

The Service for the Lord's Day



March 27, 2022

Fourth Sunday in Lent

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 Prayground 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

“When in the Hour of Utmost Need”

J.S. Bach
Public Domain

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

One: Each week of this Lenten season, we are focusing on ways that we can practice a counter-cultural theology. One that emphasizes the beauty and grace of life-right-now rather than waiting for some vision of a perfected existence. And so let us continue to turn ladder-climbing efforts into moments spent tending the gardens of our lives, whose dirt, fruits, and blossoms are indeed good enough.



9 When we are weak, — when we are wear-y, when we are bro-ken, God's grace is e - nough.

17 When there are sha-dows, when there is day-light, when there are fears, —Christ's love is e - nough.

When we are thri-ving, when we are stri-ving, when we are seek-ing, God's spi-rit is e - nough.

RESPONSE

“Enough”

Text: Emma Nickel, 2022; Music: Joseph Jackson, 2022

PRAYER OF THE DAY

based on Psalm 32

All: Holy One, God of Forgiveness, we call out to you and you surround us with deliverance. You love us infinitely more than we love ourselves or others. Open us this day to your counsel, helping us be more merciful, more grace-filled, so that we might rejoice in simple and good enough moments that fill our days. Amen.

*HYMN #29

“God of the Sparrow”

Text: Jaroslav Vajda (1919-) ©1983 Jaroslav Vajda; Music: Carl Schalk (1929-) ©1983 GIA Publications

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

During announcements, please record your attendance in the pew-rack Friendship pad, and pass it to others seated in your pew. Visitors are invited to share contact info so we may offer a more personal welcome.

CALL TO CONFESSION and KYRIE ELEISON

One: We are surprised when extravagant failure is met with love and grace. But that is what we can expect with our merciful God, to whom we entrust our lives. Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: *Christ, have mercy upon us.*

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: **God of deepest love, sometimes we are so self-assured, but later on, we realize how foolishly we acted. Other times, our hearts are hardened against the generosity of your grace. Always, you welcome us home, no matter what we have done or not done. Soften our hearts to notice your tenderness at all times. Forgive our foolishness of thinking too highly of ourselves. Forgive our foolishness of thinking too little of your love.**

[silence for individual prayer]

One: Through Christ, we pray,

All: **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! With God, we rejoice that each day is a new beginning! We can enjoy, and not dread, the life before us.

All: **In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.**

*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: As forgiven people, let's share signs of reconciliation. May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Share a no-contact sign of peace and reconciliation with your neighbors, such as a hand over your heart. Those at home are invited to text a message of peace to a friend or type a greeting of peace in the comments of the platform on which you are watching worship.

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

WORDS OF SCRIPTURE AND PRESENTATION

QUESTIONS TO THE PARENTS AND CONGREGATION

*PROFESSION OF FAITH

One: Friends, trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

All: I do.

One: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?

All: I do.

One: Will you be Christ's faithful disciples, obeying his Word and showing his love? If you so promise, please say, 'I will with God's help.'

All: I will, with God's help.

*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.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

BAPTISM OF SOPHIE MARIE DERINGTON

PRAYER OF BLESSING

WELCOME

One: Sophie has been received into the universal church and into God's family through baptism. By the power of the Holy Spirit, she has become a member of the household of faith, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ. Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into the body of Christ!

CHORAL RESPONSE “Child of Blessing, Child of Promise”

Text: ©Ronald Cole-Turner, 1981; Music: Christian Witt

During the song, the elder will light the baptismal candle on the table signifying the light of Christ in the child's life. The family will take the candle home and light it each year on Sophie's baptismal anniversary.

II. PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION²

All: Gracious God, we are always asking what is enough. Open us to your word and help us to encounter in it: enough love, enough gratitude, enough challenge to sustain us in faith. This we pray by the power of your Spirit. Amen.

PSALM

“Psalm 32”

Sung to the Hymn-tune *Munich*, #670 “O Word of God Incarnate”

***“The Lord with absolution will greet the penitent,
And send the dawn of mercy before the night is spent.
God to the meek and lowly a hiding place shall be;
In danger, their salvation; from sin, their liberty.”***

Paraphrase of Psalm 32 © 1999 Michael Morgan; Psalter for Christian Worship; Witherspoon Press

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Pew Bible, NT pg. 80

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

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“The Road Home” *Southern Harmony*

adapt. Stephen Paulus

~Chancel Choir

“Tell me where is the road I can call my own, that I left, so long ago? All these years I have wandered, oh when will I know there's a way, there's a road that will lead me home? After wind, after rain, when the dark is done, as I wake from a dream in the gold of day, through the air there's a calling from far away, there's a voice I can hear that will lead me home. Rise up, follow me, come away is the call, with love in your heart as the only song; there is no such beauty as where you belong, rise up, follow me, I will lead you home.”

