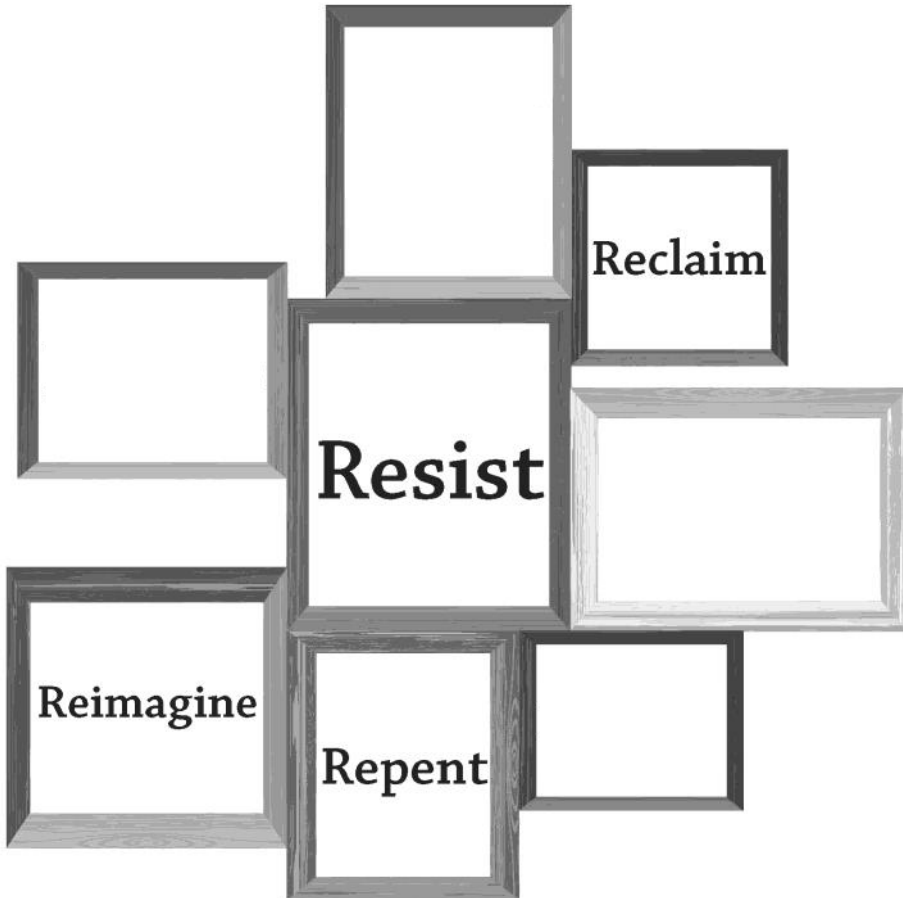


The Service for the Lord's Day

ReFraming Lent



March 12, 2023

Third Sunday of Lent

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 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

9:00

“What A Friend We Have in Jesus”

arr. Fred Bock

10:30

“Fountain Reverie”

Percy Fletcher

©H.W. Gray (Admin. Belwin Mills)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Our God makes streams flow from rock, sends the rain from heaven, and makes the wilderness blossom.

As a deer thirsts for flowing streams, so we thirst for God.

As we worship, we reimagine how God’s living water sustains and supports us.

RESPONSE

“Restore in Us, O God”

Hymn #381 vs. 1

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn "Restore in Us, O God". The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Above the staff, the following chords are indicated: G, Em, G/B, Am7/C, D, G, D/F#, C/E, G, Dsus, D7, G. Below the staff, the lyrics are: "I Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love;". The second staff continues the melody with quarter and eighth notes. Above the staff, the following chords are indicated: Em, Bm, C, G, G/B, Em, Am/C, B, G, Am, G/B, C, D, G. Below the staff, the lyrics are: "re - new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move."

Text: Carl Daw ©1989 Hope Publishing Co.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

All: Holy one, visit us with your presence, saturate us with your Spirit, and bathe us in your streams of living water, that our lives might acknowledge and worship you to the praise and honor of Jesus Christ. Amen.

