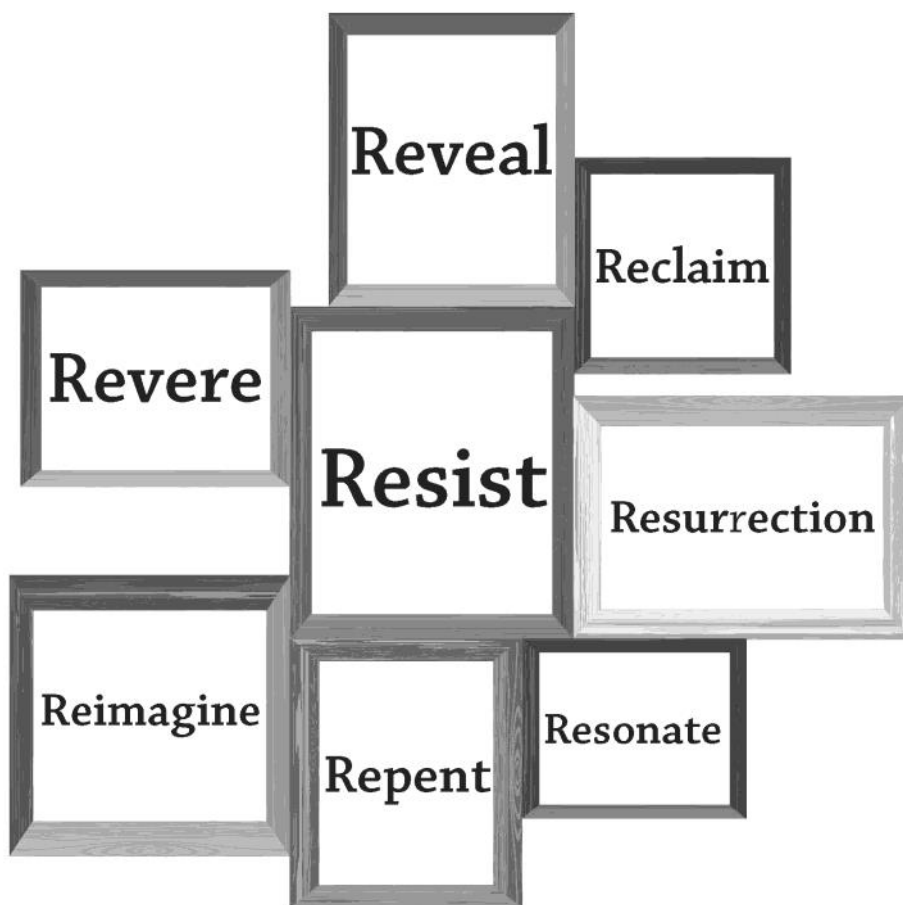


## The Service for the Lord's Day



**April 9, 2023**

Easter Sunday

**fpcro** 

First Presbyterian Church  
of Royal Oak

529 Hendrie Boulevard  
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Phone (248) 541-0108

[www.fpcro.org](http://www.fpcro.org)

*Please silence all devices*

## **WE GATHER TO WORSHIP**

*Today is a Family Sunday when children are invited to remain in the sanctuary during worship. For young children, the Prayground in the back of the sanctuary is open. Our nursery is also available for those who prefer childcare for infants and toddlers. Pew Pouches for elementary children are available in the back to guide families in worship.*

### **I. GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

#### **PRELUDE**

“An Easter Celebration”

Joel Raney

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#### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**(11:00)**

#### **RELEASING THE HALLELUJAHS**

*Just before Lent, the children buried the Hallelujah away for the season. We have all been waiting for Easter to release it with joy! As our service begins today, we open the box, set the Hallelujahs free, and celebrate God's triumph!*

One: Our hearts are ready for Easter. We open this box and uncover the joy of the risen Christ!

**All: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

#### **RESPONSE HYMN #5**

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

**(sing refrain only)**

Text & Music: Caribbean ©1980 Hope Publishing Co.

#### **\*OPENING SENTENCES:**

One: Beloved church, on this Easter morning, the empty tomb has revealed the breadth, the length, the height, the depth of God's steadfast love. And so, we boldly declare that Christ is risen!

**All: Christ is risen, indeed!**

One: We come together, asking God to resurrect in us a bold love that overcomes fear. We rejoice because Christ is risen!

**All: Christ is risen, indeed!**

One: Let this place resound with joy!

**All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

#### **\*HYMN #288**

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

This arr.: David Johnson ©1976 Augsburg Publishing House

#### **CALL TO CONFESSION and KYRIE ELEISON**

One: Confident in God's love and the promise of grace, let us confess our sin. Lord, have mercy upon us.

