world!

Our worship service follows a traditional format. Our prayers and preaching put the Bible in conversation with practical questions to help us live faithfully in our daily lives. Our community is made up of people who bring different experiences and perspectives. Together, we trust in God's grace and love, which are free gifts to us, no matter what life brings our way. We don't need to earn that love, yet we can always rely on it.

If you are seeking to be comforted, challenged, or to grow in your faith, we would be honored to accompany you on that journey. You are welcome here just as you are.

*Rev. Emma Nickel*

Pastor

## Children Belong Here

There is a place for families and children of all ages here! We believe children who worship with their church family stick with their faith for a lifetime. Choose what works best for your family:

- The *Prayground* in the back of the sanctuary, where children may do quiet activities, with you nearby to assist, as they absorb the worship service. Third graders and older are encouraged to sit with their family in the pews.
- The **Backyard Playroom** is a free program offering a safe, indoor environment for children ages five (5) and under to play under parental/guardian supervision, and is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9am to 12pm.
- Sunday School: Following the Time with Children, kids may go with Sunday school leaders to class, which ends at the conclusion of the worship service.
- Nursery: Childcare for infants and toddlers during the 10:30am service, with background-checked staff and volunteers.

## Finding Your Way

*Kirkman Fellowship Hall:* Use either staircase in the lobby to go downstairs into the Hall. *Nursery:* Located to the right of the lobby, down the hallway across from the Sunflowers Preschool classroom. *Elevator:* Down the hall, left past the Sunflowers Preschool classroom. *Restrooms:* Women's & Men's are at the top of the short stairwells in the lobby; All Gender/Single in the narthex outside the sanctuary; Accessible is at the end of the hallway near the Fireside Room. *Hearing-assist devices:* Ushers near the sanctuary doors are available to assist you.

## Interested in Joining?

For those interested in exploring the possibility of membership or learning more about who we are and what we do, new member gatherings take place several times a year. To get connected, contact Rev. Emma Nickel at [enickel@fpcro.org](mailto:enickel@fpcro.org)



## Giving

Giving online is a fast and easy! Click GIVE at [www.fpcro.org](http://www.fpcro.org) to make a one-time gift. Recurring gifts may set up using a debit/credit card, or a PayPal account using the QR code. Cash/checks may be placed in the offering plates by the side aisle doors or in the basket in the narthex entry. Thank you for sharing your gifts with God and the church!



## GATHERING

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At the ◊ you may stand in body or in spirit. Bold text is read or sung in unison.

### Prelude

“Come, Ye Sinners, oor and Needy”

*arr. Dale Wood*

©2001 The Sacred Music Press (The Lorenz Corp.)

### Welcome & Announcements

#### ◊Call to Worship<sup>1</sup>

One: We come here longing for mercy. We long for community. We long for God.

**All: We are seeking a good word. We are looking for connection.**

One: We are feeling many things: hope and grief, faith and doubt, joy and longing, curiosity and conviction.

**All: God meets us here and meets us just as we are. Surely, we are not alone. Let us worship God!**

#### ◊Hymn #346

“O Come to Me, the Master Said”

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith ©1988 Hope Publishing Co.

### Call to Confession and Kyrie Eleison

One: No matter what mistakes we have made or wrong turns we've taken, God consistently meets us with mercy and invites us to try again. So let us lean into that good news, and go to God in prayer. Lord, have mercy upon us.

**People: Christ, have mercy upon us.**

**All: Lord, have mercy upon us.**

### Prayer of Confession

**All: Merciful God, when we fail to be righteous, show us mercy. When we fail to be merciful, show us what is right. Forgive our lack of attention to you and to our neighbors. Forgive our tendency to look the other way or take a different path from that which you seek for us. Bring us closer to you and show us the way.**

*[silence for individual prayer]*

One: Trusting in God, we pray,

**All: Amen.**

### Assurance of Pardon

One: God shows us the way to live in faith! Through Christ, God is merciful and forgives all our sins!

