


**The Service for the Lord's Day
with the Sacrament of Holy Communion**



February 5, 2023

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

fpcro 
First Presbyterian Church
of Royal Oak

529 Hendrie Boulevard
Royal Oak, MI 48067
Phone (248) 541-0108
www.fpcro.org

Please silence all devices

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

For young children, the Playground in the back of the sanctuary is open and our nursery is also available for those who prefer childcare for infants and toddlers. Sunday school classes are available for kids in Kindergarten through 5th grade during the 10:30am service, after the Time with Children.

I. GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

“O God, Thou Faithful God”

J.S. Bach
Public Domain

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We come to worship

All: as people strong in faith and as people in need of nourishment.

One: We come to worship

All: as people who seek to be open to each other and yet in need of a reminder about God’s openness to each of us.

One: We come to worship

All: as people ready to serve, ready to learn, and ready to be renewed in God’s love.

***HYMN #501**

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

Text: William Williams (1717-1791); Music: John Hughes (1873-1892), Public Domain

CALL TO CONFESSION and KYRIE ELBISON

One: We worship a God who stands more ready to forgive than we are to confess our sin. Our Creator, who is merciful and just, has promised to cleanse us of all unrighteousness. With such assurance, we do not need to fear. Let us profess our sin, first together, then in silence, to our God, who has made us, who knows us, and who loves us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

All: Lord, have mercy upon us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹

All: You have told us what is good, O God. Your hopes for us are clear. And yet we live as though it is unclear what you would have us do. We live as though we are not the recipients of grace upon grace. When we are weak, let us not feel ashamed. Rather, draw us closer to Jesus, who showed strength through his weakness. When we are strong, do not let us boast. Instead, let us use our strength to lift each other up. Forgive us for trusting only in our own strength, instead of in you. We seek your forgiveness, so that we may follow in the way you would have us go. Cleanse us and guide us.

[silence for individual prayer]

One: We make this and all our prayers in reliance upon our faithful savior, Jesus Christ,

All: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Jesus gave himself for us that he might redeem us and make us zealous to serve and to love. Friends, believe the good news:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

***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: The peace and blessing of God's love is for all of us. May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(10:30)

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

II. PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Holy God, let your word surprise and strengthen us in our faith. Let it nourish our community and us as individuals. Let your Spirit surround us as we encounter you in the holy story of your people. Amen.

PSALM

“Psalm 18”

Sung to the Hymn-tune *Ellacombe*, #31 “I Sing the Almighty Power of God”

“I love the Lord, who is my strength, my refuge in distress;

The object of unending praise, the source of righteousness.

When bonds of hell encompassed me, and death had set its snare;

I raised my tear-filled eyes to God, who heard my plaintive prayer.”

Paraphrase of Psalm 18 ©1999 Michael Morgan, *The Psalter for Christian Worship*, Witherspoon Press

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 17:8-13

Pew Bible, OT pg. 71

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

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“One Faith, One Hope, One Lord”

Craig Courtney

~Chancel Choir

“One faith, one hope, one Lord, one church for which He died. One voice, one song we lift in praise to Him who was and is and shall be evermore. There is one body, one Spirit, as you were called to one hope. One Lord, baptism and faith, one God and Father of all, who is in you all. Though we be many people, diverse with various gifts, we are given to each other for the unity of faith, that we grow in the knowledge of the Son of God, in the fullness of Christ.”

©1989 The Sacred Music Press, this edition ©2009 Lorenz Publishing Co.

SERMON

“Strong: All Flourishing is Mutual”

Rev. Emma Nickel

III. RESPONDING TO THE WORD

STRONG, OPEN, READY CONVERSATION

Karen Kline and Jenn Muse

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“The Lord Is my Light”

Francis Allitsen

~Audrey Frieberg

“The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom, then, shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom then, shall I be afraid? Though an host of men were laid against me, yet shall not my heart be afraid; and though there rose up war against me, yet will I put my trust in Him. For, in the time of trouble, he shall hide me in His tabernacle, Yea, in the secret places of His dwelling shall He hide me, and set me up upon a rock of stone.”

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**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING and THE LORD’S PRAYER

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

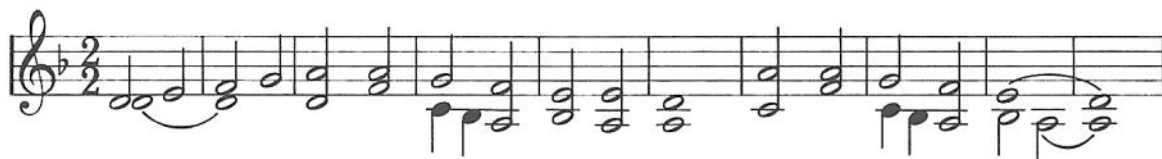
All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

One: Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth...Therefore, with joy and gladness we join with all the saints in singing thanks and 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: Blessed are you, God, redeemer of the world...Therefore, with joy and gladness we offer ourselves to you as we share this sacred meal:

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

One: Blessed are you, God, sustainer and source of all life...Then with joy and gladness we will glorify you together, one God, forever and ever, saying

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

You are invited to come forward to the servers at the front of the church to receive the bread and cup. Please open your hands and the server will place the bread into them. Eat the bread when you receive it. A gluten free bread option is available in the center of the plate; please let the server know and you're invited to take the GF bread from the plate yourself. 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: Faithful and loving God, we are redeemed in your love. We are sustained by your presence. Thank you for this meal we have shared. May this food continue to nourish our bodies and souls so that we may go with strength on the journey ahead. May it make our community strong in faith, strong in discipleship, and strong in friendship. Amen.

