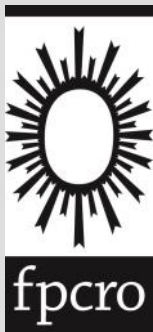


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ROYAL OAK

NOVEMBER 17, 2024 | 10:30AM

Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



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.
- 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



SCAN ME

Giving

Giving online is a fast and easy! Click GIVE at 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

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

Prelude

“Adagio”

Roger Nyquist
©1965 H. W. Gray Co., Inc.

Welcome & Announcements

◊Call to Worship

One: Holy, holy, holy, Lord,

All: the whole earth is full of your glory.

One: You are enthroned in majesty and mystery.

All: In wonder, we gather to worship you.

◊Hymn #559

“Here I Am, Lord”

Text and Music: Daniel L. Schutte; ©1981 Daniel L. Schutte and New Dawn Music

Call to Confession and Kyrie Eleison

One: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sin, God who is merciful and just will forgive us and cleanse us. So let us 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: Great Deliverer, your is calling is simple and yet so complex: love you, love our neighbors. Too often, we put something other than you in your rightful place. Forgive us when we worship anything other than you. Too often, we serve ourselves or our best ideas before we serve our neighbors. Forgive us when we fail to care for the least of these. Draw us and the whole human community back to your way. Let the witness of Jesus Christ—who came not to be served but to serve—guide our living.

[silence for individual prayer]

One: Hear our prayers, O God.

All: Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

One: The grace of Christ is sure and certain. Our forgiveness has already been won.
Therefore, let us dare to make our way in the world as people redeemed, restored,
and freed!

All: May we live with this good news on our lips and in our actions!

◇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: Through Christ, we find new life and the peace that passes understanding.
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 join their parents in the pew or go to the Parlor for quiet activities. They will return to the sanctuary at the conclusion of the service.



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

All: Spirit of Wisdom, as we open the pages of scripture, let the trials of the world fall away. Tune our ears to the one true Word disclosed in these ancient words on the page. By the voice of your Spirit, pry open our hearts and make us new. Amen.

Psalm

“Psalm 29”

Sung to the Hymn-tune *Hyfrydol*, #153 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

***“All on earth and all in heaven, raise to God a song on high;
Strength unmeasured, love unbounded, God alone we glorify.
At God’s voice the clouds assemble, thunder roars and torrents fall;
Earth shall quake before God’s presence, mountains tremble at God’s call.”***

Paraphrase of Psalm 29 ©1999 Michael Morgan, The Psalter for Christian Worship, Witherspoon Press

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 6:1-8

Pew Bible, OT pg. 704

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Franz Schubert

~Chancel Choir

“Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord. Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy is He. He, without beginning, He, who always was, ever is and ruleth, shall be evermore. Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord. Holy, Holy, holy, Holy is He. Power, wonder, love, all around Him dwell. Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord.”

Public Domain

Sermon

“Serving a Majestic God”

Rev. Emma Nickel



THANKSGIVING

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

“Lord, Here Am I”

John Ness Beck

~Olivia Donnel

“Master, Thou callest, I gladly obey; only direct me, and I’ll find Thy way. Teach me the mission appointed for me, what is my labor, and where it shall be. **Refrain: Master, Thou callest, and this I reply, “Ready and willing, Lord, here am I.”** Willing, my Savior, to take up the cross; willing to suffer reproaches and loss; willing to follow, if thou wilt but lead; only support me with grace in my need. **Refrain.** Living or dying, I still would be Thine, yet I am mortal while Thou art divine. Pardon, whenever I turn from the right; pity, and bring me again to the light. **Refrain.”**

©1984,1990, 2000 Beckenhorst Press, 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

◇Affirmation of Faith — Apostles’ Creed

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Farewell for Departing Member

Prayers of the People and 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



SENDING

◇ Hymn #574

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

Public Domain

◇ Benediction

Postlude

“Festival Voluntary”

Flor Peeters

©1958 Oxford University Press

LITURGIST

Doug Mooney

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 Clinthorne, *baritone*

Brady DeVecchio, *tenor*

Olivia Donnel, *soprano*

Audrey Frieberg, *soprano*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers are given by Barb and Larry Stafford in celebration of 50 years of marriage.

Returning Outside Group Rental

Sportsman's Dog Training Club is hosting an American Kennel Club Scent Work Trial here today. Please exit the building through the Chapel or Hendrie doors. The entire building is being used except the worship wing starting at the reception desk. The sanctuary, chapel, and nursery will be open. Rest rooms will be open: if possible, please use the ones in the Christian Education Lobby. The dogs are being timed so please don't interact with them in any way.

Hanging of the Greens is November 24

Lend a hand after worship on **Sunday, November 24**, as we decorate the church for Advent. Help hang wreaths, garland, and put up and decorate trees. We are grateful for your assistance!

Poinsettia Dedications

It's time for poinsettia dedications! Plants are \$15.50 this year, and orders are due by **December 1**. Complete an order form and return it with a check (payable to First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak). Leave your check and order form in the basket at the reception desk. Questions? Contact Chris Klein at 248-990-8586.

Angel Tree Toy Donations

You are invited to donate new, unwrapped toys to bring a sense of love and hope to a child in your community. Please bring unwrapped gifts to FPCRO by **Sunday, December 1**. In addition to toys, the Salvation Army is in need of **new winter coats**. The Angel Tree program in Royal Oak helps 15 communities in Southeast Oakland County. Need gift donation ideas? Use the QR codes on the poster in the CE Lobby, or the links provided here, for the Amazon (<https://tinyurl.com/4xtbuf6x>) and Walmart (<https://tinyurl.com/5ewehxn6>) Angel Tree wish lists.

Advent Study: Mondays in December, 11am-12pm

Beginning **December 2**, join Pastor Emma to read the short book *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes: An Advent Study*. Order your copy now! (<https://tinyurl.com/yczak8tf>) Also available on Kindle. This Advent study will help us anticipate the gift of Jesus as we explore the unique ways each of the gospel writers describes the incarnation. We visit the "home" of Mark—a spare, simple house—then travel to the fully decked out home of Luke and his familiar nativity story. With stops at Matthew's and John's abodes, too, we notice how the differing stories emphasize various aspects of God-made-flesh.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONTINUED

Help Provide or Serve Dinner at Welcome Inn Overnight Shelter

On **December 6 and 14**, FPCRO members are invited to help provide and serve dinner at the Welcome Inn overnight shelter located at Starr Presbyterian Church (13 Mile and Crooks Rd). Please sign-up for what food you can donate and, as appropriate, bring hot and ready to serve that night. Food will be dropped off at Starr Church between 6:30-6:45pm. Several volunteers are also needed each night for serving the meal and cleaning up. To sign-up for either date, visit <https://tinyurl.com/5n7w7usp> Questions? Speak to Nancy Lambert (December 6) or Jim Kaliszuk (December 14).

Let's go Christmas Caroling!

Join the Deacons after worship on **Sunday, December 8** to go Christmas caroling to friends in the congregation. We'll share joy and song to celebrate the coming birth of Jesus with folks who can't get to church as often. Bring a snack so you're fueled up for 3-4 caroling stops. Feel free to wear your fun holiday gear.

Upcoming December S.T.A.G.E. Dates

Regular meeting on **December 8**, from 4:30-6:30pm at **First Presbyterian Church Birmingham**. Christmas Party on **December 15**, from 4:30-6:30pm at **First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak**. 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 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)

SCAN TO
LEARN
MORE



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.