**People: Christ, have mercy upon us.**

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

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All:** Lord of all, we have not lived as your Easter people. We are unsure of your promise, confused about your will, and afraid in the face of uncertainty. Like Mary, we weep at the tomb, but do not recognize your presence. Call us by name, Lord, that we may know you with confidence. When we are tempted to fear, give us courage to confess the good news of Easter. When we are distracted by petty conflict, keep our minds on your love. When we are overwhelmed by the power of evil, reveal again to us your triumph over destructive powers. Forgive us our sin and let our lives stand as a witness to your salvation.

*[silence for individual prayer]*

One: Through the love of God, we pray,

**All: Amen.**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: In the resurrection of Jesus Christ, God has given us a new birth into a living hope.  
Rejoice in the good news:

**All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## **\*JOYFUL RESPONSE**

“Good Christians All, Rejoice”  
*Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!*  
*Now is the triumph of our King!*  
*To all the world glad news we bring:*  
*“Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!”*

Text: ©1958, Ren. 1986 Hope Publishing Co.; this arr. 1977 Vaclav Nelhybel ©1977 Agape

## **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: As Easter people, we share the peace we know in Christ. May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*(11:00)*

## **TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

## **II. PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**All: Almighty God, by the power of your Spirit, roll away the stone and reveal to us the word of life. Amen.**

## PSALM

“Psalm 118”

*Please join in singing the refrain upon a cue from the cantor.*

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

©1986 Hope Publishing Co.

## SCRIPTURE READING

John 20:1-18

*Pew Bible, NT pg. 119*

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**(11:00)**

## ANTHEM

“Easter Acclamation”

*Schrader/Allen*

~Chancel Choir

*“Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again! This is the three-fold truth on which our faith depends, and with this joyful cry worship begins and ends: Christ has died! Christ is risen, Christ will come again! This is the three-fold truth which, if we hold it fast, changes the world and us and brings us home at last: Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!”*

©1980 and this arr. ©2011 Hope Publishing Co.

## SERMON

“Resurrection and Recognition”

*Rev. Emma Nickel*

## III. RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

#### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Light’s Glittering Morn”

*K. Lee Scott*

~Chancel Choir

*“Light’s glittering morn now fills the sky; heaven thunders forth its victor cry: Alleluia! All earth exults in triumph high while groaning hell makes wild reply: Alleluia! Jesus, our Lord, the mighty king triumphed o’er death with all its sting: Alleluia! And trampling down the powers of night, now brings his ransomed saints to light. Alleluia! O Jesus, king of gentleness, come now our hearts and minds possess. Alleluia! Oh, may we give you all our days glad hymns of gratitude and praise: Alleluia! All praise to Christ, our risen Lord, from death to endless life restored; Alleluia! And may the Father now be given, with Spirit praise in highest heaven: Alleluia!”*

©1993 MorningStar Music Publishers

## \*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

**\*EASTER LITANY** — *Adapted from “We Have Seen Jesus, John 20:1-18,” by Ann Weems*

Left: Mary, Mary, Mary. Yes, she knew him. She knew Jesus. She ran to tell the others: “I have seen Jesus.”

Right: *And there it is...our Lenten search, that which we have waited for, that which we have sought, that which we have worked for.*

Left: He is not some goody-goody god; he is Justice, he is Mercy, he is Humility, he is Love.

Right: *And Mary saw him; Mary knew him; Mary followed; Mary believed; Mary ran to tell the others.*

Left: Jesus sent them out just as he sends us out: to all the nations, to tell God’s story of peace and goodwill.

**All: Easter comes.**

Right: *The shroud that covered the world is destroyed; for our God has swallowed death. We shall no longer look for him among the dead.*

Left: He calls us to follow, to believe in our hearts that the people of this world will someday love one another.

**All: Really love one another.**

Right: *If we believe, we know that that is not a naïve hope, but God’s promise.*

Left: We shall not die, but we will live in him who died for us.

**All: On Easter morning and on every morning, let us in chorus sing: “This is the day the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it!” And then with Mary, let us run to tell the others: We have seen Jesus!**

## 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 #295

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

This arr.: S. Drummond Wolff ©1987 Concordia Publishing House

## \*BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

“The Strife is O’er, the Battle Done”

*arr. David Johnson*

©1976 Augsburg Publishing House

*\*Indicates please stand as you are able.*

1 Ann Weems, “We Have Seen Jesus, John 20:1-18,” *From Advent’s Alleluia to Easter’s Morning Light* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2010), 139-144.

