

**The Service for the Lord's Day
with the Sacrament of Holy Communion**



May 7, 2023

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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.

Today the *Almost Sacraments* worship series continues. The series explores everyday ways we experience signs of God's grace in our lives. Through exercise, food, service, friendship, and music, God's grace and love are powerfully present to us, much as they are in the sacraments of baptism and communion. In these "almost sacraments," we can encounter the presence of God in experiential ways in which Jesus also took part.

I. GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

9:00

"Come Share the Lord"

Leech arr. Bock

10:30

"Prelude on the tune *St. Peter*"

Harold Darke

©1919 & 1947 Novello & Co., Ltd

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP¹**

One: God, you call us to leave all things,

All: You who had nothing.

One: You call us to be servants,

All: You who came to serve.

One: You call us to share the load,

All: You who carried our sin.

One: You call us to speak your word,

All: You who lived it daily.

One: You call us to be followers,

All: And in your strength, we will.

***HYMN #566**

"Your Servant Comes This Hour"

Text: Constance Cherry ©1999 Hope Publishing Co.

CALL TO CONFESSION and KYRIE ELEISON

One: Though we are called to do the works of Jesus, we often fall short. But whoever trusts in Christ will find mercy. Confident in this promise, let us confess before God and one another. Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

All: Lord, have mercy upon us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Caring God, too often we miss opportunities to serve. Sometimes we simply choose to ignore them. Forgive us for not being ready and for being too busy to help. Life-giving Spirit, by your mercy, infuse in us the ability to remain present to your people. Help us to be there, *to be right there*, for the people who need us. There for young people, there for the elderly, there for the brokenhearted. Fire our hearts with your life-changing presence. Even though we know you to be everywhere and in everything, give us the ability to be fully in one place at a time, open and ready to love.

[silence for individual prayer]

One: Through Christ our Lord, we pray,

All: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: In the resurrection of Jesus Christ, God has given us a new birth into a living hope.
Rejoice in the good news:

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*JOYFUL RESPONSE

“Alleluia No. 1”

**“Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord,
Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to his name!”**

Text & Music: ©1973 The Word of God Music (Admin. The Copyright Co.)

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: As forgiven people, we get to celebrate and share in the peace of Christ. 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: God, our ears are dull and we struggle to hear you. Our eyes are dim and we cannot always see your presence. So quicken our hearing and clear our sight, by the power of your Spirit, that our hearts can be open to your message today. Amen.

PSALM

“Psalm 31”

Sung to the Hymn-tune *Hamburg*, #261 “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

“Be Thou my rock, my sure defense,

***My fortress which no force can break;
Remain my guide, and lead me forth
To praise Thee for Thy mercy's sake.***

Paraphrase of Psalm 31 ©1999 Michael Morgan, The Psalter for Christian Worship, Witherspoon Press

SCRIPTURE READING

John 14:1-14

Pew Bible, NT pg. 112

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

All: Thanks be to God.

(10:30)

ANTHEM

“Give Thanks, O Christian People”

Michael Burkhardt

~Chancel Choir

“Give thanks, O Christian people, for workers of our day who heed the call to services and make it their life’s way to go to feed the hungry, to tend to those in need, to work for equal justice, till all God’s folk are freed. Give thanks, O Christian people, for leaders of our years who live to share with others our joy when Christ appears, to teach the one’s who seek light, to guide the faltering feet, to lead the followers forward our living Lord to meet. Give thanks, O Christian people, for all who love the Lord, who live each day believing in God’s eternal word: to share Christ’s love in living, to witness with each deed, to use the talents given to plant the gospel seed. Give thanks, O Christian people, for life in fellowship with all who trust our Savior their serving to equip: to ease another’s burdens, to cope in joy and stress, to magnify God’s message and Christ’s great love confess.”

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SERMON

“Serving with Christ”

Rev. Emma Nickel

III. RESPONDING TO THE WORD

(10:30)

ALMOST SACRAMENTS REFLECTION

Laurie Gerald

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

9:00

“The Longer I Serve Him”

Gaither arr. Bock

10:30

“Meditation on Alleluia No. 1”

Aaron David Miller

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***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**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING and THE LORD'S PRAYER²

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

One: God, who so loves the world...With hearts full of praise, we join our voices:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,



heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na



in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the



name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

One: Jesus, who revealed God to the world...Great is the mystery of our faith:

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

One: Spirit, who is the enduring presence of God...With the boldness of people who proclaim the resurrection, we join our voices saying:

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Everyone is welcome to receive communion! You are welcome at God's table here regardless of your denomination or affiliation.

