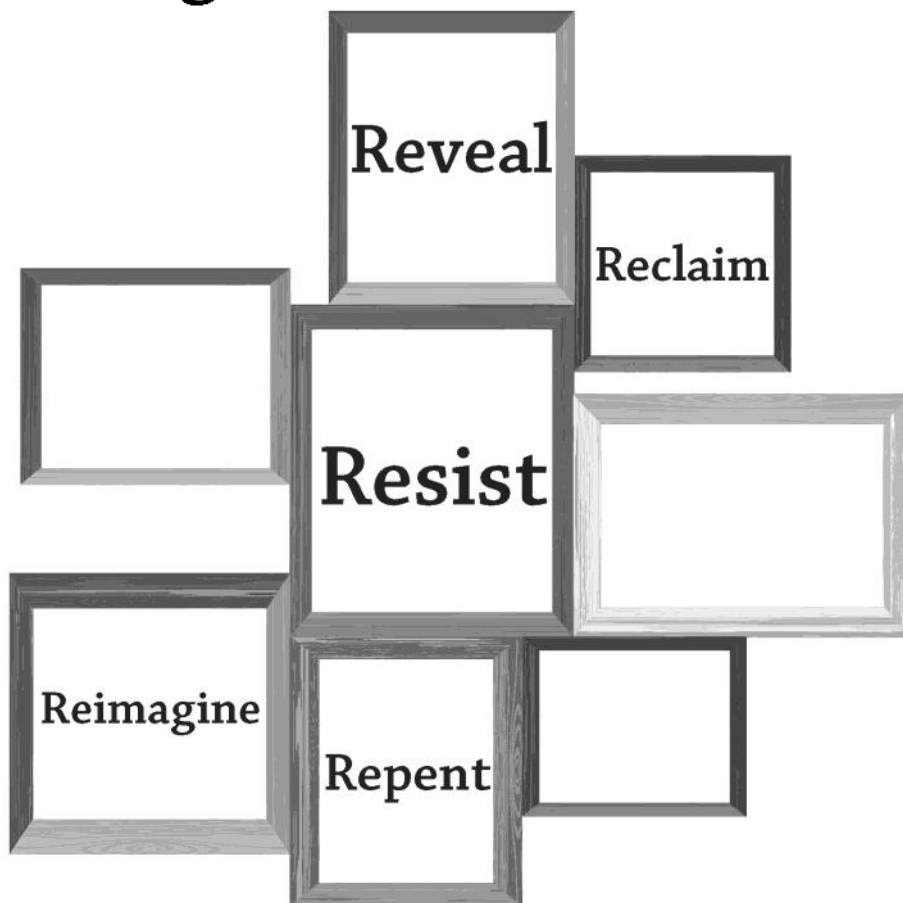


The Service for the Lord's Day

ReFraming Lent



March 19, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Lent

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 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

“Open our Eyes/ Be Thou My Vision”

arr. Mark Hayes

10:30

“Lamentation”

J.D. Frizzell

~Jubilate Bells

©2009 Choristers Guild

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God does not see as mortals see.

We look on the outward appearance; God looks on the heart.

We ask for eyes to see as God sees.

As we worship, may God’s goodness and love be revealed to us once again.

RESPONSE

“Restore in Us, O God”

Hymn #381 vs. 1

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff has the following chords: G, Em, G/B, Am7/C, D, G, D/F#, C/E, G, Dsus, D7, G. The lyrics for the first staff are: "I Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love;". The second staff has the following chords: Em, Bm, C, G, G/B, Em, Am/C, B, G, Am, G/B, C, D, G. The lyrics for the second staff are: "re - new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move."

Text: Carl Daw ©1989 Hope Publishing Co.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

All: Holy God, why is it that we look but do not see? Touch us so that we are utterly changed—a ‘before’ and ‘after,’ a ‘now’ and ‘then.’ Let us declare, ‘one thing I know, though I was blind, now I see.’ Reveal in us your good works. Reveal to us your great love. Amen.

***HYMN #79**

“I’ll Praise My Maker While I’ve Breath”

Music Harm. ©1964 Abingdon Press (Admin. The Copyright Co.)

CALL TO CONFESSION and KYRIE ELEISON

One: We are called to do what is pleasing to the Lord: to participate in what is good and right and true. But we often miss the mark. Together, we confess, so that what is hidden in us becomes visible and covered by God’s grace. Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: *Christ, have mercy upon us.*

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹

All: **God of mercy, for every time we have attributed your gifts in our lives to our own hands alone, forgive us, we pray. For every time we promised to trust you, but turned away when your response did not come soon enough or in the way we expected, grant us mercy. For the opportunities to extend forgiveness that we refuse, show us what it means to love again. For each time we resist your command to be reconciled with those who believe differently from us, direct us in the way of peace. For our silent sins and our indifference to the suffering around us, forgive us, Loving One. Remake us into vessels of tenderness and compassion.**

[silence for individual prayer]

One: In the name of Christ, we pray,

All: **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God’s mercy will follow us, and even pursue us, all the days of our life. As God’s forgiven people, receive this goodness and mercy, and live a new life in the grace of Jesus Christ.

All: **We will live as children of the light, for Christ shines on us.**

***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, let us share in the reconciliation God offers. 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: Gracious God, we want to see. We want to see you. We want to see the world the way you do. We want to see your love in all things. So open up our hearts and minds, so that we can see clearly, by the power of your Spirit, Amen.

