

Royal Oak First United Methodist Church



COME TO THE  
*Table*



Sunday, February 11, 2024  
9:00AM and 11:00AM

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Prelude**

“My Lord, What a Morning”  
arr. Cindy Berry

Kyle Webber

## **Call to Worship**

*L: Welcome, friends, to this holy day.*

*C: We come to offer thanks; we come to sing and pray.*

*L: Welcome, friends, to this time set apart.*

*C: A time to remember those we love, and time to remember the holy promises of God.*

*L: Welcome, friends, to this table of remembrance and joy.*

*C: The table where we are fed, the feast we share with many.*

*L: Welcome, friends, and let us worship God.*

## **Song**

“Morning Has Broken”

### *Verse 1*

*Morning has broken like the first morning*

*Blackbird has spoken like the first bird*

*Praise for the singing, praise for the morning*

*Praise for them springing fresh from the world*

### *Verse 2*

*Sweet the rains new fall, sunlit from Heaven*

*Like the first dewfall on the first grass*

*Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden*

*Sprung in completeness where His feet pass*

### *Verse 3*

*Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning*

*Born of the one light, Eden saw play*

*Praise with elation, praise every morning*

*God's recreation of the new day*

## **Song**

“Blessed Assurance”

### *Verse 1*

*Blessed assurance Jesus is mine  
O what a foretaste of glory divine  
Heir of salvation purchase of God  
Born of His Spirit washed in His love*

### *Chorus*

*This is my story this is my song  
Praising my Savior all the day long  
This is my story this is my song  
Praising my Savior all the day long*

### *Verse 2*

*Perfect submission perfect delight  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight  
Angels descending bring from above  
Echoes of mercy whispers of love*

### *Verse 3*

*Perfect submission all is at rest  
I in my Savior am happy and blest  
Watching and waiting looking above  
Filled with His goodness lost in His love*

## **Welcome & Invitation to Mission**

Jennifer Tripoli & Jeff Nelson

## **Mission Moment**

Karla Goetz

## **Time of 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  
The Power  
and The Glory, forever.*

*Amen*

## **Invitation to Offering**

Erica Plesco

## **Musical Offering**

“To the Table”  
by Zach Williams

Kiersten Ciccone &  
Meagan Grammatico

## **Doxology**

“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

*Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him, all creatures here below  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost  
Amen*

## **Scripture**

Mark 2:13-17

*Jesus went out beside the lake again. The whole crowd came to him, and he began to teach them. As he continued along, he saw Levi, Alphaeus' son, sitting at a kiosk for collecting taxes. Jesus said to him, "Follow me." Levi got up and followed him.*

*Jesus sat down to eat at Levi's house. Many tax collectors and sinners were eating with Jesus and his disciples. Indeed, many of them had become his followers. When some of the legal experts from among the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples, "Why is he eating with sinners and tax collectors?"*

*When Jesus heard it, he said to them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor, but sick people do. I didn't come to call righteous people, but sinners."*

## **Message**

“Come to the Table”

Jeff Nelson

## **Sacrament of Holy Communion**

## **Closing Hymn**

“For Everyone Born”

### *Verse 1*

*For everyone born, a place at the table,  
for everyone born, clean water and bread,  
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,  
for everyone born, a star overhead,*

### *Refrain*

*And God will delight when we are creators  
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:  
yes, God will delight when we are creators  
of justice, justice and joy!*

### *Verse 2*

*For woman and man, a place at the table,  
revising the roles, deciding the share,  
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,  
for woman and man, a system that's fair,*

*(Refrain)*

### *Verse 3*

*For young and for old, a place at the table,  
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,  
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,  
for young and for old, the right to belong,*

*(Refrain)*

### *Verse 4*

*For gay and for straight, a place at the table,  
a covenant shared, a welcoming space,  
a rainbow of race and gender and color,  
for gay and for straight, the chalice of grace,*

*(Refrain)*

## **Benediction**

### **Postlude**

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”  
arr. Larry Shackley

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

**Drive Thru Ashes on Lafayette!** Drive up to the Lafayette Street side of the church to receive the imposition of ashes right in your car! Our pastors will be available for a special blessing from 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

**Simple Soup Supper at 6:00 p.m.** Join us for a simple soup supper in the Gathering Space before worship begins as we kick-off our Lenten journey around the theme of coming to the table. What better way than to gather around the table with a hot bowl of soup and bread.

**Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 p.m.** Held both online and in-person in the Sanctuary, where we will have the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion.