© 2005 Stephen Paulus

SERMON

“The Cost of Loving”

Rev. Emma Nickel

III. RESPONDING TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Redeeming Grace”

Folk Tune adapt. K. Lee Scott

~Noah Rogers

“Come all who love my Lord and Master and like old David, I will tell, though chief of sinners, I’ve found favor, redeemed by grace from death and hell. Far as the east from west is parted, so far my sins, by his dying love, from me by faith are separated, blest antepast of joys above. I late estranged from Jesus wandered and thought each dangerous poison good; but he in mercy long pursued me with cries of his redeeming blood. Though like Bartimaeus I was blinded in nature’s darkest night concealed. But Jesus’ love removed my blindness, and he his pardoning grace revealed. Now I will serve him while he spares me, and with his people sing aloud; though hell oppose and sinners mock me, in rapturous songs I’ll praise my God. By faith I view the heavenly concert, they sing their strains of Jesus’ love; I fain would be with Christ above. Oh with desire my soul is longing, and fain would be with Christ above.”

©1989 Augsburg Fortress

*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

PRAYER 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.

IV. FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN (page over →)

“A Woman and a Coin”

Text: Jaroslav Vajda, 1990 ©1990 Concordia publishing house; Music: Fred Graham, 1995 ©Fred Graham

*BLESSING FOR THE SEASON

Inspired by a blessing in *Good Enough: 40ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfection* by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie (New York: Convergent, 2022).

POSTLUDE:

“We Sit Down in Tears” (St. Matthew Passion)

J.S. Bach/Robert Gower

© 2013 Oxford University Press

**Indicates please stand as you are able.*

1 Portions of today’s liturgy are adapted and drawn from worship resources from Marcia McFee and the Worship Design Studio, 2022.

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A Woman and a Coin



1 A wom - an and a coin: the coin is lost!
 2 A shep - herd and a sheep: the sheep is lost!
 3 A par - ent and a child: the child is lost!
 4 Dear God, you sought us when the world was lost;



How much it means to her, what time and toil,
 Far from the flock, the one in hun - dred cries,
 The par - ent feeds on mem - o - ries and hope,
 you gave your on - ly son at what a cost;



what part it was to play in her bright dreams!
 then, risk - ing life, the shep - herd's voice and staff!
 the prod - i - gal on husks and one last chance.
 your Spir - it wel - comes home the tem - pest - tossed:



Am I that trea - sured coin worth search - ing for?
 Am I that trea - sured sheep worth dy - ing for?
 Am I that trea - sured child worth wait - ing for?
 now we can be all you were dream - ing of.



I'm found, and you re - joice! What love! What love!
 I live, and you re - joice! What love! What love!
 I'm home, and you re - joice! What love! What love!
 We're safe, and you re - joice! What love! What love!

The **CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given by Linda & Ken Noble in honor of our church family and of spring awakening.

Pastor Emma will be away on vacation this week. For any pastoral concerns that arise, a pastor is on call. Please contact the church office if you need assistance.

Starting **April 1**, FPCRO is lifting our Covid precautions, even as we continue to monitor the situation. When you come to the building, masks will now be welcome, but not required.

S.T.A.G.E. Fundraisers

Order pickup is **today, Sunday, March 27**, at **Greenfield Presbyterian Church** (2312 Greenfield Rd., Berkley) **between 12 noon and 2 pm** for the Take-Out Soup & Salad dinner.

Be sure to order your spring flowers in S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry's last fundraiser of the season. Order beautiful flowers to plant in your garden, as well as hanging baskets and tomato pots with cages. **Orders should be placed and paid for online (<https://tinyurl.com/2p87an35>) by April 19. Pick-up will be at Greenfield Presbyterian Church on May 21**, with more details to come. Thank you for your support!

Kirkman Scholarships

Applications are due to Joelle Jarrait **today, March 27**.

Lenten Reflection Services

This Lent, Joseph Jackson is again offering short vespers services to hear scripture and poetry, to offer up prayer, and sit in silent meditation. This year's services will be **online-only** and are now available on the church website. The remaining new service will be released on **April 7**.

Holy Week & Easter Services

- **April 10, Palm Sunday worship at 10:30 am**, followed by **coffee hour fellowship** hosted by the Deacons.
 - **April 14, Maundy Thursday worship at 7 pm** in the sanctuary.
 - **April 15, Good Friday worship at 7 pm** in the sanctuary.
 - **April 17, Easter worship: 9 am simple outdoor service** on the Hendrie lawn; bring a lawn chair and a flower for the cross!
10:30 am traditional service in the sanctuary with brass
-

Save the Date & Sign Up for a Hands-On Mission Event!

After worship on **Sunday, May 22**, FPCRO is hosting a **Rise Against Hunger** event in Kirkman Fellowship Hall. Together, we will package an extraordinary number of meals that will be sent around the world. Use this link to sign up so that a space is reserved for you!

<https://tinyurl.com/2p94mzd9>



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.