

Why Wait?



ADVENT 2021

Rooted in Patience

Sunday, November 28, 2021 9:00AM and 11:00AM
ROYAL OAK FIRST: A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	"Coventry Carol" arr. Joel Raney	Karen Roth, Violin
Bell Peal		Amy Rhoades
Hymn #203 (*UMH)	Hail to the Lord's Anointed	Congregational Singing
Lighting of the Advent Candle		The Mikell Family (9am) The Showers Family (11am)
Musical Response #211 (*UMH)	O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Stanza 1)	Congregational Singing
Invitation to Mission		Jeff Nelson
Ministry Moment	<i>Noisy Bucket</i>	
Time of Prayer		Erica Plesco
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		
Musical Offering	"Gesu Bambino" arr. Craig Duncan	Karen Roth, Violin
Doxology #95 (*UMH)	Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow	Congregational Singing
Scripture (**CEB)	Jeremiah 33:14-16	Erica Plesco
Message	Why Wait?	Jeff Nelson
Hymn #206 (*UMH)	I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light	Congregational Singing
Benediction		Jeff Nelson
Postlude	"Veni, Emmanuel" arr. Robert Powell	Kyle Webber

*United Methodist Hymnal

**Common English Bible

ANNOUNCEMENTS



TAKE HOME ADVENT WREATHS

As we enter into this season of watching and waiting, we have prepared a take home advent wreath for every household at Royal Oak First to help ground ourselves in the season. **You may pick one up after worship today!**



CHILDREN'S STORYTIME WITH PASTOR JEFF

Join Pastor Jeff every Sunday evening in Advent (11/28, 12/5, 12/12, 12/19) at 7:00 p.m. on Facebook Live for an online story that will get you in the spirit of the season.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The Executive Committee of the United Methodist Women (UMW) will meet Thursday, December 2 at 10:30 a.m. in the Parlor. We will be program planning for the 2022 general meetings. If you would like to contribute your ideas, please come to the meeting.



WINTER WONDERLAND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

To celebrate Royal Oak's 100th birthday, the city is having Downtown Winter Wonderland Centennial Celebration on December 2 and 3 from 4-9 p.m. Royal Oak First will be involved by leading a "service through crafts" workshop at the new Police Station. If you know how to cut and glue and have a little time to spare, we would love your help with this mission project. Email Karla Goetz with questions (missions@rofum.org), and sign up with Karla Goetz after service on Sunday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



SPREAD THE CHEER!

Bring four dozen of your favorite type of cookie or holiday treat on Saturday, December 11 from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. You will go home with a variety platter of cookies and also a couple treat bags to deliver to the home of our church members. No need to be a baker to spread holiday cheer. We need people to send cards, people to bake, kids to make cards, people to assemble bags and people to deliver. Visit www.rofum.org to sign up.



BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS

Families with infants experiencing their very first Christmas are invited to 9:00 a.m. worship on Sunday, December 12 for a special blessing and gift from the church. We are excited to celebrate this special moment with you and your newborn!



A COMMUNITY-WIDE CAROL SING

On Sunday, December 12, 2021 at 3:00 p.m., join us on our front lawn for cookies, hot chocolate and a good ole Christmas Carol sing. Bring the whole family along for this special event - it will be sure to get you in the Christmas spirit.

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LAUGHING ALL THE WAY:

A NIGHT OF CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR WOMEN

On Monday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m. Put on your Christmas pajamas, grab your favorite snack and beverage and join us online via Zoom for an evening of storytelling and cheer. All women are welcome! Hosted by Jennifer Tripoli and Bridget Nelson.



CHRISTMAS SWEATER SUNDAY

Sunday, December 19 at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Worship. Wear your favorite Christmas sweater - "ugly" or not! Come and spread the joy of the season with your best Christmas get-up!



LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

Tuesday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m.

Whether mourning the loss of a loved one, dealing with an illness, navigating financial struggles or simply not feeling the spirit of Christmas; this service is a quiet, prayerful moment acknowledging the difficulties of the season.