***HYMN (see insert)**

“Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts”

Text: Latin, 12th c.; trans. Ray Palmer, 1858; Music: Henry Baker, 1854, Public Domain

CALL TO CONFESSION and KYRIE ELEISON

One: God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Trusting in God’s overflowing grace, let us confess our sin. Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

All: Lord, have mercy upon us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹

All: Lord, you know who we are. You know everything we have done and not done. We thirst for things that will never satisfy us. We commit ourselves to things that will not bring wholeness. We worship things that cannot offer salvation. Still, you offer us the gift of living water. You offer us the gift of a renewed life. Forgive us, O Lord, and give us your living water, so that we may never thirst again.

[silence for individual prayer]

One: For the sake of Christ, we pray,

All: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Christ gives us the living water that quenches the dryness of our souls. In this, we know that we are forgiven.

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: As forgiven people, let us share in the reconciliation God offers. 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: You are the great I Am. Your scriptures help us to imagine what you are like and how you love. Let the words we hear today show us a picture of you that refreshes us. As we hear your word, make us into channels of your love and vessels of your grace. Amen.

PSALM

“Psalm 95”

Sung to the Hymn-tune *Mit Freuden Zart*, #56 “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

**“Come, let us praise the Lord of lords, who brings us life and pleasure;
A Shepherd who attends the flock with care that none can measure.
Give us desire to hear Thy voice, the will to make Thy way our choice;
Thy love our fondest treasure.”**

Paraphrase of Psalm 95 ©1999 Michael Morgan, The Psalter for Christian Worship, Witherspoon Press

SCRIPTURE READING

John 4:5-42

Pew Bible, NT pg. 97

10:30: Beth DeGuise, Benny Rediers, Jacob Gonzales, directed by Brady DeVecchio

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

All: Thanks be to God.

(10:30)

ANTHEM

“If Ye Love Me”

Philip Stopford

~Chancel Choir

“If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Comforter; even the Spirit of truth.”

©2003 Ecclesium Publishing (Admin. Hal Leonard Corp.)

SERMON

“Reimagine: Relinquishing, So We Can Receive”

Rev. Emma Nickel

III. RESPONDING TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Come to the Waters”

Paul S. Jones

~Audrey Frieberg

“Come to the waters, whoever is thirsty, drink from the fountain that never runs dry. Jesus, the living one, offers you mercy, life more abundant in boundless supply. Come to the river that flows through the city, forth from the throne of the Father and Son. Jesus the savior says, ‘Come and drink deeply.’ Drink from the pure, inexhaustible One. Come to the fountain without any money; but what is given without any cost. Jesus, the gracious One, welcomes the weary; Jesus, the selfless One, died for the lost. Come

to the well of unmerited favor; stretch out your hand; fill your cup to the brim. Jesus is such a compassionate Savior. Draw from the grace that flows freely from him. Come to the Savior, the God of salvation. God has provided and end to sin's strife. Why will you suffer the law's condemnation? Take the free gift of the water of life."

©2009 Paul S. Jones (Paul Jones Music, Inc.)

***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**

***RESPONSIVE POEM PRAYER²**

Left: Jesus, I am coming to the well.

I didn't invite you to my home because
I'd be busy like Martha tidying up
thinking everything had to be just so
and I just want to be Mary,
taking in the fullness of your presence.

Right: *Unlike the Samaritan woman, I already know you are there
at the well waiting for me
hoping today will be the day I arrive.*

L: I'm glad you already know everything about my life
because I'm feeling like the woman
looking for the lost coin that is my life.

R: *The "I" of my life feels like it's been drowning,
lost in the ravaging flood waters
hurricane, tornado,
tsunami, if you will,
of life.*

L: Like the sky this morning my mind is full of clouds.
The first responder in me is tired, soul-weary from
being in the eye of the storm, the trauma center
day in and day out performing triage.

R: *I'm coming to the well with eager longing,
deep, yearning intensity,
so absolutely thirsty to be filled with your living water
to reach the depths again of who I am.*

L: I don't even want to recount what has happened in my life this year.
I just want to be with the One who already knows.
Who knows me through and through better than I know myself.

