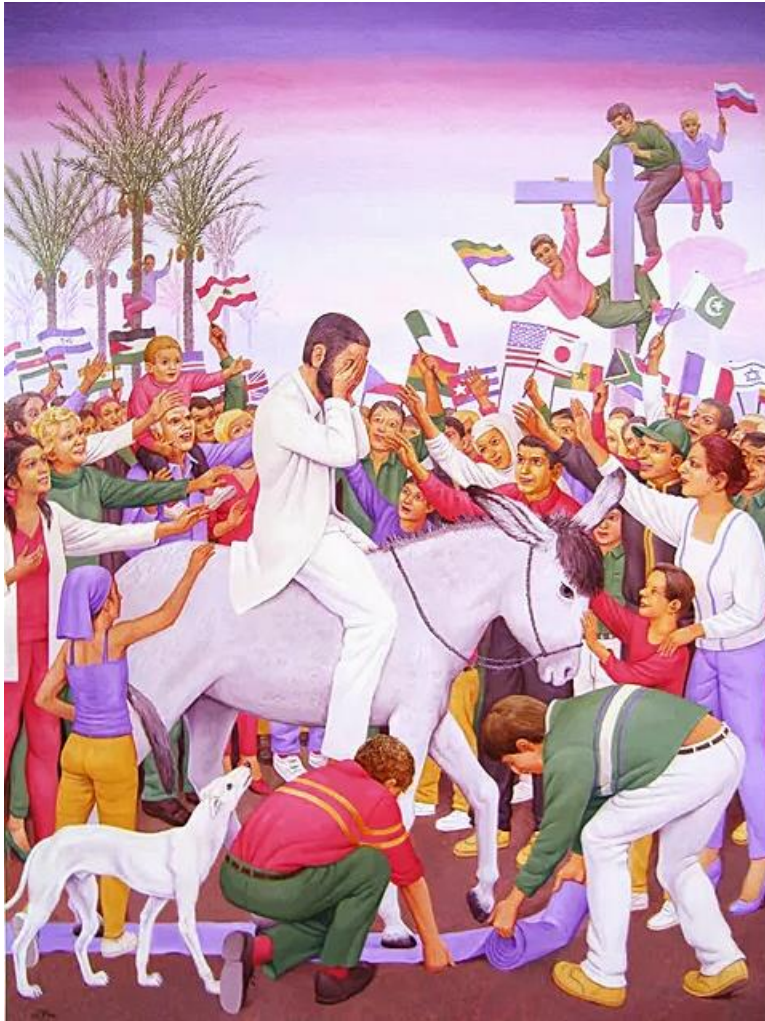


# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ROYAL OAK

**MARCH 24, 2024 | 9 & 10:30AM**

Palm Sunday



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](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

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

## Prelude

9:00

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

Georg Kaufmann

10:30

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

J.S. Bach

Public Domain

## Welcome & Announcements

(10:30)

### Introit

“Wave Your Branches”

Thomas Pavlechko

~Sunburst Singers

*“Wave your branches, wave them high, Jesus now is riding by. Wave your branches, shout and sing loud hosannas to your King. Wave your branches, wave them now with Jerusalem’s cheering crowd. Wave your branches, shout and sing loud hosannas to your King.”*

©2009 St. James Music Press

## Opening Scripture and Call to Worship<sup>1</sup>

From Mark 11

*“As Jesus approached Jerusalem... ‘Hosanna in the highest heaven!’”*

One: Behold, your king comes to you.

**All: He is just, he brings salvation, he brings peace.**

One: Hosanna in the highest!

**All: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!**

## ♦ Hymn #265

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

*You’re invited to wave your palm while we sing.*

Public Domain

## Call to Confession and Kyrie Eleison

One: We sing, we wave our branches, we shout ‘Hosanna.’ Then, we quickly go back to our old ways, our old lives, our old sins. But God is in the business of granting forgiveness and filling us with new life. Let us confess to the One who comes to fill us with grace. Lord, have mercy upon us.

