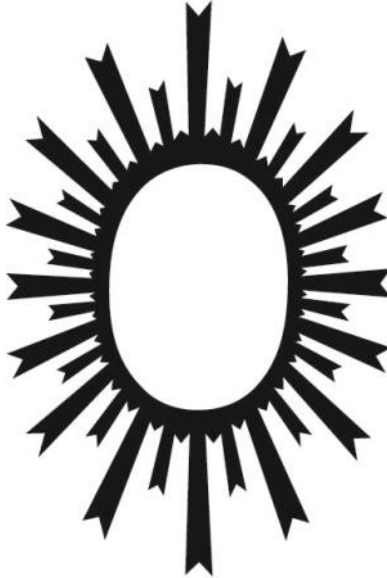


The Service for the Lord's Day



August 20, 2023

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

529 Hendrie Boulevard
Royal Oak, MI 48067
Phone (248) 541-0108
www.fpcro.org

Please silence all devices

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Children are always welcome in our worship services! The nursery is open for infants and toddlers for families who prefer childcare. Older children may enjoy the outdoor service or, following the Time with Children, move to the playground for a Bible story, snack, and play time.

I. GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP¹**

based on Romans 8:26-27 in *The Message*

One: We've gathered together in the presence of God to offer our praise and our prayers.

All: We come before God with confidence, knowing that even when we can't find the words, God's own Spirit is right here with us,

One: praying in us and for us,

All: giving shape to our wordless hopes and longings, and pleading for us before the throne of grace.

One: So let's come with joy to offer our worship to God whose knowledge and love are endless.

***HYMN #670**

"O Word of God Incarnate"

page opposite →

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CALL TO CONFESSION and KYRIE ELEISON

One: God never forgets God's promises; God's covenant endures in each new generation.
We are free to speak the truth about our lives because God's faithfulness embraces us
as we examine our hearts. Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

All: Lord, have mercy upon us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Dearest God, we confess that we have turned away from you and have not lived with upright hearts. We have not always wanted to see your Kingdom among us. We have not always taken the time to look for your presence with us, which might change our perspective. Forgive us for not keeping our eyes open to you. Guide our feet to walk in your ways and our eyes to watch for your work, so that we serve your world to the glory of your name.

[silence for individual prayer]

One: Through Jesus Christ, we pray,

All: Amen.

O Word of God Incarnate

670

E \flat A \flat B \flat B \flat 7 D E \flat Cm E \flat G A \flat B \flat sus B \flat 7 E \flat

1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
 2 The Church, from her dear Mas - ter, re - ceived the gift di - vine,
 3 O make your Church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of pur - est gold,

E \flat Cm B \flat D Fm G Cm E \flat G A \flat B \flat sus B \flat 7 E \flat

O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
 and still that light is lift - ed on all the earth to shine.
 to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light as of old;

B \flat B \flat C7 Fm Cm Fm C Cm Cm E \flat F7 B \flat

we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,
 It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,
 teach us, your wan - dering pil - grims, by this our path to trace,

B \flat 7 D E \flat E \flat A \flat B \flat m A \flat E \flat A \flat A \flat maj7 B \flat sus B \flat 7 E \flat

a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.
 'mid mists and rocks and quick - sands, still guides, O Christ, to you.
 till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, we see you face to face!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God can work through all things to bring goodness and hope.

**All: And so, in Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven and we can be at peace.
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 have received forgiveness and now we can offer it to one another.

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

All: And also with you.

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

MINUTE FOR MISSION

CROP Walk on September 17, 2023

~Scott Rieck

II. PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Holy God, the unfolding of your word gives light and provides wisdom to all who seek your truth. Open our minds and hearts by the power of your Holy Spirit, that the mystery of your heavenly realm is made evident here on earth. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13:31-33; 41-52

Pew Bible, NT pg. 15

PSALM

“Psalm 119”

Sung to the Hymn-tune *Tallis' Canon*

“Teach me, O Lord, your holy law;

The will to follow so impart

That I with understanding may

Observe it with a faithful heart.”

Paraphrase of Psalm 119 ©1999 Michael Morgan, The Psalter for Christian Worship, Witherspoon Press

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:26-39

Pew Bible, NT pg. 165

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Paul Bakker

III. RESPONDING TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Be Thou Still”

Johann Franck

~Audrey Frieberg

“Be thou still, and learn of God. He will guide thy daily living, when in faith ye turn to Him. Therefore daily thanks be giving, He will all thy hopes fulfill. Be thou still. In this quiet learn of his will. Be thou still. Be thou still, though dark the way. Soon the light of love will brighten, as in peace ye dwell each day. Soon the weight of sin will lighten. Seek to do thy Father’s will. Be thou still. In this quiet learn of His will. Be thou still.”

