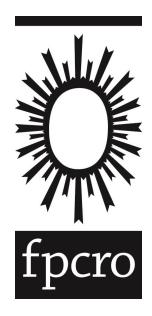
# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ROYAL OAK

DECEMBER 29, 2024 | 10:30AM

First Sunday of Christmas





## 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 Michel Paston

### **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:

- The *Prayground* in the back of the sanctuary, where children may do quiet activities, with you nearby to assist, as they absorb the worship service.
- The **Backyard Playroom** is a free program offering a safe, indoor environment for children ages five (5) and under to play under parental/guardian supervision, and is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9am to 12pm.
- 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!

Today we continue our celebration of Christ's birth by re-telling the story of God's redemptive plan for the world through Scripture and sacred song. This **Service of Lessons and Carols** was originally prepared for use in Truro Cathedral in England in the 19th century and was later adapted for use in King's College Chapel, Cambridge, in 1918. It has found its way into many congregations during the Christmas season to help believers offer their thanks and praise for God's gift of salvation in Jesus Christ.

**Prelude** "Prelude on *What Child is This*?" Richard Purvis ©1944 MCA Music

**Greeting and Welcome to Visitors** 

Joelle Jarrait

Public Domain

**♦ Hymn #183** "Once in Royal David's City" **(v. 1, soloist; vs. 2-4, congregation)** 

IRBY

### **Sacrament of Baptism**

### **Words of Scripture and Presentation**

### **Questions to the Parents and Congregation**

#### **♦Profession of Faith**

One: Friends, trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

All: I do.

One: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?

All: I do.

One: Will you be Christ's faithful disciples, obeying his Word and showing his love? If you so promise, please say, 'I will with God's help.'

All: I will, with God's help.

### Thanksgiving Over the Water

### **Baptism of Vivian Margaret Gallagher**

### **Prayer of Blessing**

#### Welcome

One: Vivian has been received into the universal church and into God's family through baptism. By the power of the Holy Spirit, she has become a member of the household of faith, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ. Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into the body of Christ!

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# Once in Royal David's City



WORDS: Cecil F. Alexander (1818-1895) MUSIC: Henry J. Gauntlett (1805-1876)

Public Domain

Public Domain

"Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there."

During the song, the elder will light the baptismal candle on the table signifying the light of Christ in the child's life. The family will take the candle home and light it each year on the baptismal anniversary.

Introduction and Opening Prayer		Rev. Scott Miller
First Lesson	Genesis 3:8-15	Sara Campbell
Hymn #198	"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"	<i>IN DULCI JUBILO</i> Public Domain
Second Lesson	Genesis 22:15-18	Kevin Schnieders
Hymn #154	"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"	<i>VENI EMMANUEL</i> Public Domain
Third Lesson	Isaiah 9:2, 6-7	Ken Seawell
Hymn #190 (vs. 1 & 2)	"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"	ES IST EIN' ROS'
		Public Domain
Fourth Lesson	Micah 5:2-5	Pat Johnson
Hymn #180	"O Little Town of Bethlehem"	<i>ST. LOUIS</i> Public Domain
Fifth Lesson	Luke 1:26-38	Cheryl Ebinger
<b>Hymn</b> Text:	"My Soul Gives Glory to My God" Miriam Therese Winter ©1978, 1987 Me Music: Harm. ©1943, 1961, 1985 (	dical Mission Sisters;
Sixth Lesson	Matthew 1:18-23	Joelle Jarrait
Hymn #181 (vs. 1 &3 only)	"Of the Father's Love Begotten"	<i>DIVINUM</i> <i>MYSTERIUM</i> Public Domain
Seventh Lesson	Luke 2:8-20	John Andersen
Hymn #188	"Angels We Have Heard on High"	<i>GLORIA</i> Public Domain
<b>Eighth Lesson</b>	Matthew 2:1-12	Suzanne Lewand
Hymn #184	"What Child Is This"	GREENSLEEVES

**♦Ninth Lesson** John 1:1-14 Rev. Scott Miller

**♦ Hymn #185** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" *MENDELSSOHN* 

Public Domain

# **Invitation to the Offering and Prayer of Dedication**

**♦ Hymn #218** "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" *GO, TELL IT* 

Public Domain

## **♦** Charge and Benediction

Rev. Scott Miller

**Postlude** "Postlude on *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*" David Willcocks ©1995 Oxford University Press

At the **◊** you may stand in body or in spirit. Bold text is read or sung in unison.