## “COME TO THE TABLE”

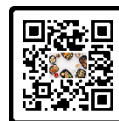
### LENT FOOD COLLECTION

Throughout Lent, we will be focusing our Missions Projects on feeding the hungry throughout our community. We are asking that you bring in the following items for the Outreach on 7<sup>th</sup> Food Pantry: canned soup or pasta, cans/pouches of tuna or chicken, pasta/sauce, etc. Additionally, the Lunch Program would appreciate donations of individually bagged chips, breakfast bars, fruit/applesauce cups, and 8 oz. bottled water. Please drop off in the white bins just up the stairs in the Tower entrance and just outside the Welcome Desk by the Lafayette entrance.



## LENT 2024 MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

The Missions Team has arranged many volunteer opportunities for you to help us feed the hungry during Lent. These include “Service (for others) on Sundays”, RBI Meal Assemblies, RBI Produce Shopping, and a Sandwich Assembly (from home) supporting the NOAH Project. We would love your participation in any or all of these missions! Scan the QR code to sign up.



SCAN ME

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Support Our  
Youth by Baking!**

## **SUPPORT OUR YOUTH BAKE SALE AT FISH DINNERS BY BAKING!**

Our youth group are selling baked goods at our next three Fish Dinners and you can help! If you would be willing to bake something for their sale, scan the QR code to sign up. All proceeds will go towards the youth group summer service trips.



SCAN ME



## **WE NEED FISH DINNERS VOLUNTEERS!**

**Fridays, February 16<sup>th</sup> & March 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>**

Thank you to everyone who volunteered for our first fish dinner! We have three more fish dinners and could still use volunteers, so please scan the QR code to sign up OR visit the Connections Table after service and we will help you sign up. Note: Kids that volunteer get credit towards camp!



SCAN ME



## **OUR 2<sup>ND</sup> FISH DINNER IS THIS FRIDAY!**

**Fridays, February 16<sup>th</sup> & March 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>**

**4:30-7:00 p.m.**

Our famous fish dinners are back, so bring your family and friends and join us for four wonderful nights of food and fellowship. Our fish dinners benefit our children and youth where proceeds are used to send them to choir camp.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## *Active Shooter Training*

Sunday, February 18  
12:30 p.m.

## **ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING**

Please join us for an important training about how to handle being in an active shooter situation. Sergeant Buckley from the Royal Oak Police Department will give a presentation, followed by a Q & A period on Sunday, February 18 at 12:30 p.m. We expect the training to last no more than one hour.

## **Moms at Pubs** (MAP)



## **MOMS AT PUBS (MAP)**

MAP is a group that meets for fun and fellowship at a local pub, giving moms a chance to relax, laugh, and enjoy the fellowship of other moms. This month we will meet on Thursday, February 22 at 7:00 p.m. at North End Taproom, 111 S. Main Street, Royal Oak. If you want to be added to our email list for upcoming events, please contact Pastor Jennifer Tripoli at [jtripoli@rofum.org](mailto:jtripoli@rofum.org) or phone/text 248.703.8805.



World Medical Relief  
SERVICE DAY

## **WORLD MEDICAL RELIEF-SERVICE DAY**

Last spring, several dozen members of Royal Oak First went to World Medical Relief in Southfield to help sort medical supplies in order to fill a shipping container to be sent to Turkey as earthquake relief. We had a great time and were immediately discussing a return trip. Our return date has been set as Saturday, February 24, 8:45-11:30 a.m. Plan to wear comfortable shoes, as most volunteers will be standing, but some sitting tasks are available too.



SCAN ME



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## MARCH GROWTH LAB— “CONTEMPLATING PRAYER”

When the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray, were they asking for a formula? Instead, what if we consider prayer as a means for connecting with the Divine above all else? At our March 2<sup>nd</sup> Growth Lab, we will explore metaphors for connecting to God and contemplative practices that can grow our awareness of God within and around us. Join us from 9:30 a.m.-noon for a time of learning, sharing, and practicing. Scan the QR code to sign up.



## SAVE THE DATE!

We need everyone to attend Royal Oak First’s Visioning Day on Saturday, March 9 from 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. to help us plan the future for our amazing church! We will be covering such questions as: Who are we? What is God calling us to do? Who are our neighbors? and more. We hope everyone will come and be present with us on this very important day. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided and child care will be available. You can RSVP by using the QR code or look for your invitation in the mail.