R: *And I know you ARE the well.
YOU are the Divine Well of compassion, extravagant love
and understanding that I desperately need.*

L: You are the healing water
overflowing, unlimited to shore up my weakness.
You are the calm I need in the storms of my life.
You are the patience, the courage to risk
the faithfulness, the wholeness, the gracious presence to others
I so deeply desire.

R: *Heal me.
Give us the grace to be your healing presence
healing the hatred, racism, hurt and grief, injustice,
violence in this world.*

**All: Give us the grace to heal your beloved planet Earth,
to restore the beauty of your creation.
May it be so.**

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

IV. FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN (see insert)**

"Fill My Cup"

Text and Music: Isaiah Jones Jr. ©1970 Davike Music Co, assigned 1986 Fricout Music Co.

***BENEDICTION**

(10:30)

POSTLUDE

"Fugue in b minor" BWV 544

J.S. Bach
Public Domain

**Indicates please stand as you are able.*

The Liturgist at 10:30 today is Suzanne Lewand.

- 1 Adapted from Renee C. Jackson, *Thirsting for Grace: Service Prayers for the Third Sunday of Lent*, <http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/>
- 2 Adapted from Sister Diana Butler, "Woman at the Well," September 29, 2020, Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, <https://spsmw.org/prayer/woman-at-the-well/>

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PROGRAM STAFF

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Todd Crawford, Evening Reception, ext. 200, tcrawford@fpcro.org
Alan Glasel, Facility Manager, ext. 201, aglasel@fpcro.org

SOLOISTS

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

Schedule for S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry for Grades 6-12

(Somewhere To Ask God Everything)

Sunday, March 12 — Meeting at Cana/Drayton from 4:30pm-6:30pm with dinner.

Sunday, March 19 — Escape Room activity at Cana/Drayton from 4:30-6:30pm with dinner.

Sunday, March 26 — No meetings; Happy Spring Break!

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!



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.

Today's **CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given by Kathie Brom in loving memory of her mother, Margaret Brom, on her birthday. Margaret entered the world on this day and also entered eternal life on this day 95 years later.

Easter Flower Dedications

Easter flower orders are due **today, March 12**. Submit your order on the gold form available in the narthex or at the reception desk.

Bible Study for Lent

This study, *Improving Baptism*, will look at scripture passages that reflect the challenges of being Jesus' disciple when we know that this journey of Lent leads to a cross. What practices, disciplines, engagements will aid us in the renewal of our baptism and guide us on our journey of following Jesus? This study will meet via **Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85271251871>, Meeting ID: 852 7125 1871)** at **7pm on Wednesdays March 15, 22, 29** and will be led by the **Rev. Neeta Nichols**.

Tom and Ruth Kirkman Scholarship Fund for Higher Education

Are you discerning higher education for yourself? Church members who are high school seniors and older are eligible to apply for a one-time scholarship through the Kirkman Scholarship Fund. This fund allows us to award members who are seeking higher education. Most forms of higher education are eligible for scholarships. They are not limited to colleges and universities. It is not necessary to name your place of learning at the time you apply. Award checks will be mailed to the school later in the year. Applications, due by **March 31**, are available on our church website at **www.fpcro.org**. For more info, contact Joelle Jarrait.

VBS 2023—Mark Your Calendars for a STELLAR VBS

Our 2023 STELLAR VBS is **June 26-30 from 9 am-12 noon**. Registration begins March 1! Be sure to mark your calendars for a week of finding Jesus' light!

Volunteer for STELLAR VBS!

Our 2023 VBS is June 26-30! 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/ycka7hwf>** to join in on the fun!

Communion Preparation

The Worship & Music Committee is seeking help in prepping communion for 9am or 10:30am worship services and/or cleanup after the 10:30 service on the first Sunday of each month. Join the team and work on a rotating basis. Questions? Please call the church office, or contact Worship & Music committee chair **Julie Matthews** at 248-647-3796. Thank you for participating in this important ministry!