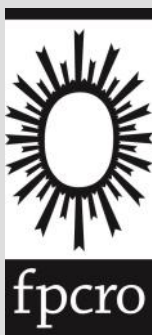


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ROYAL OAK

MAY 12, 2024 | 9 & 10:30AM

Seventh Sunday of Easter



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

“Air with Variations”

G.F. Handel

10:30

“Prière”

Joseph Jongen

Public Domain

Welcome & Announcements

◊ Call to Worship¹

One: May your love and mercy be upon us today, O Lord.

All: Cleanse and refresh us from every transgression.

One: Let your joy and gladness dawn in our spirits,

All: and the recreating power of your Spirit make us new.

One: Have mercy upon us O God,

All: and let your Spirit lead us in truth and praise.

◊ Hymn #358

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Public Domain

Call to Confession and *Kyrie Eleison*

One: Let us put our trust in God’s ways and confess our sins. Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

All: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Prayer of Confession

adapted from *The Message Bible*, Psalm 51

All: God, you are generous in love and you call us into life with you. Yet we have been out of step with you for a long time. Sometimes it feels like our sins are staring us down. Forgive us for the ways we have violated your commandments. But please don’t throw us out with the trash! God, make a fresh start in us. Breathe holiness into us. Put a fresh wind in our sails, that we might follow you and live in your ways.

[silence for individual prayer]

One: Through Jesus Christ, we pray,

All: Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

One: When we repent, God creates in us a new heart, and puts a new and right spirit within us.

All: In the name of 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: Filled with the Spirit of Love, we exchange signs of peace. May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

All: And also with you.

(10:30am)

Time with the Children

After the Time with the Children, kids may go to Sunday school classes with their teachers and will return to the sanctuary at the conclusion of the service.



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

All: Gracious God, open our hearts and minds to the gift of your word, the bread of heaven. Let us hunger and thirst for your grace, that we may also share it in the world. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Psalm 51

Pew Bible, OT pg. 574

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

All: Thanks be to God.

(10:30am)

Anthem

“Wash Me Thoroughly”

David Halls

~Chancel Choir

“Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, and forgive me all my sin. For I acknowledge my faults, and my sin is ever before me.”

©2002 Oxford University Press

Sermon

“Laundry and Love”

Rev. Marianne Grano



THANKSGIVING

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

“Vouchsafe, O Lord”

G.F. Handel

~Bryan Clinthorne

“Vouchsafe, O Lord: to keep us this day without sin. O Lord, have mercy upon us. O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us: as our trust is in thee.”

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

◇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



SENDING

◇Hymn #378

“Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God”

Text & Music: John Carter ©1997 Hope Publishing Co.

◇Benediction

(10:30am)

Postlude

“Prelude in C Major”

J.S. Bach
Public Domain

1 Portions of today's liturgy were adapted from *Spill the Beans: Worship and Learning Resources for All Ages*, Issue 18, 2016.

Marianne Grano is our worship leader today. She was ordained in 2006 and has served two churches in Detroit Presbytery and also served as Stated Clerk of the Presbytery. She is currently serving as a Parish Associate for Lake Shore Church in St. Clair Shores, while continuing her legal work full-time for Kienbaum Hardy Viviano Pelton & Forrest. Her book, *The Best Possible Way to Live: A Journey Through God's Word*, is available from Amazon.com. She currently lives in St. Clair Shores with her husband, three children, mother-in-law, and golden retriever, enjoying time on the lake with family. She very much appreciates the opportunity to share FPCRO's pulpit for the first time.

LITURGIST

Kevin Schnieders

FPCRO STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Emma Nickel

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

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

SOLOISTS

Bryan Clinthorne, *baritone*

Olivia Donnel, *soprano*

Brady DeVecchio, *tenor*

Audrey Frieberg, *soprano*

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Pastor Emma Nickel will be out of the office May 12-18, attending a virtual continuing education event, the Festival of Homiletics.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers are given by Bill and Barb Hayes in memory of their son Eric, and in honor of his family: Jenn, Olivia, and Tommy.

There will be a Congregation al Meeting next Sunday, May 19, immediately following the 10:30am service, to elect nominees for office.