9:00 – The bread and cup will be served to you in the pews. A gluten free bread option is available. Please hold each element until all are served. The pastor will invite the whole congregation to eat and drink together.

10:30 – You are invited to come forward to the servers at the front of the church to receive the bread and cup. Please open your hands and the server will place the bread into them. Eat the bread when you receive it. A gluten free bread option is available in the center of the plate; please let the server know and you're invited to take the GF bread from the plate yourself. Take a cup and drink from it, then place the cup in the trashcan nearby. If you prefer to be served in the pew, please remain there and a server will come to you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION³

All: Faithful and loving God, we rest in the truth that you are always with us. You strengthen our relationship as we share in the Bread of Life. You show us your love as we share the Cup of Salvation. In grateful response, we accept the responsibility of being called your disciples as we seek to live out the good news in the world. Amen.

IV. FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN #571**

“Christ, You Call Us All to Service”

Text: Joy Patterson ©1994 Hope Publishing Co.

***BENEDICTION**

(10:30)
POSTLUDE

“Praeludium in C Major”

Georg Boehm
Public Domain

**Indicates please stand as you are able.*

- 1 From Faith and Worship, https://www.faithandworship.com/prayers_mission_service.htm#gsc.tab=0
- 2 Great Prayer by Michelle Henrichs, *Come to the Table: Communion Liturgies of Invitation*, (Life in the Labyrinth, LLC), 2020, 66-67.
- 3 Prayer after Communion by Michelle Henrichs, 77.

10:30am Liturgist: Roger Watson

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PROGRAM STAFF

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SOLOISTS

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

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

May 14: No meeting, Happy Mother's Day!

Saturday, May 20: Flower sale set-up at 8am & distribution at Greenfield Pres

May 21 & May 28: No meetings, rest up after the Flower Sale! Enjoy Memorial Day weekend

June 4: End of Year Picnic at Cana/Drayton at 4:30pm for families & students

July 9-15: High School Mission trip to Chicago

July 24-27: Middle School Mission Week in Metro Detroit



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 Harry Popko in loving memory of
Ilene Popko.

Today! Choral Scholars: Into the Future

Join us for a **Fundraising Concert today at 1pm**, showcasing our Chancel Choir Soloists and current Choral Scholars as a fundraiser for the Choral Scholar Program. The concert will be preceded by a **Celebration Brunch** for a suggested donation of \$12 (kids, \$6) and a **free-will offering** will be received at the Concert.

Little Red Riding Hood

Next **Saturday, May 13, at 10am**, FPCRO is hosting the Community Programs Ensemble from Detroit Opera, part of the education wing which performs in area schools and community centers, in a **free** performance of Little Red Riding Hood. This 40-minute Opera for Children of **all** ages tells the classic story, is full of humor, and teaches important lessons about keeping promises. The performance will be followed by a brief question and answer period by the cast. Plan to bring a child, grandchild, neighbor, or just yourself, and enjoy the show!

New Day & Time for Support Group

Beginning **Monday, May 15**, a small group will meet from 7pm-8:30pm once a week, for six to eight weeks, to support those struggling with depression or bipolar mood disorder. Each session will focus on education, support, and a time of prayer and reflection. Helpful resources will be made available as well. Pat Johnson, MA, CSD, BCC, is the facilitator. Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/56zs3454>. Questions? Email pjohnson71@gmail.com.

H.O.M.E. Project for May

The H.O.M.E. project for this spring is **Birthday in a Bag** as we anticipate the birthday of the church at Pentecost. Bags are due on **May 21**. Help to celebrate the birthday of the church by donating a bag for a child who will enjoy a Happy Birthday!

Mark Your Calendars for a STELLAR VBS • Volunteer for STELLAR VBS!

Our 2023 STELLAR VBS is **June 26-30 from 9 am-12 noon**. Registration is now open! Be sure to mark your calendars for a week of finding Jesus' light! We are looking for volunteers for a variety of areas. Please visit our sign-up genius at <https://tinyurl.com/ycka7hwf> to join in on the fun!

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!

