

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



**May 21, 2023**

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Seventh Sunday of Easter

**fpcro** 

First Presbyterian Church  
of Royal Oak

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Royal Oak, MI 48067

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[www.fpcro.org](http://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 5<sup>th</sup> grade during the 10:30am service, after the Time with Children.*

Today the *Almost Sacraments* worship series comes to a close. The series has explored 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**

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

*arr. Fred Bock*

**10:30**

"Prelude on *Rhosymedre*"

*Ralph Vaughan Williams*

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#### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>** — "Rekindle the Gift" by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

One: You have a treasure in you, a seed of glory planted from stars,  
a song written for only you to sing. You have gifts to give.

**All: The treasure is buried, and it may take some digging to recover.  
The song is forgotten, but still hidden in your bones.**

One: Nothing that happens to you can remove it, no fear or shame  
destroy it, no failure ruin it. It is who you are.

**All: Rekindle the gift. Listen for the quiet voice,  
the Spirit of Life singing in you.**

One: Listen... and sing.

Tune your life to its melody.

Let it sing in you, let it sing you into life.

**All: Rekindle the gift that is God within you.  
Give God this joy— for it is  
God who is singing.**

**\*HYMN #15**

"O, Sing to the Lord"

Text: translation © Gerhard Cartford; Music: Brazilian melody, arr. Jack Schrader ©2001 Hope Publishing Co.

#### **CALL TO CONFESSION and KYRIE ELEISON**

One: Though we try to live in harmony with God's ways, many times, our lives are more  
dissonant. We rely on the promise of God's grace to tune our discipleship to the ways of  
Christ. Lord, have mercy upon us.

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

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

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All:** Lord, you have called us to worship you. We gladly gather! As we praise you, though, our own inadequacy reminds us of how we have broken our relationship with you. Because we have sinned against you, even our worship fails to be what it could. We often treat it as a show. Or we simply go through motions, failing to recognize that you want to engage us deeply. Renew us, we pray, according to your steadfast love. Remind us of your covenant faithfulness and have mercy on us in the name of Jesus Christ.

*[silence for individual prayer]*

One: We pray in Jesus' name,

**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: Our hearts sing of Christ's love and peace. May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*(10:30)*

## **TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

### **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

#### **WORDS OF SCRIPTURE AND PRESENTATION**

#### **QUESTIONS TO THE BAPTIZANDS, PARENTS, AND CONGREGATION**

#### **\*PROFESSION OF FAITH**

#### **THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER**

#### **BAPTISM OF ELISE DANIELLE MOONEY, KAITLYN ELIZABETH MOONEY, AND EVAN THOMAS MOONEY**

#### **PRAYER OF BLESSING**

## WELCOME

One: Evan, Kaitlyn, and Elise have been received into the universal church and into God's family through baptism. By the power of the Holy Spirit, they have become members 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!**

## HYMN

"Jesus Loves Me!"

*Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.*

**Refrain:**

*Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

*Jesus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long ago,  
taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me."*

**[Refrain]**

*During the song, the baptismal candles on the table will be lit signifying the light of Christ in the children's lives. The family will take the candles home and light them each year on the children's baptismal anniversary.*

## II. PROCLAIMING THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**All: God, you are the one who makes music all around us. Illumine our hearts this day, that we may feel your glory and live into the hope to which you have called us. Amen.**

### PSALM

"Psalm 98"

*Hal H. Hopson*

*Please join in singing the Psalm refrain upon a cue from the cantor*



Sing a new song to the Lord, sing a new song



sing a new song, sing a new song to the Lord.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 47

Pew Bible, OT pg. 572

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**(10:30)**

## ANTHEM

“O Clap Your Hands”

Ralph Vaughan Williams

~Chancel Choir

*“O, clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph. For the Lord most high is terrible; He is a great King over all the earth. God is gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises unto our king, sing praises; for God is King of all the earth; sing ye praises everyone that hath understanding. God reigneth over the heathen; God sitteth upon the throne of His holiness. Sing praises unto our king, sing praises.”*

©1920 Stainer & Bell Ltd. (Galaxy music Corp.)

## SERMON

“The Music of Christ”

Rev. Emma Nickel

## III. RESPONDING TO THE WORD

## ALMOST SACRAMENTS REFLECTION

Helen Dusenbury

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

## OFFERTORY

“Sing Ye a Joyful Song”

Antonin Dvorák

~Olivia Donnel

*“Sing ye a joyful song unto the Lord, who hath done marvelous things. Praise the Lord all the earth! Sing praises, shout and be joyful. Let the sea roar and all that is there-in, the round world and all that dwell there. Lift your voices floods and tempests. Mountains, clap your hands for joy. Let the fields laugh and sing with waving corn, and let all the tress of the forest be joyful!”*

© G. Schirmer, Inc. (Hal Leonard Corp.)

## \*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

\*LITANY — “Sing a New Song”<sup>2</sup>

One: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;

let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before God with thanksgiving—

with music and song!

**All: It is good to sing praise to You,  
and make music to Your name, O Most High;**

**to proclaim Your love in the morning  
and Your faithfulness at night.**

**For You make us glad by Your deeds, O God;  
we sing for joy at the work of Your hands.**

One: Worship God with gladness;  
come into God's presence with joyful songs—  
with thanksgiving and praise!  
For God has taken away our garments of sadness,  
and clothed us with joy,  
that we might sing praise, and not be silent!