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

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

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

**All: Patient God, we confess that we love a parade. We are very happy to see banners waving and hear people shouting praises. But we fail to see the sadness on the face of the Savior; our shouts block out his sorrow. He comes**

**to us as King, and we expect that royal treatment will follow. We cannot believe that in a few days we will be among those who will turn our backs and run from his presence. How fickle we are, O Lord. Yet you continually forgive us and call us to turn our lives around—to see the needs of others, to reach out in trust and faith, to be willing to witness to your good news of saving love. Heal our hearts and give us courage for the days ahead.**

*[silence for individual prayer]*

One: We ask this in Jesus name,

**All: Amen.**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

One: Christ has come to save and forgive us! Hosanna!

**All: We give our thanks to God, who brings us grace, hope, and life. Hosanna in the highest!**

### ◇ **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: Forgiveness leads to peace in our hearts and in our lives. May the peace of the Lord Jesus 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**

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### **Prayer for Illumination**

**All: Guide us, O God, by your Word and your Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

**(10:30am)**

### **Anthem**

“Lift Up Your Heads”

*Steve Fry/Lloyd Larson*

*~Chancel Choir*

*“Lift up your heads to the coming King. Bow down before him and adore him, sing! To his majesty, let your praises be pure and holy, giving glory to the King of kings. Hosanna, loud hosanna, the*

*little children sang; through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang; to Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.”*

©1974 and this arr. 2005 BMG Songs/Birdwing Music (admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing) Hope Publishing

## Scripture Reading

Mark 14:3-9

Pew Bible, NT pg. 52

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

“Act Boldly; Bless God”

Rev. Emma Nickel



# THANKSGIVING

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## Invitation to the Offering

## Offertory

“Psalm 31”

Lowell Prescott

~Olivia Donnel

*“Have pity on me, Lord, for I am in deep need; my eyes weaken with tears, and my body chills with grief. Have pity on me, Lord. My life has known sorrow, my years have seen despair; my body fades away, weak to its bones. My life has known sorrow. With enemies everywhere, I am reviled. Every face turns and flees from me. My enemies everywhere. I am like the dead; forgotten, thrown away like broken shards, without any use. Forgotten like the dead. But I have trust in you, O Lord. You are my God and my life is yours, my life is ever yours. Deliver me from my sorrows. Shine your face upon your servant. Save me in your boundless love. O save me in your boundless love.”*

©2006 Lowell Prescott, LHP Music.com

## ◇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

(9:00am)

## ◇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.**

(10:30am)

◇ **Holy Week Reading**<sup>s</sup>—“For the Love of Jesus”

Jenn Muse & Brady DelVecchio

## 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 #585**

“A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar”

Text: Brian Wren ©1993 Hope Publishing; Music: Walter Stanton ©1991 Oxford University Press

◇ **Benediction**

(10:30am)

**Postlude**

“Hail to Thee, My Jesus Lowly”

J.S. Bach  
Public Domain

Bulletin Cover Art Koenig, Peter. Palm Sunday, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58531>. Original source: Peter Winfried (Canisius) Koenig, <https://www.pwkoenig.co.uk/>.

- 1 By the Very Rev. David Lunan, Church of Scotland’s **Starters for Sunday**, <http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/>.
- 2 Adapted from Nancy Townley in the *Abingdon Worship Annual*, <http://www.cokesbury.com/forms/>
- 3 *Spill the Beans: Worship and Learning Resources for All Ages*, Issue 18, 2016

## LITURGIST

Megan Kortlandt

## FPCRO STAFF

*Pastor:* Rev. Emma Nickel

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

*Sunburst Singers Dir.:* Audrey Frieberg

*Facility Manager:* Alan Glasel

*Sunday/Evening Reception:* Todd Crawford

*Nursery Care Worker:* Julia Carroll

*Dir. of Christian Education:* Joelle Jarrait

*Chancel Choir Dir.:* Kent Wattleworth

*Church Admin.:* Kari Peruski

*Admin. Assistant:* Sally Gilreath

*S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry Director:* Jessica Gibbs

## SOLOISTS

Bryan Clinthome, *baritone*

Olivia Donnel, *soprano*

Brady DelVecchio, *tenor*

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

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## Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers are given by Linda Willemsen in memory of Jim Willemsen—Happy Heavenly Birthday from your loving family.

