

The Service for the Lord's Day



July 23, 2023

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

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 Playground in the back of the sanctuary is open and our nursery is also available for those who prefer childcare for infants and toddlers. Following the Time with Children, families may choose for children to stay in worship with kid-friendly worship guides. Or, children may go outside (weather permitting) with our leaders for a Bible story, snack, and time on the playground.

I. GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

“Elegy”

George Thalben-Ball
©1971 Paxton Music Ltd

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP¹**

One: We gather this day from a week filled with needs and demands.

All: We come to find rest and renewal of our spirits.

One: Open your hearts in love to hear the voice of God.

All: We want to quietly rest in God’s presence, free from the clamor of the world.

One: This is the day that the Lord has made.

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

***CENTERING SONG**

“Sabbath Song”

9 From bu - sy, ru - shing days of wor - king, you call me to re - new, con - nect.

Sab - bath is your gift, sus - tain - ing. So I take my rest — in you.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 3/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the staff. The second staff continues the melody and ends with a double bar line. The lyrics continue below the staff.

Text: Emma Nickel; Music: Joseph Jackson ©2023

***PRAYER OF THE DAY²**

All: From the demands and pressures of this past week, we come, O Lord, seeking rest and renewal. Hear the cries of our hearts, our prayers, our needs. Heal and restore us. For we ask this in Jesus’ Name. Amen.

***HYMN**

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

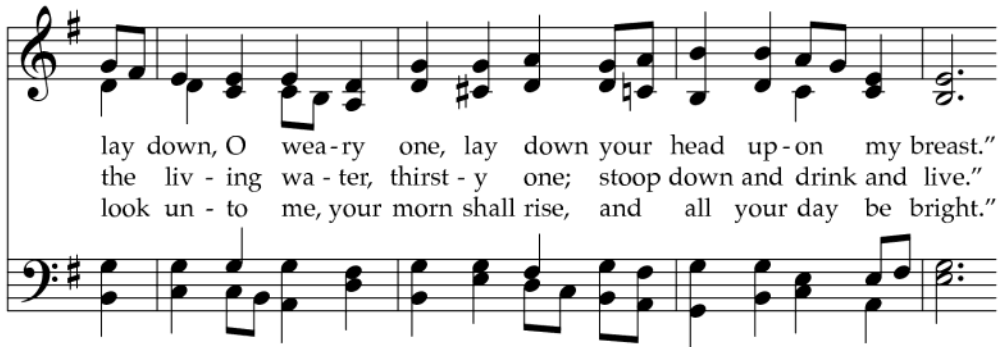
opposite page →

Text: Horatius Bonar; Music: English Folk Song, harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams

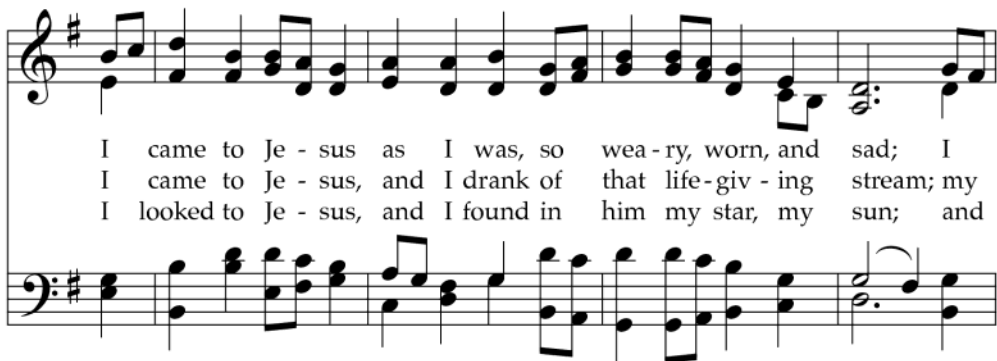
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



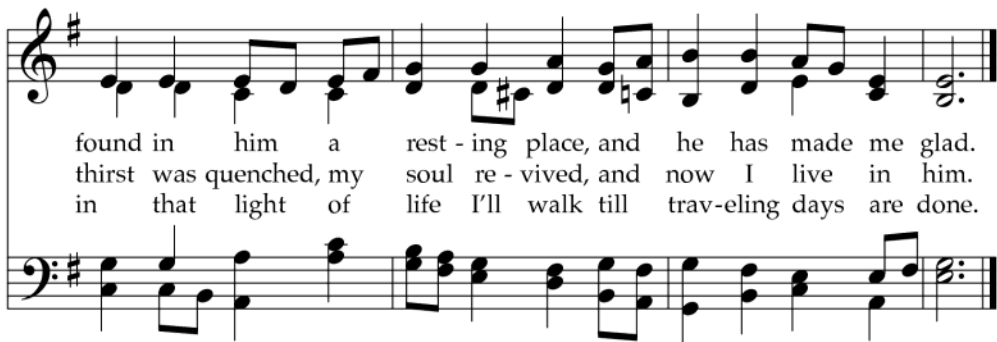
1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad; I
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream; my
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and



found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.
thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
in that light of life I'll walk till trav - eling days are done.