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## ◇Gloria Patri

Hymn #734

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

## ◇Passing of the Peace

One: In these days of Lent, we turn our lives toward the way of Christ. May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## Time with the Children

*After the Time with the Children, kids may go to Sunday school. They will return to the sanctuary to participate in Communion. Those participating in Sunburst Singers music practice may head there at the close of worship.*



## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

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### Prayer for Illumination

**All: God, like Zacchaeus who wanted to get a peek at you, we come to this sanctuary hoping to glimpse your goodness, joy, and light. Please speak to us through these ancient words. Let us get a peek of your love present in them. Let us be changed by it. Gratefully we pray, Amen.**

### Psalm

“Psalm 102”

Sung to the Hymn-tune *Dennis*, #393 “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

**“Hear Thou my prayer, O Lord, my earnest cry to Thee;  
That in my hour of utmost need, Thy presence sets me free.”**

Paraphrase of Psalm 102 ©1999 Michael Morgan, The Psalter for Christian Worship, Witherspoon Press

### Scripture Reading

Luke 18:31-19:10

*Pew Bible, NT pg. 84*

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Anthem

“Amazing Grace”

*arr. Richard Proulx*

~Chancel Choir

~Jenn Muse, flute

*“Amazing grace! How sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see. ’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; How precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed! Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come; ’Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home. The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures; He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.”*



## THANKSGIVING

### Invitation to the Offering

#### Offertory

“My Lord, What A Morning”

*Trad. Spiritual arr. Mark Hayes*

~Olivia Donnel

*“My Lord, what a morning when the stars begin to fall. Done quit all my worldly ways, joined that heavenly band. My Lord, what a morning when the stars begin to fall”*

©1998 Alfred Publishing Co, Inc.

#### ◇Doxology

Hymn #34

***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***

#### ◇Prayer of Dedication

### ***Sacrament Of The Lord’s Supper***

#### Invitation

#### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord’s Prayer<sup>2</sup>

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

One: Holy One, we praise you for your mercy... we join our voices in praise:

### Holy, Holy, Holy Lord



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,



heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na



in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the



name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

One: Holy One, we praise you for Christ Jesus...And so, remembering his love for us, we offer ourselves to you and celebrate this meal in Jesus' name:

**All: Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again!**

One: Holy One, we praise you for your Spirit...And so, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, hear our prayers through the prayer Christ taught, as we say together:

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**All: 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**

### **Words of Institution**

## Communion of the People

*Everyone is welcome to receive communion! You are welcome at God's table here regardless of your denomination or affiliation. Communion is offered by intinction. You are invited to come forward by the center aisle to the servers at the front of the church. Please open your hands and the server will place the bread into them. Gently dip your bread into the cup of juice, then eat it all together. Then return to your seat by the side aisles.*

*A gluten free station is in front of the lectern on the right side of the sanctuary for any who prefer to use it. At this station, individual cups of juice are available instead of the dipping option. Take a cup and drink from it, then place the cup in the trashcan nearby.*

*If you prefer to be served in the pew, please remain there and a server will come to you.*

## Prayer After Communion

**All: Lord God, thank you for your mercy and for feeding us from your abundant table. Because we have feasted here, may our eyes be opened to see clearly. Help us to see you, our neighbors, and the needs we can serve, which are all around us. Draw us together in your love, just as you draw all of us here to this meal. Through Christ our Lord, we pray, Amen.**



## SENDING

◇ **Hymn (page over)**

“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

Public Domain

◇ **Benediction**

**Postlude**

“Prelude in b minor”