#### **FPCRO STAFF**

Pastor: Rev. Emma Nickel

Dir. of Christian Education: Joelle Jarrait

Dir. of Music Ministries/Organist: Joseph Jackson

Organ Scholar: John Etsell

Chancel Choir Dir.: Kent Wattleworth Sunburst Singers Dir.: Audrey Frieberg

Church Admin.: Kari Peruski Facility Manager: Alan Glasel Admin. Assistant: Sally Gilreath

Sunday/Evening Reception: Todd Crawford

S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry Director: Jessica Gibbs Backyard Playroom Coordinator: Ashleigh McKnight

*Nursery Care Worker*: Abby Pochron

#### **SOLOISTS**

Bryan Clinthorne, baritone Brady DelVecchio, tenor Olivia Donnel, soprano Audrey Frieberg, soprano

Permission to podcast/stream music in this service obtained from ONELICENSE, License #A-735100. All rights reserved. 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.



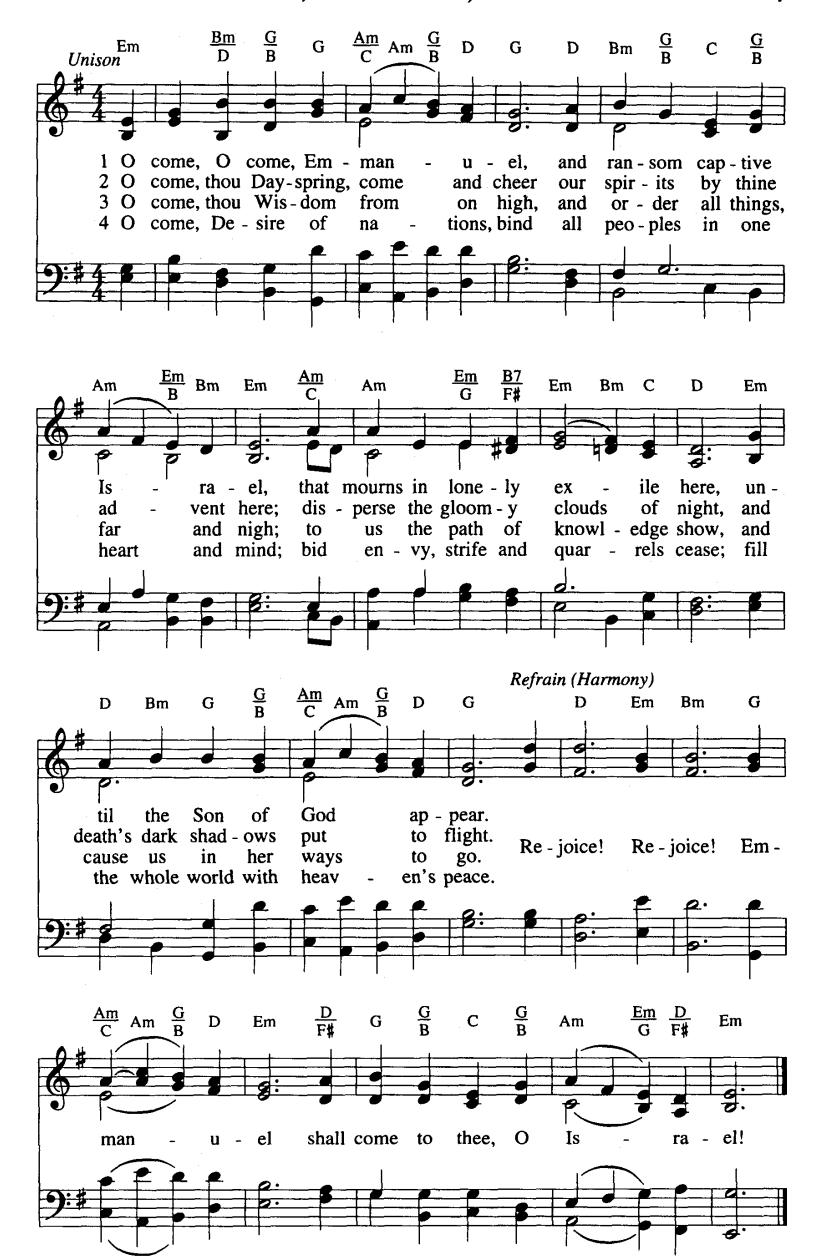
Our church is a Stephen Ministry church. Stephen Ministers are lay caregivers who are trained to provide high-quality confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. Contact the pastor if you are in need.