**All: We will sing of God's love forever!  
Young and old will hear, and rejoice.  
For Your unfailing love lasts forever;  
Your faithfulness is as enduring as the heavens above.**

One: Sing new songs to God! Praise God's name!  
Let each day proclaim the good news of God's salvation.  
Tell everyone about the amazing things God has done.

**All: May Your ways be known throughout the earth, O God;  
Your saving power among people everywhere.  
May the nations praise You and sing for joy,  
for You govern them with justice,  
and guide the actions of the whole world.**

#### **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 #674**

**"What a Mighty God"**

Text & Music: African folk song, adapt. Jack Schrader ©1995 Hope Publishing Co.

**\*BENEDICTION**

**(10:30)**

**POSTLUDE**

**"Trumpet Tune on *Lasst uns Erfreuen*"**

*Rebecca Groom Te Velde*  
©2015 Oxford University Press

*\*Indicates please stand as you are able.*

**10:30am Liturgist: Jenn Muse**

**There will be a Congregational Meeting today, May 21 in the sanctuary immediately following the 10:30 am worship service to elect elders, deacons, and at-large nominating committee members. All members are encouraged to attend.**

### Nominees for Office

#### **Elder**

Robin Hanks (2026)  
Derek Helenberger\* (2026)  
Karen Kline\* (2026)  
Anne-Marie DeVantier\* (2026)  
Rick Dusenbury (2024)

#### **Deacon**

Luke DeVantier  
(Class of 2026)  
Norm Bayne (Class of 2026)  
Barb Stafford\* (Class of 2026)  
Linda Willemssen\*  
(Class of 2026)  
Ruth Goode (Class of 2024)

#### **At-Large**

#### **Nominating Committee Member**

Joan Geering (Class of 2025)  
Eileen Taylor (Class of 2025)

*\*Currently serving and returning for another term of service*

### **Please Note Upcoming Worship Schedule**

There will be **one worship service at 10:30am** for the following weeks:

**May 28** Pentecost Sunday; **June 4** Confirmation Sunday; **June 11** Global Hymn Festival

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

**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 students and families.

**July 9-15:** High School Mission trip to Chicago.

**July 24-27:** Middle School Mission Week in Metro Detroit. Registration coming soon!

- 1 Call to Worship by Steve Garnas-Holmes, "Rekindle the Gift," September 16, 2016, Unfolding Light, <https://unfoldinglight.net/2016/09/26/3763/>
- 2 From reworship, <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2014/04/litany-sing-new-song.html>

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**Online Giving:** Giving online is a fast and easy way to give at PPCRO. 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!



SCAN ME



*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 Nancy and Raymond Denne in memory of their parents.

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### **H.O.M.E. Mission Project for May**

Our **Helping Out, Mission Edition** (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 **today** and will be dedicated in worship next week. Help to celebrate the birthday of the church by donating a bag for a child who will enjoy a happy birthday!

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### **New Member Class**

For those ready to join the church as members, or for those interested in exploring what that means, **join us on Sundays June 4, 11, and 18 from 9-10am**. On **Sunday, June 4 and Sunday, June 11 from 9am-10am**: Join our facilitator, Suzanne Lewand, to learn more about the history of Presbyterians, our general beliefs, and what it means to be part of this church community at FPCRO. **Sunday, June 18 at 9am**: Enjoy a delicious brunch with our Session (board) members. They will welcome you and officially vote to receive as members anyone who would like to join. We will welcome you in the worship service that morning, which will be at 10am. Questions and to RSVP, contact Pastor Emma at **enickel@fpcro.org** or by phone at the church.

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### **Choral Scholars Fundraising News!**

Thanks to the congregation's generosity, we are delighted to announce that we have met, and exceeded, our goal of \$18,000 to fund the Choral Scholars program! To date, \$23,419 has been raised. What a joy to continue welcoming young people to join with us in praising God in song. We are grateful for your contributions, support, and prayers.

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### **STELLAR Vacation Bible School • Volunteer for STELLAR VBS!**

Our 2023 STELLAR VBS is **June 26-30 from 9 am-12 noon**. Registration is now open! Visit **<https://form.jotform.com/223405660685054>** to register. Our fun week of finding Jesus' light is coming soon! 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!

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### **Little Free Pantry**

FPCRO's Little Free Pantry serves unhoused neighbors as well as those who may be running short on funds. Below is a suggested list of non-perishable items which may be dropped off during church office hours. For cash or check donations, please indicate the "Little Free Pantry" on the check or note. **Pull-Tab Cans**: stew (beef and chicken), fruit (cocktails, peaches, pears, etc.), vegetables (corn, green beans, peas, etc.), baked beans, soup (any variety), beefaroni/ravioli (ready-to-eat), canned tuna, chicken, or turkey. **Non-perishables**: granola bars (soft/chewy, any flavor), cereal (small individual boxes), tuna/chicken (ready-to-eat pouches), Knorr rice/pasta sides, peanut butter, snack crackers/cookies, small bottled waters, juice boxes, Easy Mac and Cheese (pouches/cups).