We welcome members of Drayton Presbyterian Church to our worship services today.

Nametag Boards

As we welcome Drayton Presbyterian Church to Evans Chapel, we have given some attention to the FPCRO nametag storage boards. Nametags of those who regularly attend the 9am service remain in the Chapel Narthex. Nametags of those who regularly attend the 10:30am service are being stored on the board in the Sanctuary narthex. Take a look on the Sanctuary board if you're having trouble finding your tag! If you need a (new) nametag, please add your name to the list on the table outside the Sanctuary doors, then look for your tag waiting for you there the next Sunday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONTINUED

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

Middle and high schoolers and friends are invited to our collaborative S.T.A.G.E. (Somewhere To Ask God Everything) youth ministry. Meetings, on select Sundays, are from 4:30-6:30pm, unless otherwise specified. Questions? Contact Director, Jessica Gibbs, at stageyouth@gmail.com. Scan the QR code for more information.



SCAN ME

May 18: Flower Sale at Greenfield Presbyterian Church. If you ordered flowers, don't forget to pick up between 12pm and 2pm!

June 9: End of Year Party at FPCRO

Men's Fellowship Group Tomorrow

The Men's Group will gather on **Monday, May 13 at 7:30pm** at Bagger Dave's in Berkley. Please join us for a return visit, or your first time, for some free-flowing conversation on a wide range of subjects. Questions? Contact Derek Helenberger or Matthew Nickel.

Women's Fellowship Group

The Women's Group will meet from **9:30-10:30am** on **Friday, June 7** at Coffee and Bark in Berkley. Questions? Contact Amanda Curry.

Volunteer Drivers Needed

Some of our church members are, for a variety of reasons, no longer able to drive themselves to church. These same church members have a strong desire to attend church services in person on at least a few Sundays each month. The only thing holding them back is transportation. You can make their wish a reality! If you would be able and willing to help, on an occasional basis, to drive a church member to Sunday services, please call Roger Watson at 248-752-0584. If called upon to drive, he will try to match you with someone living close to your home. Thank you for your help with this important church mission.

Buy Nothing 'Free Sale' on May 18

You're invited to visit the church on **Saturday, May 18 from 9am-12pm** to peruse the Free Sale in our parking lots. Neighbors will bring unwanted/unused items from their homes and gift them to others in the community. This event encourages **community connections and cares for creation** by keeping items out of landfills. See if you find any treasures to take home! (If the weather forces a cancellation, this event will be held on the rain date of June 15.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONTINUED

Mission in Service Project

Join the Mission in Service committee after the 10:30am service on **Sunday, May 19** to pack hygiene kits for Church World Service. The Deacons will host coffee hour I Kirkman Fellowship Hall, while we also join together to help neighbors around the world in this intergenerational project which will be done in an assembly-line style.

Sunday Serenade, June 2

Join us **Sunday, June 2 at 2pm**, in support of our talented section leaders/soloists Bryan Clinthorne, Brady DelVecchio, Olivia Donnel, and Audrey Frieberg, as they share their gifts with us in an afternoon of song. We are fortunate to have such a wonderful quartet of soloists and this concert will feature them in ways that go beyond what we hear on a Sunday morning. The program will include solos, duets, trios, and quartets from classical Art Song, Opera, and Musical Theater. Within this huge variety there will be something for everyone to enjoy! Our own Joseph Jackson will accompany our talented singers for a beautiful concert which will showcase the versatility of their gifts. The concert will be free and open to the public.

Service of Peace and Justice

On **Sunday, June 9 at 10:30am**, the FPCRO choirs will lead a special worship service focusing on peace and justice. The Chancel Choir, Sunburst Singers children's choir, and Jubilate Bell Choir will offer music that witnesses to the peace of Christ and God's commitment to justice and equity in the world. Join us for this powerful worship service.

Register Today! Scuba VBS is June 24-28, 9am-12pm

Children receive a free gift with registration! **Deadline to register is June 1, 2024.** Children 4 years old through 5th grade welcome. <http://tinyurl.com/yc42r5m8>



Volunteer for SCUBA Vacation Bible School!

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/mr53bmrf> to join in on the fun!



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.