

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ROYAL OAK

FEBRUARY 25, 2024 | 9 & 10:30AM

Second Sunday in Lent



fpcro

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



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

9:00

“Prelude in d minor”

G.F. Handel

10:30

“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley”

arr. Dale Wood

©2000 The Sacred Music Press

Welcome & Announcements

♦Call to Worship

One: What is the greatest gift of life?

All: To know we are made in the image of God.

One: What does that require of us?

All: To love our neighbor as our self.

One: Where does that take us?

All: To a place where we know that all are equally beloved in God’s sight.

One: Come then to worship in that place, where we find the fullness of life and learn to share its fullness with others.

♦Hymn #248

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

Text & Music: Kathleen Thomerson ©1970 Celebration (Admin. The Copyright Co.)

Call to Confession and Kyrie Eleison

One: Being honest with God and receiving God’s mercy frees us to follow on the path of discipleship. And so we come to God with the truth of our lives. Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

All: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Prayer of Confession

All: Lord Jesus Christ, we expect that you will do what we want, whatever we ask. We want places of honor, a little respect, and a few accolades. Sometimes we want to be great and to be first. Sometimes, we just want to be sure we seen. But you, O Christ, are servant of all. Forgive our assumption that we need anyone else’s validation in order to be loved. You have already promised us we are beloved. Forgive us when self-importance becomes most important. Teach us to be humble. Teach us to be more like you.

[silence for individual prayer]

One: Trusting in your mercy, we pray,

All: Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

One: Take heart, get up; Jesus is calling to us! Through Christ, God forgives us our failings and continues to call us into a community of mutual love and forgiveness.

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: Let us celebrate the mercy of God by greeting each other with a sign of God's peace.
May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you.

(10:30am)

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

Prayer for Illumination

All: Startle us, O God, with your truth and open our hearts and our minds to your wondrous love. Speak your word to us. Silence in us any voice but your own and be with us now as we turn our attention, our minds, and our hearts, to you, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(10:30am)

Anthem

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

arr. Raymond Haan

~Chancel Choir

"I want Jesus to walk with me. All along my pilgrim journey, I want Jesus to walk with me. In my trials, Lord, walk with me. When my head is bowed in sorrow, I want Jesus to walk with me. When I am dying, Lord, walk with me. When I am on my bed of sorrow, O Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me."

©1987 MorningStar Music Publishers

Scripture Reading

Mark 10:32-52

Pew Bible, NT pg. 47

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“What do you want Jesus to do for you?”

Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi



THANKSGIVING

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

“The Blind Man Stood on the Road and Cried” *Spiritual arr. Harry Burleigh*

~Olivia Donnel

“O the blind man stood on the road and cried, crying, O my Lord, save me. O the blind man stood on the road and cried, crying that he might receive his sight, crying, O my Lord, save me. The blind stood by the road and cried, crying what kind of shoes are those you wear, crying, O my Lord, save me. The blind man stood on the road and cried, crying these shoes I wear are the Gospel shoes, crying, O my Lord, save me.”

©1928 (Renewed) Belwin Mills, CPP/Belwin, Inc. (admin. Warner Bros. Publications)

◇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

◇ Hymn #391

“Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”

Text & Music: Richard Gillard ©1977 Scripture in Song (a div. of Integrity Music)

◇ Benediction

(10:30am)

Postlude

“Prelude in c minor”

J.S. Bach
Public Domain

LITURGIST

Anne-Marie DeVantier

FPCRO STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Emma Nickel

Parish Associate: Rev. Neeta Nichols

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

Nursery Care Worker: Julia Carroll

SOLOISTS

Bryan Clinthome, *baritone*

Brady DeVecchio, *tenor*

Olivia Donnel, *soprano*

Audrey Frieberg, *soprano*

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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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God in celebration of the 8th anniversary of Naomi's baptism by Emma and Matt Nickel.