CALL TO CONFESSION and KYRIE ELEISON

One: “Come to me, all who are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest,” said Jesus.
We can bring our sins and burdens to God, knowing that rest and relief awaits us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: *Christ, have mercy upon us.*

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: **Patient Lord, we schedule our lives down to the very second. We crowd in as much as we can and then wonder why we are so stressed out and tired. We confess that we often let the activities of work take precedence over everything else. Give us joy in the work and ministry we have to do. But also give us moments of rest from it. Free us from the belief that everything depends on us. Give us the courage to rely on you, instead of on our own strength, in all that we have to do.**

[silence for individual prayer]

One: Through Jesus Christ, we pray,

All: **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: On the seventh day of creation, God rested, creating Sabbath: a time set apart to rest, to learn, to listen, to be quiet and at peace. Let the freedom of Sabbath take root in your heart and in your life.

All: **We give thanks for the pardon and peace God gives through the grace of Jesus Christ!**

***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: Peace often feels like rest and renewal. It is a gift to be savored and shared. May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

II. PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Companion God, too often the weight of the world edges out your good news. Through your Spirit, sound the good news of sabbath rest. Let the joy of it seep into our hearts and lives. Let the beauty of rest guide our living and working. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 11:28-12:13

Pew Bible, NT pg. 12

PSALM

“Psalm 145”

Sung to the Hymn-tune *Hyfrydol*, #153 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

***“For the Lord is ever faithful to supply our deepest need;
Justice grows from every judgement, wholesome bread from every seed.
God is ne’er too far to hear us, never deaf to our demands;
Those who love and trust the promise rest secure within God’s hand.”***

Paraphrase of Psalm 145 ©1999 Michael Morgan, The Psalter for Christian Worship, Witherspoon Press

SCRIPTURE READING

Leviticus 25:1-12

Pew Bible, OT pg. 123

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Sabbath in the Wider World”

Rev. Emma Nickel

III. RESPONDING TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Kum Ba Yah”

Traditional Spiritual

~Gracie Ross, vocals and piano

Public Domain

*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

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Tiny Homes at Cass Community Social Services

~Rick Dusenbury & Derek Helenberger

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER
PRAYER RESPONSE

Come to Me, O Weary Traveler

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Come to Me, O Weary Traveler'. It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4. Above the notes are the chords: D, G, A, D, A, D, A. The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The notes are: B3, A3, G3, F#3, E3, D3, C3, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2. Above the notes are the chords: Bm, G, Em, Bm, A, G, D, A, D, G, D. Below the second staff is the lyrics: '1 "Come to me, O wea - ry trav - eler; come to me with your dis - tress; come to me, you heav - y bur - dened; come to me and find your rest."'

Text: Sylvia C. Dunstan, 1991, ©1991 GIA Publications, Inc.; Music: William P. Rowan, 1992, ©1993 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

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 #40**

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Text: Folliot Pierpoint; Music: Conrad Kocher arr. William Monk

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Voluntary in G Major”

William Walond
Public Domain

**Indicates please stand as you are able.*

The Liturgist today is Shirley Gillham.

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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.

- 1 Call to Worship by Nancy C. Townley, “Worship Connection: July 17, 2022,” Ministry Matters, January 8, 2022, <https://www.ministrymatters.com/worship/entry/4009/worship-connection-july-21-2019>
- 2 Prayer of the Day by Nancy C. Townley, “Worship Connection: July 17, 2022,” Ministry Matters, January 8, 2022, <https://www.ministrymatters.com/worship/entry/4009/worship-connection-july-21-2019>

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, mnichols@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 Clinthorne, *baritone*; Brady DeVecchio, *tenor*; Olivia Donnel, *soprano*; Audrey Frieberg, *soprano*

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. Contact the pastor if you are in need.

Today's **CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given by Ginny O'Brien in loving memory of family and friends no longer with us.

During the month of July, our congregation is observing a time of sabbath rest. We will have meaningful worship each Sunday focused on themes of rest and renewal. Other activities on the church calendar will be minimal. This intentional time of rest in our congregation will help us renew our energy and remember our reliance on God. Church staff will be working their normal hours throughout the month and the office will be open per the schedule below.

Snack Pax

After worship **today** join us in Kirkman Fellowship Hall to pack 400 Snack Pax bags for neighbors who may not have enough to eat. This fun, easy, and intergenerational project takes about 30 minutes and all are invited to participate.

End of Fiscal Year Gifts

As the fiscal year draws to a close, we want to thank you for your faithfulness in giving to the ministry of FPCRO. Your gifts throughout the year make all the ministries at FPCRO possible! We are so grateful for your pledges and gifts to God through the church. Our church's fiscal year ends on July 31. We encourage you, as you are able, to complete your current year's pledge by that date. To be counted toward this budget year, **all gifts need to be received in the church office or postmarked by July 31**. New pledges for the 2023-2024 fiscal year take effect on August 1. Thank you for your faithful generosity!

School Supplies

During the month of **August**, we'll collect 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)

Summer Movie Night: "Finding Nemo"

On **Friday, August 11 at 8 pm** "Finding Nemo" will be screened on the Hendrie Lawn. Bring a lawn chair and a friend. We'll bring the popcorn!

Flower Dedications

Our FPCRO **2023-24 Flower Dedication Chart** is up and ready for your requests. Please add your name in the slot of your choice to remember a loved one, celebrate a special occasion, or honor someone with flowers this year. The chart is in the hallway across from our reception desk. You may fill out a card immediately or closer to your dedication date. Dedications are \$45. Please see Chris Klein or call 248-990-8586 if you have questions. Thank you very much.