**Easter Liturgists:** 9am, Theresa Henige; 11am, Paul Bakker

### **Instrumentalists:**

**Trumpets:** Jason Draper, Daniel Head, Kyle Ronan;

**Trombones:** Donald Bilger, Mike Rumbell; **Timpani:** Pamela McGowan

♥ **As you exit the service today, Deacons will invite you to select a pocket-sized heart stone to take with you. These stones are a reminder of God’s infinite love and grace, which is shown so clearly through the resurrection and Christ’s triumph over death. You’re invited to keep the stone in a place where you see it or can feel it often, as a small, tangible reminder of God’s overflowing love for you and for the world.**

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### **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, Preschool Music 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

### **SOLOISTS**

Bryan Clinthorne, *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.*

## **Book Study Starts Tomorrow: 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.

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## **S.T.A.G.E. Flower Sale**

The annual S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry Flower Sale is back! Order beautiful flowers to plant in your garden, as well as hanging baskets and tomato pots with cages. All proceeds go directly to supporting the summer mission trip to Chicago, Illinois where they will explore the relationship between modern life and the degradation of vital ecological systems. Orders are accepted online and must be placed by **Tuesday, April 18**. You may pay by credit card, Venmo, PayPal, cash, or check. <https://forms.gle/8bdiefY9KbJcSkQC6> Flower order **pick up** will be **Saturday, May 20** between **12 noon and 2pm** at **Greenfield Presbyterian Church, 2312 Greenfield Road, Berkley**.

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## **“Almost Sacraments” Easter Season Worship Series**

Starting **April 23**, we'll explore everyday ways we experience signs of God's grace in our lives. Through walking/exercise, food, service, friendship, and music, God's grace and love are powerfully present to us, much as they are in baptism and communion. In these “almost sacraments” we encounter the presence of God in ways Jesus did, too. Join us on Sundays at 9am and 10:30am to explore these everyday ways we connect with God and make meaning in our lives.

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## **Returning Outside Group Rental April 22-23**

**Sportsman's Dog Training Club** will be hosting an AKC Scent Work Trial at FPCRO on **April 22 and April 23**. They will be using our entire building both days for scent trials, except the worship wing starting at the reception desk and extending through the sanctuary and the nursery. **During their rental we ask that you please:** 1) Enter the building through the Chapel or Hendrie doors. We will have the sandwich board signs out as reminders. 2) Remain in this section of the building as much as possible. The rest rooms will be open. If you are able, please use the ones at the top of the stairs in the CE Lobby. 3) The dogs are being timed, please don't interact with them in any way.

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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!



## **Worship Service of Hope and Joy**

Join us **Wednesday, April 26 at 7pm** for a Worship Service of Hope and Joy. Our Stephen Ministers will lead a time of scripture and inspiration as we glorify God for the hope and joy we find in each new day.

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### **Support Group Focusing on Depression, Bipolar Disorder and Hope**

Beginning **Saturday, April 29, 2023**, a small group will meet from 9am-10:30 am once a week, for six to eight weeks, to support those struggling with depression or bipolar mood disorder. Each session will focus on education, support, and a time of prayer and reflection. Helpful resources will be made available as well. Pat Johnson, MA, CSD, BCC, is the facilitator. Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/56zs3454>. Questions? Email [pjohnson71@gmail.com](mailto:pjohnson71@gmail.com).

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### **April 30 Intergenerational Mission Event**

Join us after the 10:30am service on **Sunday, April 30** to make *plarn*, in an effort to help folks experiencing homeless and to care for the earth. *Plarn* means plastic yarn. We'll cut plastic grocery bags into strips and learn how to tie them into the yarn. The yarn is then woven into lightweight mats that can be used to keep folks off the ground and drier. This intergenerational mission project will last until about 12:30pm. Bring all your plastic bags to church on April 30—colored ones are especially nice! Bring a good pair of scissors (or two) marked with your name. All ages are welcome. We'll find tasks especially suited to children participating in this important ministry!

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### **Choral Scholars: Into the Future**

On **Sunday, May 7, at 1pm**, join us for a **Fundraising Concert** showcasing our Chancel Choir Soloists and current Choral Scholars as a fundraiser for the Choral Scholar Program. The concert will be preceded by a **Celebration Brunch** for a suggested donation of \$12 (kids, \$6) and a free-**will offering** will be received at the Concert.

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### **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 is now open! Be sure to mark your calendars for a week of finding Jesus' light! We are looking for volunteers for a variety of areas. Please visit our sign-up genius at <https://tinyurl.com/ycka7hwf> to join in on the fun!

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***Please Note: The Church Office is closed Monday, April 10 in observance of Easter. On Sunday, April 16 there will only be one worship service at 10:30am.***

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

**April 9:** No meetings; Happy Easter!; **April 16:** Meeting at Cana/Drayton from 4:30-6:30pm with dinner; **April 22:** Volunteer at Forgotten Harvest/Oak Park from 9am-12 noon. Register by April 18; **April 30:** Meeting at First Pres Birmingham from 4:30-6:30pm with dinner.