We welcome the Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi to the pulpit today! Marjorie has served the Detroit Presbytery as Associate Pastor at Orchard Lake Community Church, Presbyterian, as Senior Pastor and Head of Staff at Northbrook Presbyterian Church in Beverly Hills, and as Parish Associate at Kirk in the Hills. She is certified by the Shalem Institute in Contemplative Leadership and a recent graduate of Living School for Action and Contemplation. Marjorie is drawn into contemplative practices as they help us live more fully into our faith and is passionate about inviting others to join in the adventure of exploring the meaning and implications of our lived Christian faith.

Snack Pax Bags

After the 10:30am worship service **today**, join us to pack 400 more snack bags for children in the area who might not be getting enough to eat at home. This is a great intergenerational event for all abilities.

A Women's Group is Forming at FPCRO

If you're looking to meet more church members and make connections and friendships, we hope you'll participate! The group will meet for coffee and social time, with a short focus on a scripture or a theme for discussion. In order to nail down the best meeting time, please fill out the online poll: <http://tinyurl.com/3b5dspkn> or at the reception desk to denote the dates/times you are able to attend. Please respond by **February 29**. Meeting location is TBD. Questions? Speak to Amanda Curry.

S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry

Middle and high schoolers and friends are invited to our collaborative S.T.A.G.E. (Somewhere To Ask God Everything) youth ministry. Meetings, on select Sundays, are from 4:30-6:30pm, unless otherwise specified. Questions? Contact Director, Jessica Gibbs, at stageyouth@gmail.com. Scan the QR code for more info.

Sunday, February 25: Winter Social Event 12pm, Escape Room Zone, 31401 John R Rd., Madison Heights, MI 48071

Sunday, March 10: Regular Meeting at Cana Lutheran Church

Sunday, March 17: Regular Meeting at FPCRO

Sunday, April 7: Regular Meeting at First Pres. Birmingham

Sunday, April 14: Service Project TBD

Sunday, April 21: Regular Meeting at Cana Lutheran Church



SCAN ME

ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONTINUED

Lent in Plain Sight Discussion Group

Join Pastor Emma in reading *Lent in Plain Sight: A Devotion Through Ten Objects* by Jill Duffield. Read one devotion per day and gather at the church for discussion of each week's readings on **Wednesdays from 1-2pm, through March 27**. God is often at work through ordinary people and objects. These devotions highlight ordinary objects Jesus would have encountered on his way to Jerusalem. Read Week 3 entries on the Cross for the meeting on February 21.

Adventure in Worship

Plan to join us for our Adventure in Worship event on **Saturday, March 2 from 3pm-5pm**. Children of all ages are invited to attend with their grown-ups! There will be opportunities to learn about worship including baptism, communion, and organ music. Child care will be available for families with infants and toddlers.

Easter Flower Dedications

It's time to "think spring" with a flower dedication (choice of lily, daffodil and hydrangea) for the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, March 31. Please fill out an order form at the reception desk and turn it in with a check payable to FPCRO by **March 3**. Questions? Contact Chris Klein at 248-990-8586 or CKlein8000@live.com.

Men's Fellowship Group

The Men's Fellowship Group will gather **Monday, March 11 at 7:30pm** at Bagger Dave's (2972 Coolidge Hwy) in Berkley. Topics of discussion at February's gathering included: book reviews, Super Bowl (game & commercials), Lions, Hitchcock movies, streaming services, Red Wings, neurology, shark movies, genealogy, travel, and tech issues. If you feel you missed out on these stimulating topics, or have one of your own for the group, please feel free to join us for a return visit or your first time! Contact Derek Helenberger or Matthew Nickel for more information.

Forgotten Harvest Volunteer Opportunity

FPCRO has reserved spots to volunteer in the Oak Park Forgotten Harvest warehouse on **Saturday, March 16 from 9am-12pm**. Volunteers must be at least 10 years of age. Please sign up on the link provided: <http://tinyurl.com/26nf8h45> We will then provide you with more information about signing up on the Forgotten Harvest website. Please contact Edie Watson or the church for more information.

Household Items Collection for Lighthouse

Help provide move-in baskets full of household items for Lighthouse clients exiting their shelter and moving into their first apartments. Take a tag off the board in the Christian Education lobby with items you want to donate. Items are due back by **March 24**.