IV. FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN #595

“They’ll Know We Are Christians”

Text & Music: Peter Scholtes ©1966,1967 F.E.L. Publications, Assigned 1991 Lorenz Publishing Co

*BENEDICTION

(10:30)

POSTLUDE

“Toccata”

Georgi Mushel

©1966 Oxford University Press

**Indicates please stand as you are able.*

The Liturgist today is Krispen Carroll.

- 1 Parts of today's liturgy were adapted from those written by Baron Mullis for Presbyterian Outlook, ©Presbyterian Outlook, 2023, provided for free distribution and use.
- 2 Great Prayer from *Connections Worship Companion*, Ed. David Gambrell (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2022), 69-70

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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.

PROGRAM STAFF

Rev. Emma Nickel, Pastor, ext. 206, enickel@fpcro.org
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SOLOISTS

Bryan Clinthorne, *baritone*; Brady DeVecchio, *tenor*; Olivia Donnel, *soprano*; Audrey Frieberg, *soprano*

S.T.A.G.E. Schedule (*Somewhere To Ask God Everything*) **Youth Ministry for Grades 6-12**

February 5 — Everyone will meet together at Cana/Drayton from 4:30-6:30pm.

Pastor Emma and Melanie Barash will lead games, a time for faith discussion, and we'll have **dinner together at 5:45pm**. Come to reconnect and spend time together! We will split into groups for discussion for middle school and high schoolers. Bring \$3 for dinner if you can and invite a friend. **Surprise bags** will be available for friends who attend for the first-time and for the students who brings them!

February 11 — Sub Sandwich prep at FPCRO at 2pm. We'll be slicing meats and getting items ready to make the subs on Sunday. Two to four adult volunteers are also needed.

Contact SYC member Sally Gilreath (sgilreath@fpcro.org) for more info.

<https://tinyurl.com/mwzz7det>

February 12 — Sub Sandwich making at FPCRO beginning at 7:45am to build the sandwiches. We need all youth on deck! Two to four adult volunteers are also needed.

Contact SYC member Sally Gilreath for more info.

February 19 — Mid-Winter break - No Meetings

February 26 — Let's go bowling! Stay tuned for details!

Provide Dinner and/or Volunteer at a S.T.A.G.E. Meeting

Visit **<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4fafad2ca7fd0-stage>** to sign up!

Volunteer at a S.T.A.G.E. Meeting

Visit **<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4fafad2ca7fd0-stage1>** to sign up!

Online Giving: Giving online is a fast and easy way to give at FPCRO. Through our PayPal page you may give a one-time gift, or you may set up recurring gifts using a debit/credit card, or your PayPal account. Thank you!



Today's **CHANCEL FLOWERS** by Tere & Mark Ryan in loving memory of
Nancy R. Nalepa and Dale E. Ryan.

Listen to The Forging Faith podcast!

What happens when spirituality collides with life? In FPCRO's new podcast, Pastor Emma talks with folks who have experienced a variety of challenges—from cancer to divorce to adoption—and hears how their faith has been stretched and shaped by these experiences. Check it out here: <https://www.fpcro.org/podcast>. Episode 5, featuring Kevin Schmieders and a conversation about business leadership, is available now. Listen at the church website or search "Forging Faith" on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, or other podcast platforms.

Sub Sandwiches Fundraiser—Orders due today!

S.T.A.G.E. youth will be making delicious, fresh sub sandwiches for pick up on Super Bowl Sunday, **February 12**. Subs are \$10 for a 8-inch Italian (ham & salami) or turkey, and \$12 for a 8-inch 3-meat (ham, salami, turkey). Add a bag of chips to your order for just \$1. **Today, February 5, is the last day to pre-order** online or with the paper form. Pay by check (payable to "S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry") or PayPal (stageyouth@gmail.com). Orders will be available for pick up after the 10:30 am worship on **Sunday, February 12**. Funds from the Sub Sale will help support S.T.A.G.E. summer mission trips. Thank you for your support!

Souper Bowl of Caring

On Sunday, **February 12** we are participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring. You are invited to bring a non-perishable item for our Little Free Pantry. Cans with pull-tabs are very useful. Fruit cups and cereal bars are also great to include. (Please, no glass containers) Since its installment, and especially during the pandemic, the Little Free Pantry at FPCRO has been a truly helpful source for people in our neighborhood. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, you may do so by labeling it "Souper Bowl of Caring" or "Free Pantry."

February Intergenerational Mission Project

On **Sunday, February 26** we will put together bags for **Snack Pax**—a program of Song & Spirit Center in Royal Oak, which provides snacks to area children at or below the poverty level. Every Monday, Song & Spirit delivers 400 bags to City Covenant Church and Crescent Academy in Detroit, as well as two Head Start Programs in Detroit. Participate ahead of time by decorating lunch bags which you may pick up at church. Decorated bags may be returned to church by Sunday, February 26. Then, come to the packing event February 26 in Kirkman Fellowship Hall following the 10:30 am service. Please join us!

Flower Dedications

Flower dedications are a lovely way to remember or honor special people and events in your life, plus they add beauty to our worship services. Dedications are \$45. To make yours, enter your info on the chart across from the Reception Office, fill out a dedication card, and return it and a check to the flower dedication basket at the reception desk. Questions? Please contact Chris Klein at 248-990-8586. Your support is greatly appreciated!