

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ROYAL OAK

OCTOBER 8, 2023 | 9 & 10:30AM

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



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.

Prelude

9:00

“Thy Word”

arr. Fred Bock

10:30

“Fughetta on *These Are Thy Holy Ten Commandments*”

J. S. Bach

Public Domain

Welcome & Announcements

♠ Call to Worship¹

One: Hear, O Israel.

All: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

One: You shall love the Lord your God.

All: With all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

♠ Hymn

“Your Law, O Lord, Is Perfect”

1 Your law, O Lord, is per - fect, the sim - ple mak - ing wise;
2 More to be sought than rich - es, your words are my soul's wealth;
3 My strength and my re - deem - er, law - giv - er and true light,

how pure are your com - mand - ments, en - light - en - ing my eyes!
their taste is sweet like hon - ey, im - part - ing life and health.
my words and med - i - ta - tions make wor - thy in your sight.

Call to Confession and Kyrie Eleison

One: We come before God not as despised sinners, but as beloved children. With the confidence of the children of God, let us humbly confess our sins. Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

All: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Prayer of Confession

All: God of freedom, have mercy on us. We enjoy idle pleasures and pursue lives of leisure while others stoop to serve us and struggle to support themselves. We enact rules and regulations that benefit the wealthy at the expense of basic needs—human health and daily bread. Forgive us. Set us free to serve you and to seek the liberation of all; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[silence for individual prayer]

One: In the name of God—Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,

All: Amen.

Assurance of Pardon²

One: Hear the promise of the Lord: “I am the Holy One, your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.” Like weary travelers in the wilderness, let us drink deeply of God’s grace.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. 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: As forgiven people, we can share the peace and reconciliation that Christ offers. May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(10:30am)

Time with the Children



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

All: Testify to us, O God, by the voice of your Spirit. Put your law in our hearts, write your word in our minds. And show your will in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Psalm

“Psalm 1”

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

**“How blest are they who venture not into the dark and sinful way,
But find delight in God’s own law and contemplate it night and day.”**

Paraphrase of Psalm 1 ©1999 Michael Morgan, The Psalter for Christian Worship, Witherspoon Press

Scripture Reading

Deuteronomy 5:1-21; 6:4-6

Pew Bible, OT pg. 180

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

All: Thanks be to God.

(10:30am)

Anthem

“If Ye Love Me”

Philip Stopford

~Chancel Choir

“If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he will send you another comforter; even the Spirit of truth.”

©2003 Ecclesium Publishing

Sermon

“Ten Words of Obedience”

Lon Kuehn



THANKSGIVING

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

“Great Peace Have They”

Jean Baptiste Lully

~Bryan Clinthorne

“Great peace have they which keep Thy commandments, great peace have they which love Thy law, and nothing shall offend them nor make them afraid. Peace have they which keep Thy commandments, great peace have they which love Thy law, for they shall see Thy kingdom, and dwell in peace with Thee. I longed for Thy salvation, and loved Thy commandments; make Thy face to shine on Thy servant, and teach me, Lord, to do Thy will. Thy word is my delight, and Thy strength is my fortress. Peace have they which keep Thy commandments, great peace have they which love Thy law.”

©1959 R. D. Row Music Company

◇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

◇Affirmation of Faith

One: What is the great and first commandment?

All: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

One: What is the second commandment like it?

All: Love your neighbor as yourself.

One: To what does this call us?

All: To a life of faith working through love. Amen.

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 #719

“Go, My Children, With My Blessing”

Text Jaroslav Vajda ©1983 Jaroslav Vajda; Music: Welsh Melody, Public Domain

◇ Benediction

(10:30am)

Postlude

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word”

Johann Walther
Public Domain

1 Portions of today's liturgy were adapted from *Spill the Beans: Worship and Learning Resources for All Ages*, Issue 16, 2015.

2 Long, Kim. *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B*. (Westminster John Knox, 2015).

LITURGIST

Rev. Emma Nickel

FPCRO STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Emma Nickel

Dir. of Christian Education: Joelle Jarrait

Chancel Choir Dir.: Kent Wattleworth

Church Admin.: Kari Peruski

Admin. Assistant: Sally Gilreath

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

Parish Associate: Rev. Neeta Nichols

Dir. of Music Ministries/Organist: Joseph Jackson

Sunburst Singers Dir.: Audrey Frieberg

Facility Manager: Alan Glasel

Sunday/Evening Reception: Todd Crawford

Nursery Care Worker: Julia Carroll

SOLOISTS

Bryan Clinthome, *baritone*

Olivia Donnel, *soprano*

Brady DeVecchio, *tenor*

Audrey Frieberg, *soprano*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers are given by Janet Dell in honor of Norm Dell—wishing a wonderful birthday to a great husband and uncle.