*J.S. Bach*

Public Domain

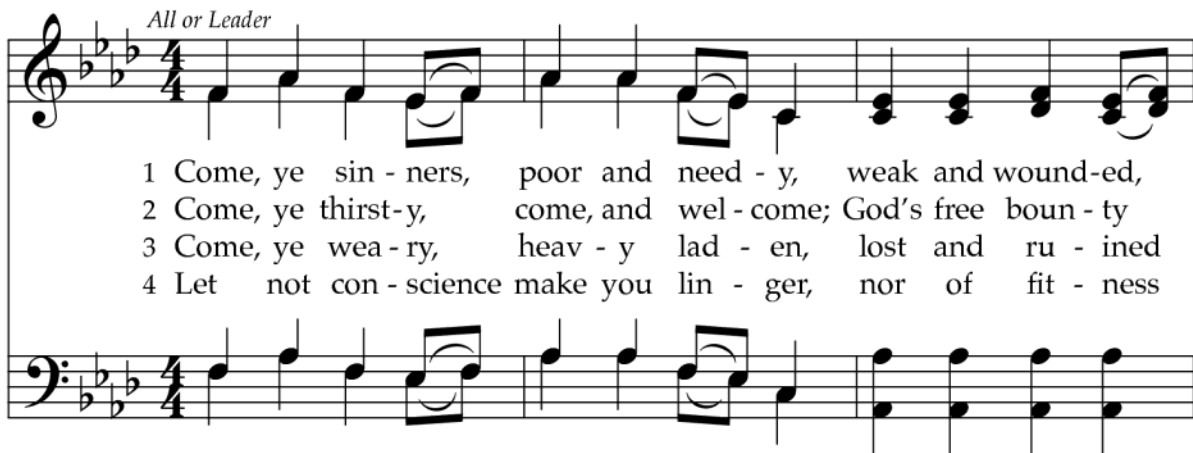
- 1 Call to Worship, Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, Assurance of Pardon, and Prayer for Illumination were inspired by prayers from the Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.
- 2 Communion liturgy adapted from *Connections Year C, Vol 1*, Ed. David Gambrell (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2021), 105106.



*Our church is a Stephen Ministry church. Stephen Ministers are lay caregivers who are trained to provide high-quality confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. Contact the pastor if you are in need.*

# Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

*All or Leader*



1 Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y, weak and wound-ed,  
2 Come, ye thirst-y, come, and wel - come; God's free boun - ty  
3 Come, ye wea - ry, heav - y lad - en, lost and ru - ined  
4 Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness



sick and sore; Je - sus read - y stands to save you,  
glo - ri - fy, true be - lief and true re - pen - tance,  
by the fall; if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter,  
fond - ly dream; all the fit - ness he re - quir - eth

*Refrain*  
*All*



full of pit - y, love, and power.  
ev - ery grace that brings you nigh. I will a - rise and  
you will nev - er come at all.  
is to feel your need of him.



go to Je - sus; he will em-brace me in his arms. In the

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a common time signature. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

arms of my dear Sav - ior, O there are ten thou-sand charms.

The second system of music also consists of two staves in the same key signature and time signature as the first. The lyrics continue below the treble staff. The system concludes with a double bar line.

## **LITURGIST**

Peter Gibbs

## **FPCRO STAFF**

*Pastor:* Rev. Emma Nickel

*Dir. of Christian Education:* Joelle Jarrait

*Dir. of Music Ministries/Organist:* Joseph Jackson

*Organ Scholar:* John Etsell

*Chancel Choir Dir.:* Kent Wattleworth

*Sunburst Singers Dir.:* Audrey Frieberg

*Church Admin.:* Kari Peruski

*Facility Manager:* Alan Glasel

*Admin. Assistant:* Sally Gilreath

*Sunday/Evening Reception:* Todd Crawford

*S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry Director:* Jessica Gibbs

*Backyard Playroom Coordinator:* Ashleigh McKnight

*Nursery Care Worker:* Abby Pochron

## **SOLOISTS**

Bryan Clinthome, *baritone*

Brady DelVecchio, *tenor*

Olivia Donnel, *soprano*

Audrey Frieberg, *soprano*

*Permission to podcast/stream music in this service obtained from ONELICENSE, License #A-735100. All rights reserved. Worship services in FPCRO's sanctuary are now broadcast live and are recorded and posted on our website and social media platforms. When you enter the sanctuary for a service, you consent to the recording and broadcast of your voice and likeness for such purposes without compensation.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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### **Chancel Flowers**

Today's flowers are given by the Gail and Norm Bayne family in memory of Gail's parents, John and Vera-Anne Corwin, on their 70th wedding anniversary.

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### **Lunch and Learn Today**

If you signed up to attend the Lunch and Learn event on the warning signs of Alzheimer's and dementia, head to the Fireside Room following worship for the meal and presentation.

