

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ROYAL OAK

MARCH 31, 2024 | 9 & 11AM

Easter 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



Giving

Giving online is a fast and easy! Click GIVE at 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.

*Today is a **Family Sunday** when children are invited to remain in the sanctuary during worship.*

Prelude

“Thine Is the Glory”

arr. Stephen Walters

©2008 The Sacred Music Press (a div. of the Lorenz Corp.)

Welcome & Announcements

Releasing the Alleluias

Just before Lent, the children buried the Alleluias away for the season. We have all been waiting for Easter to release it with joy! As our service begins today, we open the box, set our Alleluias free, and celebrate God's triumph!

One: Our hearts are ready for Easter. We release the *alleluias* and uncover the joy of resurrection. Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Response Hymn #291, refrain

“Alleluia #1”

◊ Opening Sentences¹

One: Night turns.

All: Turns, turns, turns.

One: Sun rises.

All: Rises, rises, rises.

One: Stone rolls.

All: Rolls, rolls, rolls.

One: Very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb saying “Who will roll the stone away?”

Tomb is empty.

All: Empty, empty, empty.

One: Grave clothes folded.

All: Folded, folded, folded.

One: Death is gone.

All: Gone, gone, gone.

One: When they looked up they saw that the stone, which was very large, had

already been rolled back. They entered the tomb.

Dawn breaks.

All: Breaks, breaks, breaks.

One: The women see.

All: See, see, see.

One: Alleluia's echo.

All: Echo, echo, echo.

One: Jesus is alive!

All: Alive, alive, alive!

One: Do not be alarmed, you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, he has been raised, he is not here. He is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see him just as he told you! Alleluia!

All: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

◇ **Hymn #288**

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

This arr.: David Johnson ©1976 Augsburg Publishing House

Call to Confession and Kyrie Eleison

One: Confident in God’s love and the promise of 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 Confession

All: **Holy God, we come to the empty tomb and we begin to see what it means: hope, triumph, light, love. The resurrection also reveals our resistance to being Easter people. Forgive us when we are alarmed, because you do not act as we expect. Forgive us when we flee from your presence or from the good news you declare. Forgive us when we say nothing to anyone about you, for fear of what we will hear in response. Transform our terror into awe and our silence into shouts of joy!**

[silence for individual prayer]

One: With hope in our hearts, we pray,

All: **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

One: Jesus Christ never leaves us or forsakes us. Let us open our hearts to receive the grace which the risen Christ brings to us in faithfulness.

All: **We are beloved. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

◇ **Joyful Response**

“Good Christians All, Rejoice”

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!

Now is the triumph of our King!

To all the world glad news we bring:

“Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!”

Text: ©1958, Ren. 1986 Hope Publishing Co.; this arr. 1977 Vaclav Nelhybel ©1977 Agape

◇ **Passing of the Peace**

One: As Easter people, we share the peace we know in Christ.

May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

(11:00am)

Time with the Children



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

All: Almighty God, by the power of your Spirit, roll away the stone and reveal to us the word of life. Amen.

Psalm

“Psalm 118”

Hal H. Hopson

Please join in singing the refrain upon a cue from the cantor.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

©1986 Hope Publishing Co.

Scripture Reading

Mark 16:1-8

Pew Bible, NT pg. 55

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

“Fanfare for Easter”

Jane Marshall

~Chancel Choir

“Christ is risen! Alleluia! Now is Christ risen from the dead, and is become the first-fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. Now is Christ risen from the dead. Christ is risen! Alleluia!”

©1959 Carl Fischer, Inc.

Sermon

“Do, Re, Mi, Fa, Sol, La, Ti...”

Rev. Emma Nickel



THANKSGIVING

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Anthem

“Festival Easter Hymn on Grafton”

K. Lee Scott

~Chancel Choir

“Alleluia! Christ is risen! Tell it out with joyful voice: he has burst his three-day prison; let the whole wide earth rejoice. Alleluia! Christ is risen from the grave! Alleluia! Hearts and hands to heaven raise; sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise. Alleluia! Christ is risen from the grave. Now the iron bars are broken, Christ from death to life is born, glorious life and life immortal, on this holy Easter morn. Alleluia! Christ is risen from the grave. Come with hearts and voices ringing, glorious is the morning ray; earth and heaven with joy are singing on this high triumphant day. Alleluia! Christ is risen from the grave. Alleluia!”

©1998 Hinshaw 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

◇Easter Litany

One: Can we over-do the alleluia's? Can we mend all the broken ones from Friday?
Can we hear them unfold in the sunrise?

Right: *Might we have ears to do so and live in the echo of this promise of the renewal of life always.*

Left: *Might we dare to believe beyond tombs, beyond crosses, beyond graves and towards new life, towards transformation, towards resurrection, in the spirit of Jesus Christ alive among us.*

One: May we play in the morning dew and search for footprints.

Right: *May we join the dawn chorus with alleluias.*

Left: *May we break bread and see light explode among us and in its shadow see Jesus here.*

All: May we live as a community of resurrection always living into the promise of transformation; believing into and living in the spirit of Jesus Christ. This is our prayer, this is our celebration, this is our Easter commitment.

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 #295

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

This Arr.: S. Drummond Wolff ©1987 Concordia Publishing House

◇ Benediction

Postlude

“Toccata on *O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing*”

Lynnwood Farnum

©1932 Theodore Presser Co.

1 Portions of today's liturgy were adapted from *Spill the Beans: Worship and Learning Resources for All Ages*, Issue 18, 2016.

LITURGIST

Peter Gibbs

INSTRUMENTALISTS:

Trumpets: Jason Draper, Jas Moorey, Kiera Woodward

Trombones: Donald Bilger, Dustin Freeman

Timpani: Patricia Fisher

FPCRO STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Emma Nickel

Dir. of Christian Education: Joelle Jarrait

Dir. of Music Ministries/Organist: Joseph Jackson

Chancel Choir Dir.: Kent Wattleworth

Sunburst Singers Dir.: Audrey Frieberg

Church Admin.: Kari Peruski

Facility Manager: Alan Glasel

Admin. Assistant: Sally Gilreath

Sunday/Evening Reception: Todd Crawford

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

Nursery Care Worker: Julia Carroll

SOLOISTS

Bryan Clinthome, *baritone*

Brady DeVecchio, *tenor*

Olivia Donnel, *soprano*

Audrey Frieberg, *soprano*

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Worship services in FPCRO's sanctuary are now broadcast live and are recorded and posted on our website and social media platforms.

When you enter the sanctuary for a service, you consent to the recording and broadcast of your voice and likeness for such purposes without compensation.



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

One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering

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. 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!

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. Scan the QR code for more info.



SCAN ME

April 7: Regular Meeting at First Pres. Birmingham

April 14: Service Project Moving S.T.A.G.E. to FPCRO. Parents are asked to stay and assist.

April 21: Regular Meeting location TBD

Men's Fellowship Group

The Men's Group will gather on **Monday, April 8 at 7:30pm** at Bagger Dave's in Berkley. Questions? Contact Derek Helenberger or Matthew Nickel.

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 in Berkley. Questions? Contact Amanda Curry.

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.

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

Children will receive a free gift when they register!

<https://tinyurl.com/yc42r5m8>

Children ages 4 years old through 5th grade are welcome.



Volunteer for SCUBA Vacation Bible School!

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/mr53bmrf> to join in on the fun!
