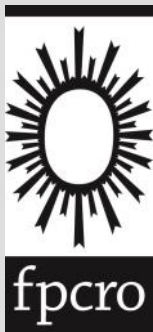


# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ROYAL OAK

AUGUST 18, 2024 | 10:30AM

Thirteenth 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:

- *Playground* in the back of the sanctuary, where children may do quiet activities, with you nearby to assist, as they absorb the worship service.
- Pew Pouches with children's Bibles to help guide children who sit with their family during the worship service. Find these in the back pew.
- 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

“Amazing Grace”

*arr. George Shearing*  
©1977 The Sacred Music Press

### Welcome & Announcements

#### ◊Call to Worship<sup>1</sup>

One: Come! Come and worship,

**All: you who woke early and you who slept late; you who are new and you who have been here many times before.**

One: Whether we are first or last or somewhere in between, there is room for all of us in God's kingdom.

**All: There is more than enough grace to go around. Let's worship God together!**

#### ◊Hymn #569

“God of Grace, and God of Glory”

Public Domain

### Call to Confession and Kyrie Eleison

One: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. We can go to God in prayer with honesty and trust. Lord, have mercy upon us.

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

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

### Prayer of Confession<sup>2</sup>

**All: God of fruitful labor, work sometimes brings out the worst in us. At home, at school, in the workplace, even in our relationship with you, we too easily question what others do and get, instead of taking care of our own business. Take away our bitterness. Teach us the art of accepting your overwhelming grace for ourselves and for others. Give us grateful hearts, we pray.**

*[silence for individual prayer]*

One: Through Christ our Lord,

**All: Amen.**

### Assurance of Pardon

One: Hear the good news: what we do matters, but our salvation is God's doing.

**All: In Christ's name, we are forgiven. 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: Filled with the Spirit of Love, we exchange signs of peace. 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 classes with their teachers and will return to the sanctuary at the conclusion of the service.*



## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

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### Prayer for Illumination

**All: O God, you draw us into your community of love with people across the ages and around the world. By the same Spirit that binds us together, speak to us that what we read and ponder may enliven us and stretch us to trust and follow you; through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### Scripture Reading

Deuteronomy 6:10-12; 7:7-9

*Pew Bible, OT pg. 181*

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm

“Psalm 106”

Sung to the Hymn-tune *St. Anne*, #84 “O God, our Help in Ages Past”

***“Our gracious Lord be always praised, give thanks to God above;***

***The blessings we enjoy on earth are gifts of God’s great love.***

***Remember, Lord, our faithfulness, when in Thy courts we meet;***

***May our degree of righteousness find mercy at Thy feet.”***

Paraphrase of Psalm 106 ©1999 Michael Morgan, The Psalter for Christian Worship, Witherspoon Press

### Scripture Reading

Matthew 20:1-16

*Pew Bible, NT pg. 22*

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

“Crazy Grace”

*Rev. Dr. Chip Hardwick*



## THANKSGIVING

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### Invitation to the Offering

#### Offertory

~Gracie Ross

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

*Beethoven*

Public Domain

#### ◇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.**

#### 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

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#### ◇Hymn #422

“Amazing Grace!”

Public Domain

#### ◇Benediction

#### Postlude

Postlude on “God of Grace”

*Clay Christiansen*

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- 1 Adapted from Contemporary Call to Worship, re:worship, <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/09/contemporary-call-to-worship-matthew-20.html>
- 2 Adapted from a prayer at Ministry Matters

## **LITURGIST**

Ruth Goode

## **FPCRO STAFF**

*Pastor:* Rev. Emma Nickel

*Dir. of Christian Education:* Joelle Jarrait

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

*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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*The Rev. Dr. Charles B. Hardwick began serving as the Executive of the Synod of the Covenant (which includes Detroit Presbytery) in 2020, after serving congregations in Chicagoland, central Illinois, and Atlanta, and the denominational staff as Director of Theology, Formation, and Evangelism. He holds degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary, Emory University, Northwestern University, and Alma College. He and his cats, Queso and Salsa, live in Birmingham.*

*Pastor Emma Nickel will be away on vacation August 18-24. In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact the church office.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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### **Chancel Flowers**

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God in celebration of the 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Phoebe's baptism by her parents Matthew and Emma Nickel.

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### **School Supplies Collection**

During the month of **August**, we are collecting school supplies for Oakland Elementary school in Royal Oak. Look for sales and pick up a few items when you see them. Boxes will be out in the church to receive donations. Teacher requested items include: crayons, colored pencils, markers, glue sticks, composition notebooks, primary journals (composition notebook, but with a spot to draw a picture for K-2 classes), plastic folders with prongs, colored dry erase markers, pencils (pre-sharpened), Play-Doh, bingo daubers, socks (for feet and white board erasers).

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### **Back to School Blessing**

Join us for worship on **August 25** for a Back to School Blessing! Whether you are a student of any age or you work in schools or higher education, we invite you to come and receive God's blessing for this important moment in the year.

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### **Recommendation Station with Dessert Potluck**

What's a great book you've read recently that others might enjoy? Is there a movie, documentary, or podcast that has really opened your eyes or made you think? Come share your recommendations and hear ideas from friends on **Thursday, August 29 at 7pm**. Your recommendations might be faith-based, but that is not required. Beach reads, true crime, powerful cinema, and good laughs are all equally welcome! Bring a dessert to share. We'll enjoy sweets as we share our favorite recommendations and get ideas for what read, watch, and listen to this fall. If you need childcare, let Pastor Emma know by August 15. Sign-up online or at the reception desk.

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### **Flu Shots on September 8**

Get your flu shot before or after worship on **Sunday, September 8 from 9am-12pm**. This year, Kroger pharmacy will offer the shots for ages 3 and up. Bring your ID and insurance card. The flu shot for age 65+ will be available. The pharmacist will also be able to offer vaccines for RSV, pneumonia, COVID-19, and shingles for those who are eligible. Thanks to the Deacons for sponsoring this annual event! A registration form to fill out ahead of time will be available soon.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONTINUED

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### S.T.A.G.E. Kick-Off Party

Our Kick-Off S.T.A.G.E. party will be held on **September 15 at 4:30pm at FPCRO**. This event is open to all 6th grade through 12th grade youth. Bring a friend! S.T.A.G.E. (Somewhere To Ask God Everything) is a collaborative youth ministry for middle-and high-school youth. Meetings are on select Sundays at one of our collaborating churches. Scan the QR code for more information.



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### Rise Against Hunger—Sunday, September 22, 12pm-2pm

Join us for the 3<sup>d</sup> annual Rise Against Hunger meal-packing event after worship on **Sunday, September 22**. We'll have lunch in the Fireside Room and then proceed to Kirkman Fellowship Hall to pack 10,000 meals. This event has opportunities for all ages—kids through seniors! We especially need a few volunteers for set-up from 9am-10am and clean-up 2-2:30pm. The main event requires 50 volunteers and runs about 12pm-2pm. Signup for all the shifts here: <http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/FPCRO2024>

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### Flower Dedications

The Flower Dedication Chart has openings for September and October—sign up soon! Honor, celebrate, remember, or recognize a person or group. Flower dedications are \$45, and add nature and beauty to the sanctuary. Sign up on the chart in the hall and fill out a dedication card at the reception desk. Questions? Contact Chris Klein at [CKlein8000@live.com](mailto:CKlein8000@live.com).

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*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.*