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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**

PRAYER 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**

“Give to the Winds Thy Fears”

page over →
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***BENEDICTION**

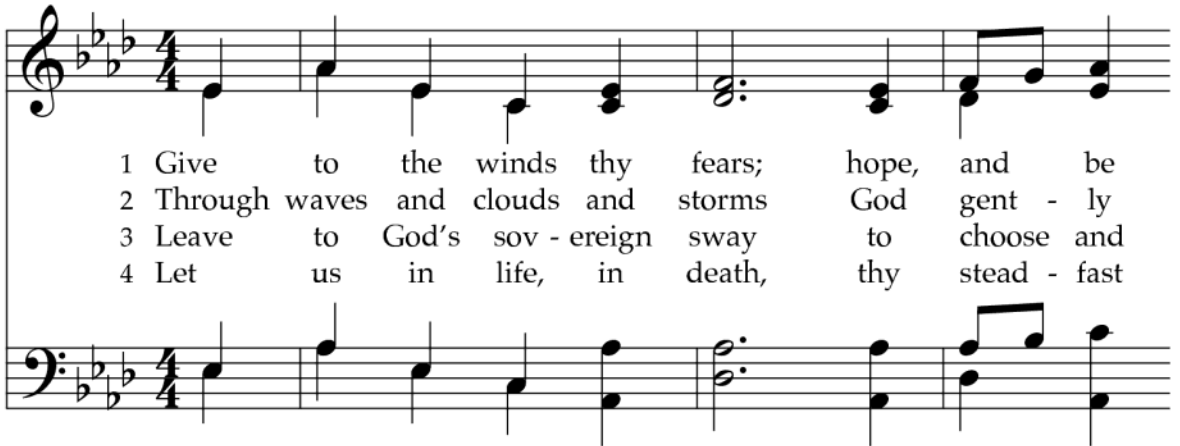
**Indicates please stand as you are able.*

The Liturgist today is Benny Rediers.

- 1 Portions of today’s liturgy are from *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year A, Vol 2* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2014).

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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.*

Give to the Winds Thy Fears



1 Give to the winds thy fears; hope, and be
2 Through waves and clouds and storms God gent - ly
3 Leave to God's sov - ereign sway to choose and
4 Let us in life, in death, thy stead - fast



un - dis - mayed. God hears thy sighs and
clears the way. Wait pa - tient - ly; so
to com - mand. So shalt thou, won - dering,
truth de - clare, and pub - lish with our



counts thy tears; God shall lift up thy head.
shall this night soon end in joy - ous day.
own God's way, how wise, how strong God's hand!
fi - nal breath thy love and guard - ian care.

We welcome the Rev. Paul Bakker to the pulpit!

After working as a carpenter for nine years, Paul returned to school to become a pastor in the Reformed tradition. He has served churches in Iowa City, Cleveland, West Michigan and Warren, MI. He is currently serving as a chaplain with Beaumont Hospice. Paul is married to Susan and together they have five children and eight grandchildren, who all live out of state. Susan is a mental health therapist in private practice, specializing in trauma and grief.

We welcome Anne Baklyar as our guest musician for today.

Through Labor Day, the church office will be closed on Fridays

The office and the Good Book Nook will be open on the following schedule:
Monday, 9am-1pm; Tuesday, 9am-7pm; Wednesday & Thursday, 9am-3pm.

PROGRAM STAFF

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

Rev. Neeta Nichols, Parish Associate, nnichols@fpcro.org

Joseph Jackson, Director of Music Ministries and Organist, ext. 218, jjackson@fpcro.org

Kent Wattleworth, Chancel Choir Director, ext. 222, kwattleworth@fpcro.org

Audrey Frieberg, Sunburst Singers Director, afrieberg@fpcro.org

Joelle Jarrait, Director of Christian Education, ext. 204, jjarrait@fpcro.org

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Kari Peruski, Church Administrator, ext. 203, kperuski@fpcro.org

Sally Gilreath, Administrative Assistant, ext. 200, sgilreath@fpcro.org

Todd Crawford, Evening Reception, ext. 200, tcrawford@fpcro.org

Alan Glasel, Facility Manager, ext. 201, aglasel@fpcro.org

Julia Carroll, Nursery Care Worker

SOLOISTS

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



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.

Today's **CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given by Bill & Barb Hayes in memory of our parents: Tom & Dorothy Fraser, and Hugh & Wanda Hayes.

School Supplies

During the month of **August**, we're collecting school supplies for Oakland Elementary school. Look for sales and pick up a few items when you see them. Boxes will be out in the church to receive donations. Teacher requested items include: crayons, colored pencils, markers, glue sticks, composition notebooks, primary journals (composition notebook, but with a spot to draw a picture for K-2 classes), plastic folders with prongs, colored dry erase markers, pencils (pre-sharpened), Play-Doh, bingo daubers, socks (for feet and white board erasers)

Back to School Blessing

Join us on **August 27** at the **10am worship** service for a Back to School Blessing! Whether you are a student of any age or you work in schools or higher education, we invite you to come and receive God's blessing for this important moment in the year. The Deacons are hosting a Coffee Hour following the worship service.

CROP Walk is September 17

The 2023 Ferndale/Royal Oak CROP Hunger Walk is **Sunday, September 17**. Online registration is open and you can make donations to sponsor the FPCRO team at any time. Register to walk or give at: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/event/ferndalemi>. Funds raised will help people in our community and in places around the world to overcome the challenges of hunger and food insecurity. Please join our team whether it's a tradition for you to walk or if it's your first time!

Rise Against Hunger Mission Event

Signup to pack meals to send around the world on **Sunday, September 24**. Following lunch together, this intergenerational event will run from 12:15pm to 2:30pm and is high energy and open to all. Signup online to participate: <http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/FPCRO2023>. Lunch will be provided between worship and the start of the event.

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!