# 198 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

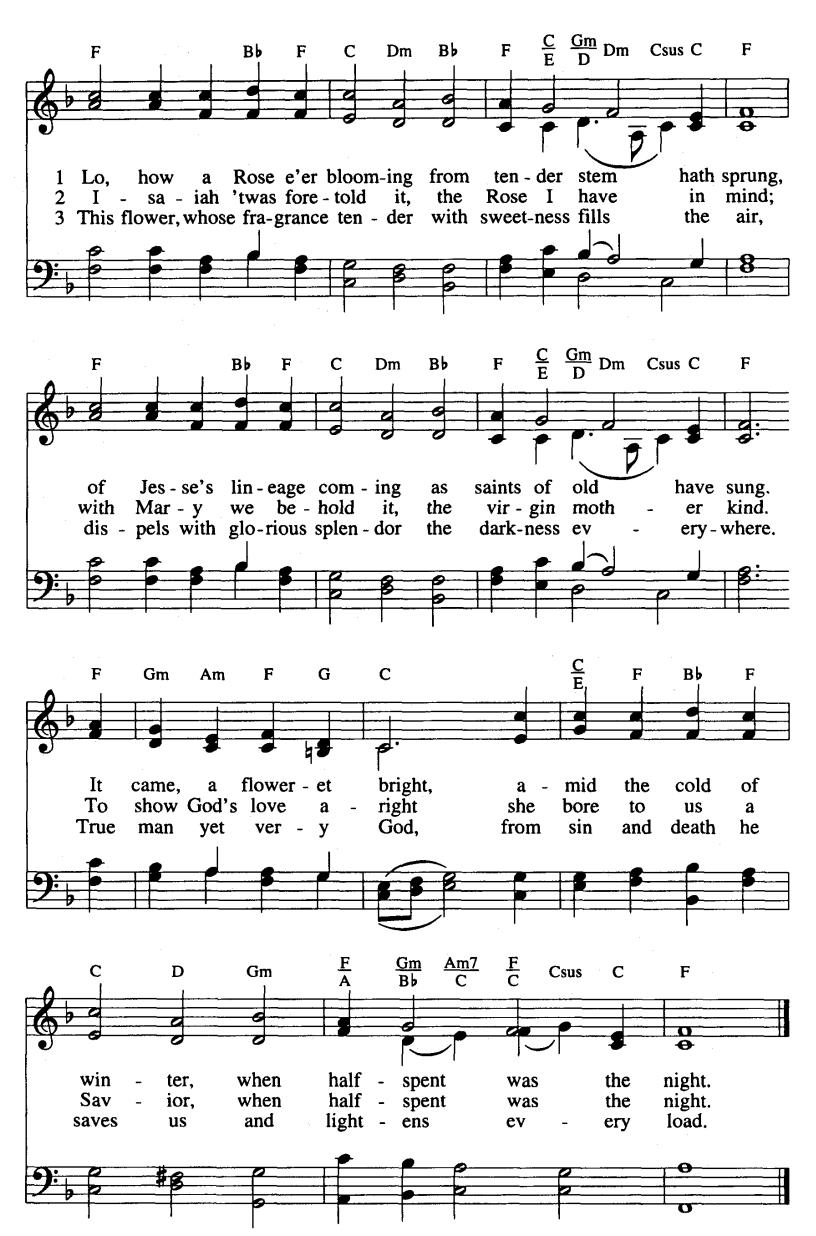


# O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

154



# 190 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming



# 180

# O Little Town of Bethlehem

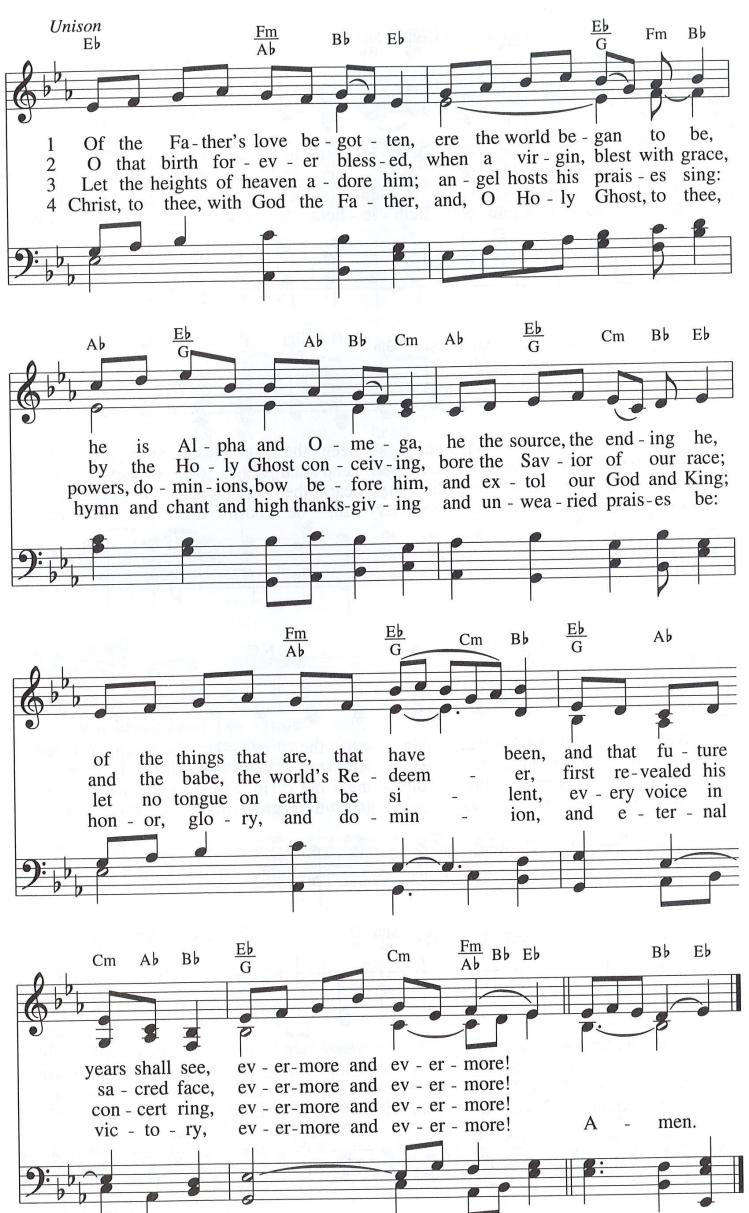


# My Soul Gives Glory to My God

Song of Mary



# 181 Of the Father's Love Begotten



# 188 Angels We Have Heard on High

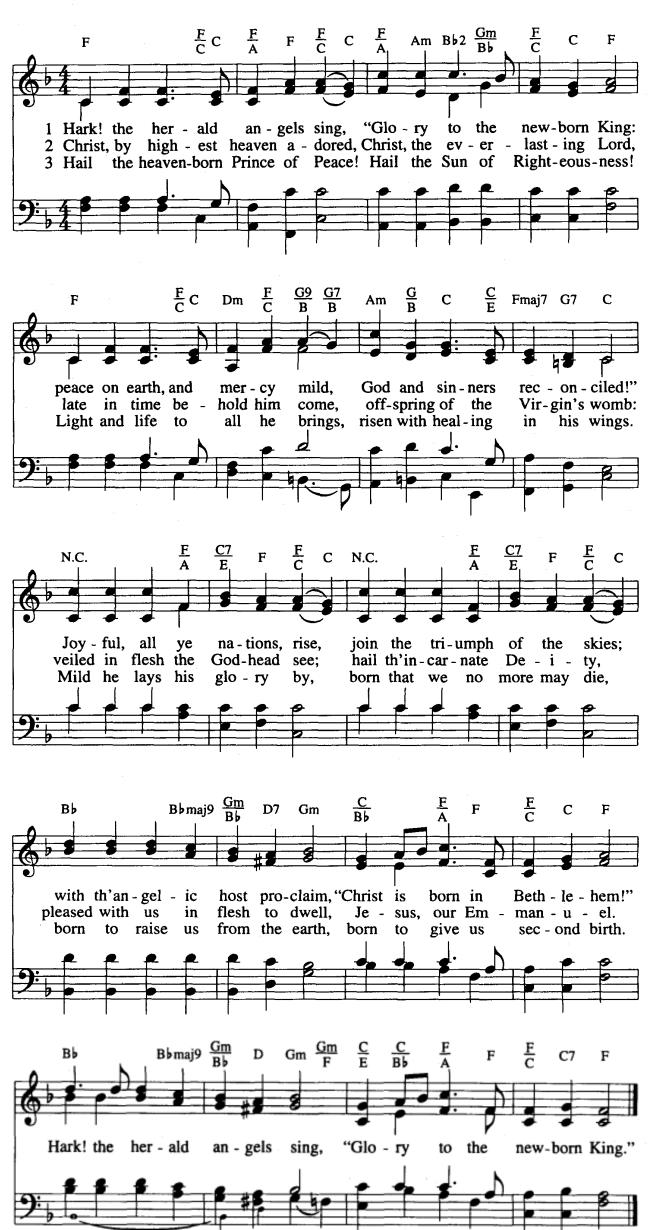


# 184

# What Child Is This



# 185 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing



# Go, Tell It on the Mountain



### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Family Worship Today**

Our worship service on **Sunday, December 29** is a family worship time. Elementary-age children are encouraged to sit with their grown-ups so they may engage in worship. Younger children will have activities at the Prayground. Nursery care will be available in the nursery.

#### The Mitten Tree

The Mitten Tree in the CE Lobby is used to gather warm things for those who need a helping hand. Please think of what you might hang on the tree—gloves, mittens, hats, scarves, socks, etc. Our gifts will go to adults at the Welcome Inn and Second Mile Center, as well as kids at Second Mile Center and local schools in Royal Oak. The need is great! Thank you in advance. Questions? Contact Julie Matthews.