## JOIN OUR CHOIR CAMP STAFF!

We are going back to Camp Ohiyesa in Holly! It is time to start thinking about campfires, Olympics, swimming, and all the fun we have! Camp will be the week of July 21-27 for kids grades 4-12 and we need volunteers! **Camp staff applications are available in the church office and at the Connections Table. Please turn in by March 1.** If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Jennifer Tripoli at 248.703.8805 or email her at [jttripoli@rofum.org](mailto:jttripoli@rofum.org).

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## WOMEN'S RETREAT

We are bringing back the Women's Retreat!! April 12-14, join women from Royal Oak First for a weekend of fun, fellowship and faith! We will be at Lake Huron Retreat Center, just north of Port Huron from Friday evening until Sunday morning. Take some time to get away, enjoy a beautiful place and meet some new friends from church. Sign up will start soon! Contact Bridget Nelson at [bnelson@rofum.org](mailto:bnelson@rofum.org) or call 248.541.4100 with questions.



## REDFORD BRIGHTMOOR INITIATIVE PRODUCE PROGRAM

Thank you for your continued support in providing fresh produce monthly to the families served through Redford Brightmoor Initiative's Free Store! We are in need of four shopping volunteers and one delivery driver for March. If you are able, please consider also signing up to shop multiple months and/or deliver this year. Scan the QR code to sign up.



## FEEDING OUR YOUTH GROUP

Every Sunday night, our Youth Group gathers for fellowship and activities to grow in our relationship with God and with each other. A big part of this is having dinner together. Would you be willing to provide dinner for our youth? **You can cook at home, or cook here at church or sponsor us ordering something.** If you would be able to help in this way, scan the QR code to sign up.



# PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

## **Prayers for Our Church Family:**

Margie Dallavo • Sarah and Jordan Altman • Yvonne Bashur • Lisa Forzley • Lee Hoffmann • Sinead Valentine • Al and Gloria Knappenberger • Betty Latimer • Linda Wilson • Diane Sexton • Judy Bryan • Inge Wichers • Ann Anderson • Mary Lou Graeber • Kim Stroud • Charlene Faunt • Dauroran Shirina Lee-Thurman • Mike Long • Diana Shornak • Carrie Morse • Nancy Reid • Dona Wells • Kathy Seidler • Allison and Bill Hempstead • Marian Kremer • Sheryl Hunter • Art Miller • Mary Nahhat • Donna Allen •

## **Prayers for Our Extended Family:**

Ann Vee • Weston Phinney • Earl Hendrickson • Darren Bowie • Kerry Franks • Effie Lambros • Ellen Delangy • Claire Jones • Paul Lucas • Harold Baker • Jeff and Marcy Carmichael • Ellen Carmichael • Rob Tencza • John and Joyce Barber • Neal Gaberdiel • Scott Spaulding • Nancy Graves • Laura Cable • Jennifer Gaudette-Wood • Connie Armstrong • Robert Baker • Glen Baker • Faye Rogers • Julia Rogers • Kyron Bradstrom • James Lovitt • Liz Fitch • Jim Slimek • Jonathon Larson • Bob Blonde • Sharon Pillow • Scott Peacor and Kyla Boyse • Larry Campbell • Dan Hicks • Brent Miller • Carl Jones • Dorothy Follette • Deana Sawicki • Atlas • Steve Wurdock •

## **Congratulations to:**

John and Lisa VanderMeer on the birth of their daughter, Lilly Hazel on February 7, 2024

*If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List,  
please contact Danielle Moody at [prayers@rofum.org](mailto:prayers@rofum.org).*

# LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

It has long been the United Methodist tradition to serve Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month. This tradition evolved in the days of the Methodist Circuit Riders. Circuit Riders went from town to town on horseback to preach, teach and serve The Lord's Supper. These preachers would visit your community about once a month. Hence, the tradition of monthly communion was born.

John Wesley founded what became the Methodist Movement. Wesley was a proponent of constant communion. He encouraged people to come to the Lord's Table as often as it was available. Wesley believed that we could experience forgiveness, reconciliation, and grace each time we come to the table. Wesley also felt that the Communion Table was the place we most connected in love with each other. It makes sense that Wesley wanted his movement to experience the sacrament as often as possible.

I love Holy Communion. I love coming to the table. I love serving at the table. I have had some of my most profound worship experiences in the breaking of bread and sharing of the cup. Like Wesley, I sometimes wish we offered more frequent communion.

So beginning this Sunday through the Lenten season, we will serve communion each Sunday. It is my prayer that this change of routine will deepen our connection to Christ and to each other. Each week we will experience the sacrament in interesting and creative ways. As always, the Communion Table is open. Everyone is welcome to come and receive the blessings of our tradition.

See you at the table.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive 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.

Pastor Jeff Nelson