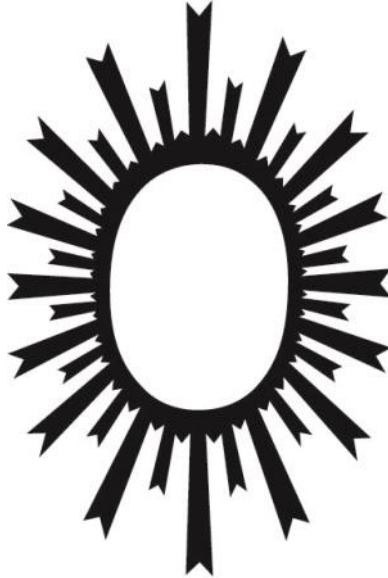


The Service for the Lord's Day



fpcro

November 27, 2022

First Sunday of Advent

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

“Savior of the Nations, Come”

J.S. Bach
Public Domain

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES¹

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

All: God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow, God of the beginning and the end times: as we begin this journey through Advent and start a new year in our Christian story, we remember that your time is different from our time. We must stay awake and pay attention because your peace is not our peace, and your ways are not our ways. We do not know the hour or the day when you are coming, but we know that we must be watchful for all the ways you will appear. Even as we remember this beginning, we know that you will be with us to the end. With hope, peace, joy, and love, we pray. Amen.

***HYMN #160**

“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

Text and Music: Marty Haugen (1950-) ©1983 GIA Publications

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH²

Ruth Goode and Family

One: We are a people who walk in shadows, and we search for the light...And so we offer this mysterious prayer:

All: Lord Jesus, quickly come.

ADVENT RESPONSE



We light one can-dle for Hope as we long for your co-ming, O Christ. Al-le - lu - ia!

Week 1: Hope
Week 2: Peace
Week 3: Joy
Week 4: Love

CALL TO CONFESSION and KYRIE ELEISON

One: When we go up to God's house, we become humble in heart and joyful in praise. God is ready to receive all our prayers. And so we can be honest before God and one another. Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

All: Lord, have mercy upon us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION⁸

All: Holy God, most of us are not very accustomed to weapons that wound with bullets or explosions. But we still use plenty of weapons that have sharp edges and the ability to harm. Forgive us for using the weapons of judgment and gossip, assumption and avoidance, cynicism and mistrust. Help us to see and understand the harm these can cause. Let us turn around the camera from self-centered selfies to see the face of Christ in others. Let us upturn the podium of competition to elevate the least among us. Let us dismantle the walls of our fear and use those same bricks to build shelter for vulnerable people in our midst.

[silence for individual prayer]

One: In Christ's name we pray,

All: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hope has come into our lives by the grace of Christ.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven. 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: We already abide in Christ's peace as we also await the fullness of Christ's reign. As we anticipate God's incarnation, may the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Share a sign of peace and reconciliation with your neighbors, such as a hand over your heart.

(10:30)

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

II. PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Holy God, we rejoice that we can come into your house today to hear a word from you and to worship with those who love you, too. Speak to our hearts, as you have spoken to your people for generations. Transform us for service. Remind us whose we are. This we pray with Advent anticipation. Amen.

PSALM

“Psalm 22”

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

***“Jerusalem, the city, where tribes are joined as one,
Where God’s elect find justice, where righteousness is done;
And I, a child of David and heir to God’s decree,
Shall take the place in glory that God prepares for me.”***

Paraphrase of Psalm 122 ©1999 Michael Morgan, The Psalter for Christian Worship, Witherspoon Press

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

Pew Bible, OT pg. 700

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

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“A Canticle of Peace”

Joseph W. Clokey

~Chancel Choir

“And it shall come to pass in the later day that the Lord’s house shall be established in the top of the mountain, and many shall go and say: Come ye and let us go into the house of the Lord. And he will teach us his way, and we will walk in his paths. And he shall judge between the nations, and shall reprove many nations. And they shall beat their swords into plowshares. Nation shall not lift sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. Come ye, let us walk in the light of the Lord, come.”

©1945 Sumy-Birchard Co.

SERMON

“The Long View of Advent”

Rev. Emma Nickel

III. RESPONDING TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Come Thou, Dear Redeemer”

Cesár Franck

~Bryan Clinthorne

“Come Thou, dear Redeemer. Come, Lord Jesus, to set us free. From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee. Hope of all the earth Thou art, joy of every longing heart. Come Thou, dear Redeemer, born a child, yet Thou art a King, born to reign in us forever. Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring. Rule in all our hearts alone, raise us to Thy glorious throne. Amen.”

©1957 Lawson-Gould Music Publishers 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

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

*This week, how can you reach out to someone to let them know they are not alone?
How will you remember that God is with you?*

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER¹

God of hope, we come to you as our waiting time begins—this ‘already but not yet’ time. We look forward just a few weeks and prepare to celebrate your coming years ago. We remember to prepare for your coming reign.

We pray in hope.

God of peace, as part of the preparation for your coming, may we begin to beat our swords into plowshares. May we dismantle our weapons of mass destruction, and rid ourselves of our stockpiles of fear. May we sow seeds of connection rather than discontent. May we teach peace to the nations who continue to study war, including our own.