#### **Year End Contributions**

We welcome your gifts at any time during the year, but we know many folks like to offer year-end donations. If you would like to make such a contribution to FPCRO, please make sure it is delivered to the church or postmarked by December 31 to be included on your 2024 contribution statement. Otherwise, per IRS guidelines, it will appear on your 2025 giving statement. The church offices will be open 9am-1pm on December 30 and 31. Remember you may donate online on our website **fpcro.org** anytime by clicking on the "**Give'** tab.

## **Church Office Holiday Schedule**

The church office and The Backyard Playroom will be closed on January 1.

## **FPCRO Family Game Night Party**

The Worship & Nurture Committee is pleased to host a Family Game Night Party on **Saturday, January 4, 2025 from 2-4pm**. People of **all ages** are invited to bring their favorite game to share!

#### **Ordination Service**

Join FPCRO and the Presbytery of Detroit on **Sunday, January 5, 2025 at 2pm** to celebrate the ordination to the ministry of Word and Sacrament for FPCRO member Lon Kuehn. A reception will follow.

### Men's Fellowship Group

The Men's Fellowship Group will gather at Bagger Dave's in Berkley (2972 Coolidge) starting at **7:30pm on Monday, January 6, 2025**. Join us for some multifarious topics of conversation. If you can't join us at 7:30pm, don't worry. Join us at 8pm or 8:30pm and you can find a place in one of the conversations.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONTINUED

### **Upcoming January S.T.A.G.E. Dates**

SCAN TO LEARN MORE Regular Meeting on **January 12**, from 4:30-6:30pm at **First Presbyterian Church Birmingham**. Service day at Crossroads on **January 26**. S.T.A.G.E. (Somewhere To Ask God Everything) is a collaborative youth group which strives to build lifelong relationships, impact the communities we live in, and learn about and share the love of Christ! Join our newsletter by emailing **stageyouth@gmail.com** for all the details on our meetings, added service events during the year, and summer mission work! Meetings are open to all Middle and High School Students (6th-12th grade)

## Women's Fellowship Group

Women of all ages and stages are invited to participate for fellowship, friendship, and conversation. We'll meet at North End Taproom (111. S. Main St., Royal Oak) on Monday, January 20, 2025 at 7pm. The Taproom offers beverages, including non-alcoholic options, and food.