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### **Lenten Devotional**

Pick up a paper copy of the FPCRO Lenten Devotional or download a PDF if you prefer to view it on a device. Many members of the congregation have shared their personal faith experiences as a way to guide us through the season of Lent as we explore topics that include learning, turning, wilderness, journey, struggle, and spiritual practices. We hope you will enjoy this opportunity to both deepen your faith and draw closer to fellow church members.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONTINUED

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### Upcoming S.T.A.G.E. Youth Meetings

**On April 13**, we're playing laser tag and going bowling at Troy Escape (1950 E. Square Lake Road, Troy). RSVP to let us know you're coming. Regular meeting at FPCRO **April 27**. S.T.A.G.E. (*Somewhere To Ask God Everything*) is a collaborative youth group which strives to build lifelong relationships, impact the communities we live in, and learn about and share the love of Christ! Join our newsletter by emailing [stageyouth@gmail.com](mailto:stageyouth@gmail.com) for all the details on our meetings, added service events during the year, and summer mission work! Meetings are open to all Middle and High School Students (6th-12th grade).



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### Annual Flower Sale for S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry

Our final fundraiser of the year, the Annual Flower Sale, is ready for your orders! All orders will be made online with the Google order form using this link: <https://forms.gle/6DTR2V7th5YwaAP39> Orders must be made by **2pm on Sunday, April 20**, late orders cannot be accepted. Flower order pick up is on May 17 from 12-2pm at Greenfield Presbyterian Church.

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### Men's Fellowship Group

The Men's Group will gather **Monday, April 7** at Bagger Dave's in Berkley (2972 Coolidge). Please join us at 7:30pm or whenever you can make it. Topics will likely start with discussion of the S.T.A.G.E. dinner in March, but only God knows where the conversations will go from there. Join us again for a return visit or the first time. No one bites, unless they ordered something to eat!

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### One Great Hour of Sharing Collected on April 13

One Great Hour of Sharing is a special offering through the Presbyterian Church (USA). Money collected supports efforts to offer relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. You can learn more about this and other special offerings of the PCUSA at [pcusa.org/giving/special-offerings](http://pcusa.org/giving/special-offerings). Envelopes will be available for the offering next week, or you can mark a check "One Great Hour," as we dedicate the offering on Palm Sunday, April 13.

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### Holy Week Prayer and Reflection

During Holy Week, April 13-18, you are invited to visit the church during regular hours for prayer and reflection. A labyrinth will be set up in Kirkman Fellowship Hall for you to walk, and finger labyrinths will be available to use while sitting. Also, the chapel will be open if you feel called to sit in quiet prayer.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONTINUED

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### **Holy Week and Easter Services, Flower Cross**

Maundy Thursday, April 17 at 7pm; Good Friday, April 18 at 7pm; Easter Sunday, April 20 at 10:30am (*one service only*). On Easter Sunday, bring a cut flower to place in the flower cross in the narthex ahead of the worship service. We recommend arriving to church early on Easter Sunday!

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### **Lenten Devotional Discussion**

Mark your calendar for **7pm on Tuesday, April 22** for an evening to discuss the Lenten Devotional, after we've had a chance to enjoy all the entries. Come to share about the process of writing your entry. Come to talk about the insights you gained in reading the entries throughout the season.

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### **Buy Nothing Free Sale in April**

In partnership with local Buy Nothing groups, we're hosting another free sale where every item is free! The event will take place in our parking lot. You can sign up to bring your car with "gifts" for church and neighborhood shoppers.

- **Date:** Saturday, April 26th, 2025
- **Time of event for shoppers:** 10am-12pm
- **Arrival time for gifters to set-up:** 9:30am until 10am
- **Rain date:** Saturday, May 3, 2025

Sign up to bring gifts: <https://bit.ly/4b6FUgz>

We need a few volunteers to host the event. If you can help, sign up using this link: <https://bit.ly/3QkQNIk>

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### **Vacation Bible School 2025**

#### **True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World—June 23-27**

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/bdz75edh> and register today! **Volunteer at True North VBS:** This is a wonderful week of sharing God's word with our church children and the children of our community. We are looking for volunteers for a variety of areas. Not only do we need helpers during the event, but also helpers for planning and designing sets and props. Please visit our Sign-up Genius at <https://tinyurl.com/m55mvbt> to join in on the fun!

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