PSALM

“Psalm 23”

Sung to the Hymn-tune *Ellacombe*, #31 “I Sing the Almighty Power of God”

**“As faithful shepherds tend their flocks, so God will care for me;
And from God’s store of grace my needs are met abundantly.
In pastures green, by waters still, my soul new life doth take;
And in the paths of righteousness I follow, for God’s sake.”**

Paraphrase of Psalm 23 ©1999 Michael Morgan, *The Psalter for Christian Worship*, Witherspoon Press

SCRIPTURE READING

John 9:1-41

Pew Bible, NT pg. 105

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

All: Thanks be to God.

(10:30)

ANTHEM

“Amazing Grace”

arr. Keith McCutchen

~Chancel Choir

“Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now I’m found; was blind, but now I see. Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come; ’twas grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me on. When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we first begun.”

©2003 Keith McCutchen (Admin. Barthsongs)

SERMON

“Reveal: What does it mean to see Jesus?”

Rev. Emma Nickel

III. RESPONDING TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“I Stand Amazed”

Jan Sanborn

~Bryan Clinthorne

“I stand amazed in the presence of Jesus the Nazarene, and wonder how he could love me, a sinner, condemned, unclean. REFRAIN: How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be: How marvelous! How wonderful! Is my Savior’s love for me! He took away my sins and my sorrows, he made them his very own; he bore the burden to Calvary, and suffered and died alone. (REFRAIN) When with

the ransomed in glory his face I at last shall see, 'twill be my joy throughout the ages to sing of his love for me! (REFRAIN)"

©1986 Fred Bock Music Co.

***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 – APOSTLES' CREED**

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. 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

IV. FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN #93**

"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

Text: Rusty Edwards ©1987 Hope Publishing Co.

***BENEDICTION**

(10:30)

POSTLUDE

"Toccatà on Nettleton"

Gordon Young

©1941 J. Fischer & Bro. (Admin. Alfred Music Co.)

**Indicates please stand as you are able.*

The Liturgist at 10:30 today is Doug Mooney.

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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*

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.

Holy Week and Easter Worship Services

Maundy Thursday, April 6 at 7pm: An accessible, family friendly service, to explore the love commandment, foot washing, the last supper, and Jesus' time in prayer in the garden.

Good Friday, April 7 at 7pm: A service of reflections on the cross through the Passion chorales of J.S. Bach, featuring choir, organ, scriptures, and poetry.

Easter Sunday, April 9 at 9am and 11am in the Sanctuary: A service of rejoicing to celebrate the empty tomb and Christ's resurrection, with choir and brass.

Communion Preparation

The Worship & Music Committee is seeking help in prepping communion for 9am or 10:30am worship services and/or cleanup after the 10:30 service on the first Sunday of each month. Join the team and work on a rotating basis. Questions? Please call the church office, or contact Worship & Music committee chair **Julie Matthews** at 248-647-3796. Thank you for participating in this important ministry!

Schedule for S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry for Grades 6-12

(Somewhere To Ask God Everything)

Sunday, March 19 — Escape Room activity at Cana/Drayton from 4:30-6:30pm with dinner.

Sunday, March 26 — No meetings; Happy Spring Break!

April 2 & April 9: No meetings; Happy Spring Break and Happy Easter!

April 16: Meeting at Cana/Drayton from 4:30-6:30pm with dinner.

April 22: Volunteering at Forgotten Harvest in Oak Park from 9am until Noon.

April 30: Meeting at First Pres Birmingham from 4:30-6:30pm.

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

Visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4fafad2ca7fd0-stage> to sign up!

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

Visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4fafad2ca7fd0-stage1> to sign up!

Today's **CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given by the FPCRO Chancel Choir in loving memory of Jim Baldwin, a dedicated member of our Chancel Choir. We remember him with pleasing melodies and happy thoughts.

Bible Study for Lent

This study, *Improving Baptism*, will look at scripture passages that reflect the challenges of being Jesus' disciple when we know that this journey of Lent leads to a cross. What practices, disciplines, engagements will aid us in the renewal of our baptism and guide us on our journey of following Jesus? This study will meet via **Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85271251871>, Meeting ID: 852 7125 1871)** at **7pm on Wednesdays March 22, 29** and will be led by the **Rev. Neeta Nichols**.

Tom and Ruth Kirkman Scholarship Fund for Higher Education

Are you discerning higher education for yourself? Church members who are high school seniors and older are eligible to apply for a one-time scholarship through the Kirkman Scholarship Fund. This fund allows us to award members who are seeking higher education. Most forms of higher education are eligible for scholarships. They are not limited to colleges and universities. It is not necessary to name your place of learning at the time you apply. Award checks will be mailed to the school later in the year. Applications, due by **March 31**, are available on our church website at **www.fpcro.org**. For more info, contact Joelle Jarrait.

Mark Your Calendars for a STELLAR VBS • Volunteer for STELLAR VBS!

Our 2023 STELLAR VBS is June 26-30 from 9 am-12 noon. Registration begins March 1! Be sure to mark your calendars for a week of finding Jesus' light! 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/ycka7hwf>** to join in on the fun!

Book Discussion: Feeling Seen

Join Melissa Ross for a book discussion series on ***Feeling Seen: Reconnecting in a Disconnected World***, by Jody Carrington. Order from Amazon (**<https://tinyurl.com/3h6kecy2>**) or a local bookseller. Meetings will be **in-person at church on Mondays at 7pm, April 10 through May 8**. The book discusses the feeling of disconnection and will help you lean in and learn to reconnect while helping you gain an understanding of how we all got so disconnected in the first place. We'll discuss our own experiences of disconnection and share how we can connect with each other as a congregation. The relationship between our faith and the book will be a focus throughout.