We pray for peace.

God of joy, lead us in the joyful work of making peace. May we seek ways to feed those who hunger, to bind up those who are wounded, to get treatment for all who are addicted, to find housing for all who need it, and provide protection for any who are not safe. May our joy be rooted in your promises to care for the stranger, to release the captive, to bring good news to the poor, and to let the oppressed go free.

We pray for joy.

God of love, a joy so deep and wide will surely expand our hearts. So today as we pray for those we love already—family, friends, neighbors, colleagues—we pray also for those who are harder for us to love—like family, friends, neighbors, colleagues. Love isn’t easy, so we ask for your strength and guidance.

We pray to love well

As we journey toward Bethlehem to meet you at the manger once again, may we not forget to look for you all around and at all times - wherever we encounter your hope, peace, joy, and love. In Jesus' name we pray, using the words he taught:

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)**

“We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom”

Text: Kathleen Moore, 2010 ©2010 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Co.)

Music: Hal Hopson, 1983 ©Hope Publishing Co.

***BENEDICTION**

(10:30)

POSTLUDE

“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

Mark Sedio

©1996 Augsburg Fortress

**Indicates please stand as you are able.*

Liturgist, Sally Gilreath

- 1 Opening Sentences, Prayer of the Day, Invitation to the Offering, Invitation to Discipleship and Prayers of the People from *Connections Worship Companion*, Ed. David Gambrell (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2022), 18-21.
- 2 Advent Wreath liturgy adapted from Discipleship Ministries, ©2016, The United Methodist Church, PO Box 340003, Nashville TN 37203. Telephone (877) 899-2780, ext 7073. Used by permission. <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/advent-wreath-meditations-year-a-the-book-of-isaiah>
- 3 Prayer of Confession written by Emma Nickel with inspiration from a poem-prayer based on Isaiah 2 by Angela Bryan, Sam Hargreaves at engageworship.org.

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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 Clinthome, *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**

- **Saturday, December 3–Berkley Christmas Parade** in partnership with Greenfield Presbyterian Church. Meet at Greenfield at 4-4:30 pm.
- **December 11–Meeting to Plan Youth Sunday** at Greenfield Presbyterian Church. **All grades will meet together from 4:30 pm-6:30 pm, with dinner at 6 pm.**
- **December 18–White Elephant gift exchange** and prepare luminaria for Christmas at Cana Lutheran/Drayton Church. **All grades meet together from 4:30 pm-7 pm, with dinner at 6:30 pm.** Luminaria are an annual fundraiser to support the S.T.A.G.E. program throughout the year.



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 Norm Dell in thanksgiving for Janet Dell's successful kidney transplant, and for Joseph Dell's birthday and being free from bone cancer.

Poinsettias to Honor Loved Ones

It's time to order poinsettias to honor and remember loved ones. The flowers will adorn the sanctuary on Christmas Eve. Each plant is \$14 and **orders are due by December 4**. Order with the insert in your worship bulletin, or fill out the form online and print it before turning in at church. Or pick up a paper form at the reception desk. Payment by cash or check payable to FPCRO.

Salvation Army Angel Tree Program

As the busy holiday season arrives, we are grateful for our blessings and are aware of the great need in our community for those families who are struggling. The Salvation Army has asked for our help to make Christmas brighter for children in our area who might not receive gifts. This year, the Salvation Army invites us to purchase new, unwrapped toys for different age groups which will be displayed on the tag. Tags will be available in the church lobby, or there will be a QR code to scan and have your gift sent directly to the Salvation Army. **Bring UNWRAPPED gifts to the church by Thursday, December 8.**

Luminaria for Christmas Eve

S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry is offering luminaria to honor and remember loved ones this season, at the suggested cost of \$5 each. The luminaria will be personalized with your loved one's name, lit and displayed outside our church on Christmas Eve. **Please submit orders by December 11.** Order forms are available at the CE reception desk or you may download an order form online. Pay for orders online with PayPal to stageyouth@gmail.com or by check, made out and mailed to S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry, 2119 Catalpa Dr., Berkley, MI 48072

Coffee Hour Fellowship—Cookies & Cocoa at Church!

Bring a plate of your favorite Christmas cookies to church on **Sunday, December 11**. We'll share with each other after the 10:30 am worship service as we enjoy a warm cup of cocoa. Drop off your goodies in the CE Lobby when you arrive and our Deacons will have everything set up to enjoy following worship.

Christmas Caroling

On **Sunday, December 11 at 12 pm** please join in with other church members as we go caroling. We will visit members' homes to sing Christmas carols—they all sound beautiful whoever sings them!—and bring smiles to faces. We will drive between homes, but please dress for the weather as this is an outdoor activity.

The Mitten Tree

Please think about what you will hang on the Mitten Tree we use to gather warm things for those less fortunate than ourselves—gloves, mittens, hats, scarves, socks, etc. Our gifts will go to adults at the Welcome Inn, Second Mile Center, on the streets of Detroit, as well as children at Second Mile Center and local schools in Royal Oak. The need is great! Thank you in advance. Questions? Contact Julie Matthews at 248-647-3796.