




**July 30, 2017**

**9:00 am Arise! Worship**

**Royal Oak First United Methodist Church**

Pastor Jeff Nelson

320 W Seventh St, Royal Oak, Michigan 48067

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**Welcome to Royal Oak First United Methodist Church**

Visitors are encouraged to fill out the Friendship Folder along with our members.

**Please join us downstairs in the Fellowship Hall for refreshments following worship.**

**Hearing enhancement devices and large print bulletins** are available from the ushers.

\*All who choose may stand

**FWS:** Song printed in black The Faith We Sing Hymnal **UMH:** Song printed in blue United Methodist Hymnal

**Welcome**

\* **Songs**

Send Me Out

God Loves You (and There's Nothing You Can Do)

\* **Call to Worship**

Janet Kinney

One: Creating God, gather us in,

**All: All shapes and sizes, all colors and creeds.**

One: Redeeming God, gather us in,

**All: From pride and privilege, from grief and want**

One: Inspiring God, gather us in,

**All: To warm welcome, deep care, and to send us out again!**

**Amen!**

\* **Song #393 (UMH)**

Spirit of the Living God

\* **Greeting Your Neighbor**

**Invitation to Mission**

**Time with Children**

**Time of Prayer**

**Prayer**

God of mercy, you have walked with us through the darkest nights and brightest days. You have set us on a path, walked with us, and cast a light on the way ahead. Too many times, though, we strayed. Distractions pulled us aside, thorns snagged at us, and we lost sight of your guidance. Forgive us, Lord. Help us to lean on you and to look for your light everyday. You know our hearts, and you hear our silent prayers.

*Moment of Silent Prayer*

*Pastoral Prayer*

## The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Musical Offering

*Big House*  
House Band

\* **Song #572 (UMH)**

Pass It On

**Scripture**

Matthew 25:31-45  
Matthew 28:16-20  
Text listed in Happenings

*Common English Bible*  
*Common English Bible*

**Message**

Get Going!

Jeff Nelson

\* **Song #593 (UMH)**

Here I Am, Lord

**Blessing**

Dear Friends,

I am writing this letter from the lodge porch at Camp Ohiyesa, the site of our annual Choir Camp. In front of me is the beauty of Fish Lake. In its calmness, it becomes a mirror capturing and then reflecting the serenity of all that surrounds us. Above me is the bluest of skies, broken up only by white puffs of clouds. I watch the grace of a string of Canadian Geese as they fly across the sky and splash into the lake. The scents of summer bring an overwhelming sense of connection to this beautiful place. And, as if we needed another reminder of the Spirit's presence, upon our arrival we were greeted by the arc of the most beautiful rainbow, stretching from one side of the lake to the other. When God said, "Now this - is good!" this must have been what God had in mind.

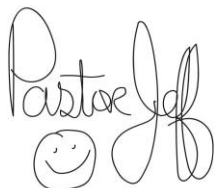
But it is what is happening in the next room that brings the biggest smile to my face. It is the voices of our High School Choir repeating the phrase, "May the Lord bless you and keep you" in perfect harmony. I can only hope that this becomes a prayer that these teenagers will carry with them throughout their lives. I pray that, because of coming to Choir Camp, these young people will have a reservoir of faith they can call upon forever. Camp is a special place!

This year marked the 62nd year that Royal Oak First United Methodist has held Choir Camp. Think about that. That is over 4,000 instances of young people have been given this experience and over 2,000 instances of adults helping to make it happen. It is an amazing legacy of which I am proud to be a small part. It is your true labor of love.

I just want to say thank you to all of you who helped make this week happen. From buying pasties from the Music Guild, to giving up a week of their summer to spend with these young people, and everything in between, you have made Christ's love real to 73 young people this week! You are a blessing!

By the way - only 357 days until choir Camp 2018! Who's going?

Grace and Peace,



Pastor Jeff