Join us for Coffee Hour in Kirkman Fellowship Hall following the 10:30am service. The Board of Deacons are hosting today.

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## 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](mailto:stageyouth@gmail.com). Scan the QR code for more info.



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

**Sunday, April 14: Service Project** Moving S.T.A.G.E. to FPCRO. Parents are asked to stay and assist for this meeting.

**Sunday, April 21: Regular Meeting** TBD

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## Lighthouse Household Items Due Today!

Thank you for sharing with our community helping to provide move-in baskets of household items for Lighthouse clients exiting the shelter and moving into their first apartments.

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## 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 Holy Week and Easter entries for the meeting on March 27.

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## Maundy Thursday Soup Supper

Join us for a Soup Supper at **6pm** before the Maundy Thursday Worship service on **March 28**. We'll have a simple meal of soup and crackers and conversation at the table. Then we'll head to **worship at 7pm**.

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## Holy Week and Easter Worship Services

Easter takes on the most meaning when we also enter the story of Jesus' arrest and crucifixion. Join us for worship throughout Holy Week and on Easter Sunday!

- **Maundy Thursday**, March 28: Soup Supper at 6pm, Worship at 7pm with Communion and readings of Jesus washing his disciples feet and praying in the garden.
  - **Good Friday**, March 29: Worship at 7pm with choir, scripture, reflections, and sermon. We'll explore *the things Jesus carried* as he went to the cross, including the crown of thorns, the sin of the world, and the amazing love of God.
  - **Easter Sunday**, March 31: Worship Services at **9am & 11am** in the sanctuary, with brass accompaniment, as we sing "Alleluia" and proclaim that Christ is risen, indeed!
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONTINUED

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### One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering

This is the season for One Great Hour of Sharing. Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. Anytime now, through Easter, you may make an offering through the FPCRO by indicating "OGHS" on your offering. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot—thanks for your heartfelt gifts!

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### Kirkman Scholarship Fund Applications Due March 31

Are you discerning higher education for yourself? Church members who are high school seniors or older are eligible to apply for a one-time scholarship through the Kirkman Scholarship Fund. This fund allows us to award scholarships to members who are seeking higher education. Most forms of higher education are eligible, and are not limited to colleges and universities. Naming the place of learning at the time of application is not required. Award checks will be mailed to the school later in the year. Applications are available on our church website at [www.fpcro.org](http://www.fpcro.org). If you would like more information, please contact Joelle Jarrait.

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### Men's Fellowship Group

The Men's Group will gather on **Monday, April 8 at 7:30pm** at Bagger Dave's (2972 Coolidge Hwy) in Berkley. Join us for a return visit or your first time! Questions? Contact Derek Helenberger or Matthew Nickel.

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### Women's Fellowship Group

The Women's Group will meet from **9:30-10:30am** on the following **Fridays: April 12, May 10, and June 7** at Coffee and Bark (2733 Coolidge Hwy) in Berkley. Questions? Contact Amanda Curry.

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### Flower Sale Fundraiser for S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry

The annual Flower Sale is back! Order beautiful flowers to plant in your garden, as well as hanging baskets, and tomato pots with cages. All fundraiser proceeds support the operation of the S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry. Orders are online only: <https://tinyurl.com/4pe4hb23> Place orders by **2pm, Sunday, April 21**. Order pick up is from **12pm-2pm on Saturday, May 18**, at **Greenfield Presbyterian Church**, 2312 Greenfield Road, Berkley.

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### Register Today! Scuba VBS is June 24-28, 9am-12pm

Children will receive a free gift when they register! <http://tinyurl.com/yc42r5m8> Children ages 4 years old through 5th grade welcome.



### Volunteer for SCUBA VBS!

Our 2024 VBS is June 24-28! This is a wonderful week of sharing God's word with our church children and the children of our community. We are looking for volunteers for a variety of areas. Not only do we need helpers during the event, but also helpers for planning and designing sets and props. Please visit our sign-up genius at <https://tinyurl.com/mr53bmr> to join in on the fun!

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