Toy and Clothing Drive

Cass Community Social Services

CASS CHRISTMAS STORE

The Royal Oak First United Methodist Women's Group (UMW) is once again helping the children at Cass Community Social Services to celebrate Christmas. Before December 12, you can contribute by bringing in **NEW unwrapped toys and NEW winter clothes appropriate for kids age birth to 18 years. Please, avoid battery operated gifts.** Thank you!



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP EXPERIENCES

4:00 p.m. - Sanctuary/Livestream

Children's Christmas Pageant - A service for children and families. The children of Royal Oak First will present the story of the First Christmas.

7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary/Livestream

"Blue Jean Christmas" - a modern worship experience. Come as you are and worship with us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. We will also have a service of candlelight as part of our worship.

9:00 p.m. - Sanctuary/Livestream

Traditional Christmas Eve worship service with organ and piano accompaniment. We will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion and have a service of candlelight.

11:00 p.m. - Outside

Join us outside on our front lawn for a simple, yet Holy worship experience in the dark of night as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Communion will be served and a service of candlelight will be included.

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Rachel Fitzpatrick • Don Matson • Kira Tull • Brian Nader • Michael Frank •
Dorthea Schuldeis • Dorothy Matsumoto • Beckham Boozan • Phil Button •
Jane Button • Jim Kosnik • Carl Sweet • Al & Barb Simmons • Laci Basel •
Todd Wells • Nancy Lorenz • Lisa Rye • Charlene Faunt • Barb Nicholas •
Marian Kremer • Melinda Loftin • Tom Soboleski • Karen Wetzel •
Janet Ramseyer • John Wagster • Neil Franks • Dave Minch • Patricia Callahan •
Maya Lane Harris • Kimberlyn Palchak • Diane Shornak • Carrie Morse •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Chrystl Roman • Tina Bell • T.B. • Jethro Horton • Flora Jones • Deni Bartley •
Earl Hendrickson • Evert & Kay Burchell • Neil Mullins • Effie Lambros •
The Pushman Family • Marc Reddekopp • Michael McFarlane • Darryl Warren •
Sue Sugden • Sally Sou • Teresa Baker •

Sympathies to:

Roger Johnson on the death of his brother, Tim Johnson, November 8, 2021
The friends and family of former member David Pearson, November 21, 2021
The Nahhat family on the death of their cousins, Joseph and Elaine Darany

Congratulations to:

Starr Whitaker on the birth of her son, Sawyer on November 2, 2021

Prayers for All That Have Been Impacted by COVID-19

For the complete Prayer List,
please contact Danielle Moody at prayers@rofum.org.

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

I write this to you in the days before Thanksgiving. This holiday gives us the chance to pause and reflect on the blessings that are our lives.

Life is not always easy. This past year and half has brought challenges we never could have anticipated. So many things we simply took for granted have been made more difficult to participate in and appreciate.

To my surprise, I have discovered that this season has actually made me more aware of the small things that bless my life - things in the past I may not have given as much thought.

Moments of quiet.
The beauty of the leaves.
A good cup of coffee.
A quick call from my brother.

All of these remind me that my life is full of goodness.

I pray that you too are aware of your blessings in things both big and small this Thanksgiving.

This Sunday begins a new season - the season of waiting we call Advent. Yes, we wait for Christmas to get here, but we are waiting for more than that, aren't we?

We are waiting for the world to be transformed - to become the Kingdom of God that Jesus' life and teachings embodied. How can we help bring about the world we are waiting to arrive?

To help better glimpse this transformed world of Jesus this season, we are inviting you to pick-up an Advent Wreath here at church and join us in the daily lighting and prayers. Call the church office at 248.541.4100 if you need any help getting one of these wreaths to you.

This simple act of gratitude practiced each day will help prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of the life and world to which Jesus' life gives birth.

Happy Thanksgiving and a joyous Advent to you and yours.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Jeff". Below the signature is a simple line drawing of a smiley face with two dots for eyes and a curved line for a mouth.