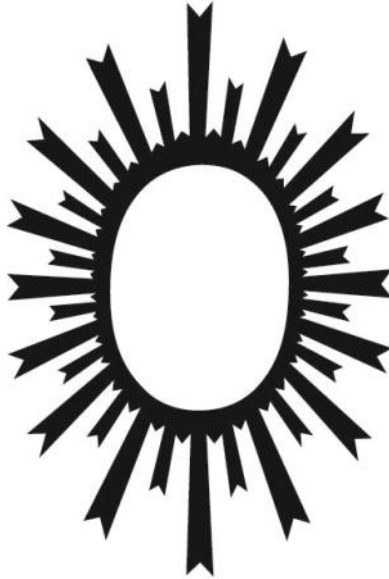


The Service for the Lord's Day



January 29, 2023

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

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

“Prière”

Ambroise Thomas

10:30

“Meditation”

Gabriel Dupont

Public Domain

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP¹**

One: God calls unexpected disciples:

All: those who are poor and meek,

One: those who are hungry and thirsty,

All: those whose bodies or minds trouble them,

One: those who have little power and sometimes little hope.

All: May we be gathered with all of God’s disciples. May we praise God and find sustenance for our faith.

***HYMN #666**

“Blest Are They”

Text & Music: David Haas ©1985 GIA Publications

CALL TO CONFESSION and KYRIE ELEISON

One: God is attentive to our prayers and seeks to offer us mercy. So let us be bold in our honesty and hopeful in our trust. Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

All: Lord, have mercy upon us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Source of our lives, you shower blessings upon us. But we often fail to pass them on. Instead, we gossip and judge. We spread cynicism instead of hope. We question motives instead of offering support. Make us aware of the ways you bless us. Urge us to speak blessings upon others. By our actions, help us to bless those who are dear in your sight.

[silence for individual prayer]

One: This we pray in Jesus' name,

All: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God isn't looking for disciples who are famous for their wisdom or might. God offers forgiveness to all, especially to those who are foolish or weak or struggling, so that we all might rejoice in the power of Christ.

All: In Christ, we find forgiveness, mercy, and new life! 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: The peace and blessing of God's love is for all of us. 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: Holy God, your blessings are abundant. Fill us with your Spirit as we hear your word today. Make us justice seekers and peacemakers, as we share your good news with those who are forgotten, weak, or suffering. Amen.

PSALM

"Psalm 15"

Sung to the Hymn-tune *Tallis' Canon*, #715 "Now Let Us from This Table Rise"

***"Lord, who may in Thy temple dwell, upon Thy holy hill abide?
Who shows forth love instead of hate, humility instead of pride?
A blameless life help me to live, free from contempt and selfish will;
When I through mortal frailness fail, God deigns by grace to love me still."***

Paraphrase of Psalm 15 ©1999 Michael Morgan, The Psalter for Christian Worship, Witherspoon Press

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:1-12

Pew Bible, NT pg. 4

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

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“Blest are the Pure in Heart”

Walford Davies

~Chancel Choir

“Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God: the secret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ’s abode. Still to the lowly soul He doth himself impart, and for his dwelling and his throne chooseth the pure in heart.”

Public Domain

SERMON

“Being Blessed, Sharing Blessings”

Rev. Emma Nickel

III. RESPONDING TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“The Beatitudes”

Albert Hay Malotte

~Audrey Frieberg

“Blest are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled.”

©1938 G. Schirmer 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

*LITANY²

All: As a gathered community of disciples, created by the hands of the Holy, born with Divine purpose, and bound together by the Spirit that breathes life into all things, we affirm our commitment to the way of Jesus Christ, who is The Liberator of the Oppressed, The Bread of Heaven, God enfleshed.

One: With faith, we aim to live as Christ taught us, laboring towards liberation, and seeking a world free of domination and control.

All: We believe in God’s promise to uplift the lowly and bring the powerful down from their thrones.

One: We believe the resurrecting power of Christ cannot be overcome by evil, but persists in all collective efforts to make life flourish in the midst of destruction, to birth beauty in places of death, and to tend gently to the aches of this world.

All: We profess the transforming power of love. We profess that justice is a form of love. We profess that we are still growing into the mystery of love.

One: In the company of the saints who go before us, we journey together by grace, seeking always to unlearn all that obstructs authentic relationship, listening for the guidance of Sacred Wisdom, and praying earnestly for the day the Kingdom of God is born anew.

All: Until it is so, we live in hope, for God is with us.

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 (next page over)**

“Give Thanks for Those
Whose Faith Is Firm”

Text: Martin Leckebusch ©2003 Kevin Mayhew Ltd.; Music: C. Hubert H. Parry, Public Domain

***BENEDICTION**

(10:30)

POSTLUDE

“Postlude in C Major”

Henry Smart
Public Domain

**Indicates please stand as you are able.*

The Liturgist today is Ryan Gleason.

- 1 Call to Worship from *Connections Worship Companion*, Ed. David Gambrell (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2022), 78. *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A, Vol 1* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2013).
- 2 Litany by M. Jade Kaiser, en fleshed, www.enfleshed.com

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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.