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.

Four-Week Bible Study in October “God and the Old Testament”

As Christians, we focus intensely on Jesus and the Gospels as the primary source for revealing God's activity with humanity. Before the incarnation, God's purposes were taking shape as described in the Hebrew Scriptures. What can we learn about God from the Old Testament? Join Pastor Neeta at **7pm** on **October 11, 18, and 25**. <https://tinyurl.com/4e4wmjjax>

New FPCRO Men's Fellowship Group

A new men's fellowship group, which will meet monthly, is forming! The first gathering is **Monday, October 9 at 7:30pm at Bagger Dave's in Berkley**. It's designed for men of FPCRO, but men who relate to the church community—even if not members—are welcome! For more info, contact Matthew Nickel or Derek Helenberger. See you October 9!

Trunk or Treat Candy Donations & Decorated Cars!

Candy donations *and* decorated cars are needed to ensure our **Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 20** is a success. **Candy donations are due Wednesday, October 11**. Choose a fun theme for your car then sign up: <https://tinyurl.com/4upv454h> Thank you!

New Member Class

Are you feeling called to learn more about our church or are you considering becoming a member? Join our New Member Class to explore what it means to be Presbyterian, how we understand God and theology, and what it means to be a member of First Presbyterian Church. Our next series of classes will be held at **9am on Sundays October 29, November 5, and November 12** in the Fireside Room. The final class will include brunch with church elders, and a welcome during the 10:30 worship service on **November 12**. Please let Pastor Emma know you plan to participate, and if you need childcare during the classes.



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, CONTINUED

Organ Concert & Pre-Concert Reception

Save the date of **Friday, November 3 at 7pm** for *Pulling Out All the Stops: An Organ Concert with Joseph Jackson*. The concert is free and open to the public. Session has approved a ticketed Wine & Cheese Reception prior to the event in Kirkman Fellowship Hall. Tickets are \$20 per person, or \$10 for those under 21. Purchase online here: <https://tinyurl.com/44jefh2s>

Fall Grounds Clean-Up

The House and Grounds Committee invites you to join us on **Saturday, November 4, from 9am-12noon** for the annual Fall Grounds Clean-Up. All are welcome! Bring work gloves and gardening gear as we rake leaves and prepare the church grounds for the coming winter.

Fall Book Discussion—Save the Date!

On **November 8 at 7pm**, we'll meet in the Fireside Room to talk about *Filled to be Emptied: The Path to Liberation for Privileged People* by Brandan J. Robertson. Buy a copy of the paperback book or read it on your Kindle. Robertson traces the Kenosis Hymn—a short passage in the book of Philippians 2:5-11—which describes the way Christ emptied himself of power to become humble in service to God. Readers are invited to consider how we can choose humility by thinking differently about the various privileges we carry. The book touches on race and poverty, among other issues, and is an invitation to people across the spectrum to faithfully consider our own lives in relation to our wider community. If you would like to read a copy, but purchasing one is hard for you, simply contact Pastor Emma.

The Presby Baking Showcase

On **November 12**, the Generosity and Resources Committee will be hosting **The Presby Baking Showcase**. Our church family is invited to come to Kirkman Fellowship Hall after the 10:30am service to enjoy sampling what our bakers have provided. Fellowship and storytelling over baked treats will be a treat for us all. Sign up to bring a baked good at the Reception Desk, or sign-up online (available later this month). Bake a recipe that is a favorite, a specialty, or is a family tradition. Include a copy of the recipe and share the story of your baked good with our church family. Please provide small servings for at least 28.

S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry

Upcoming October meetings: **Sunday, October 8 at 4:30pm** at Cana Lutheran; **Sunday, October 15 at 6pm** at Greenfield Presbyterian for a Movie Night; and **Sunday, October 22 at 4:30pm** at FPCRO.

S.T.A.G.E. (Somewhere To Ask God Everything) is a collaborative youth ministry for middle-and high-school youth. Meetings are on select Sundays at one of our collaborating churches. Scan the QR code for more information.



SCAN ME