Give Thanks for Those Whose Faith Is Firm

Capo 1: (D)

E^b

(A)

B^b

(Bm)

Cm

(G)

A^b



1 Give thanks for those whose faith is firm when all a -
 2 Give thanks for those whose hope is clear, be - yond mere
 3 Give thanks for those whose love is pure, a spar - kling
 4 Give thanks for saints of a - ges past and saints a -

(D)

E^b

(A)

B^b

(D)

E^b

(G)

A^b

(Em)

Fm

(A)

B^b

(F[#]m)

Gm



round seems bleak: on God's good prom - ise they re - ly, so
 mor - tal sight: who seek the cit - y God has planned, the
 pre - cious stone: they show by what they say and do an
 live to - day: though of - ten by this world de - spised, their

(Bm)

Cm

(G)

A^b

(Em)

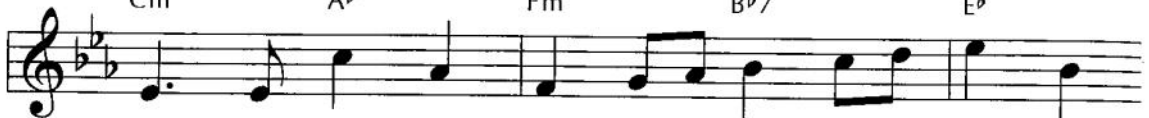
Fm

(A7)

B^b7

(D)

E^b



while they live and when they die how force - ful -
 true, e - ter - nal prom - ised land, and steer on
 in - ward beau - ty, warm and true, for God's con -
 hearts by God are rich - ly prized. Give thanks that

(A7)

B^b7

(B)

C

(Em)

Fm

(G)

A^b

(A7)

B^b7

(D)

E^b



ly they speak: the strong, who once were weak!
 toward that light, a bea - con ev - er bright.
 cerns they own: God's love through them is known.
 we may say we share their pil - grim way.

PROGRAM STAFF

Rev. Emma Nickel, Pastor, ext. 206, enickel@fpcro.org
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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*

S.T.A.G.E. Schedule (*Somewhere To Ask God Everything*) **Youth Ministry for Grades 6-12**

January 29 — Outdoor winter fun. Meet at 2pm at the Madison Heights Civic Center Park Sledding Hill, 300 W 13 Mile Road. Bring a sled and dress warm. There will be hot cocoa with marshmallows and snacks. We will sled until approximately 4 pm.

February 5 — Regular Meeting at Cana Lutheran/Drayton Church. Middle School, 4:30-5:45 pm; dinner for Middle and High School, 5:45-6:15 pm; High School, 6:15-7:30 pm

February 11 — Sub Sandwich prep at FPCRO at 2pm. We'll be slicing meats and getting items ready to make the subs on Sunday. Two to four adult volunteers are also needed. Contact SYC member Sally Gilreath (sgilreath@fpcro.org) for more info.

<https://tinyurl.com/mwzz7det>

February 12 — Sub Sandwich making at FPCRO beginning at 7:45am to build the sandwiches. We need all youth on deck! Two to four adult volunteers are also needed. Contact SYC member Sally Gilreath for more info.

February 19 — Mid-Winter break - No Meetings

February 26 — Let's go bowling! Stay tuned for details!

Provide Dinner and/or Volunteer at a S.T.A.G.E. Meeting

Can you **provide dinner** for the youth (about 12 students) on a Sunday evening? Visit **<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4fafad2ca7fd0-stage>** and sign up!

Volunteer at a S.T.A.G.E. Meeting

Can you **serve as an adult volunteer** during a Sunday meeting? Visit **<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4fafad2ca7fd0-stage1>** and sign up!

Today's **CHANCEL FLOWERS** by Beth and Brian DeGuise in honor of their fathers, Russell Egan and Bill Hackett.

Podcast Launch Party!

Join us today following the 10:30am service at Fellowship Time in Kirkman Fellowship Hall for the **podcast launch party**. Thanks to the Deacons for hosting!

The podcast is here and ready for listening!

What happens when spirituality collides with life? In FPCRO's new podcast, Pastor Emma talks with folks who have experienced a variety of challenges—from cancer to divorce to adoption—and hears how their faith has been stretched and shaped by these experiences. Check it out here: <https://www.fpcro.org/podcast>. Episodes 1-4 are now available. Hear Melissa Ross speak about adoption in episode 1; Sharon Moore share her journey with cancer in episode 2; Benny Rediers talks about immigrating to the US in episode 3; and Rev. MaryAnn McKibben Dana talks about her daughter's battle with depression in episode 4. Listen at the church website or search "*Forging Faith*" on Spotify, Apple Podcasts and other podcast platforms.

Sub Sandwiches Fundraiser—Buy a Sub for the Big Game!

S.T.A.G.E. youth will be making delicious, fresh sub sandwiches for pick up on Super Bowl Sunday, **February 12**. Subs are \$10 for a 8-inch Italian (ham & salami) or turkey, and \$12 for a 8-inch three-meat (ham, salami, turkey). Add a bag of chips to your order for just \$1.

Pre-orders will be accepted through February 5, online or on the paper form. Payments may be made via check payable to "S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry" or via PayPal (stageyouth@gmail.com). Orders will be available for pick up on **Sunday, February 12** after the 10:30 am worship at FPCRO. Funds from the Super Bowl Sub Sale will help support S.T.A.G.E. summer mission trips. Thank you for your support!

Souper Bowl of Caring

On Sunday, **February 12** we are participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring. You are invited to bring a non-perishable item for our Little Free Pantry. Cans with pull-tabs are very useful.

Fruit cups and cereal bars are also great to include. (Please, no glass containers) Since its installment, and especially during the pandemic, the Little Free Pantry at FPCRO has been a truly helpful source for people in our neighborhood. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, you may do so by labeling it "Souper Bowl of Caring" or "Free Pantry."

Flower Dedications

Flower dedications are a lovely way to remember or honor special people and events in your life, plus they add beauty to our worship services. Dedications are \$45. To make yours, enter your info on the chart across from the Reception Office, fill out a dedication card, and return it and a check to the flower dedication basket at the reception desk. Questions? Please contact Chris Klein at 248-990-8586. Your support is greatly appreciated!