

*Makin'
it Real*



Sunday,
October 19,
2025

11AM
service

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	"Meditation" (Gordon Jacob)	Michael Rosas
Call to Worship		Sue Buxton
Opening Hymn #2236*	"Gather Us In"	
Welcome & Invitation to Mission		Jeff Nelson & Jennifer Tripoli
Special Music	"Do You Know Who Made the World?"	PreK, K/Lower Elementary Choirs
Finance Moment		Mike McNutt
Time of Prayer		
Consecration Sunday Announcement		Jonathon Parker
Scripture Reading**	John 1:29-32, 35-50	
Invitation to Offering		
Musical Offering	"Two Were Bound for Emmaus" (Bob Hurd)	Sanctus Choir
Doxology	"Gratefully Offer Talents and Service" (verse 1)	
Scripture Reading**	Mark 1:14-15	
Message	"Greater Things"	Jeff Nelson
Closing Hymn	"God of History – Recent, Ancient"	
Benediction		
Postlude	"Toccata in D Minor BWV 565" (J.S. Bach)	

**The Faith We Sing*

***Common English Bible*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moms at Pubs

(MAP)



MOMS AT PUBS (MAP)

Calling all moms—of all stages of life! Whether your babies are 10 days old, 15 months old, or fully grown, you're invited to join us for Moms at Pubs. We meet on the 4th Thursday of each month to share conversation, enjoy a meal, and relax over a drink together. **Our next meet up will be Thursday, October 23 at 7:00 p.m. at Cantaritos Mexican Bar & Grill, 386 N. Main Street, Royal Oak, MI 48067.** Come connect, laugh, and unwind with other moms who understand the joys (and challenges!) of motherhood. If you would like to be added to the monthly email blast, please contact Pastor Jennifer at jtripoli@rofum.org.

TRUNK-OR-TREAT WITH KIDS EMPOWERED

Our Missions Team will be participating in a Trunk-or-Treat event hosted by Kids Empowered on **Saturday, October 25, 4:30-6:30 p.m.** The event takes place in the parking lot at an Auburn Hills hotel where Kids



Empowered has helped many struggling families find temporary housing. These families do not have a neighborhood to attend traditional trick-or-treating, so this Trunk-or-Treat event is especially meaningful for these children. We would love your help to make this event special! Please scan the QR code to sign up.

with Kids Empowered

PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

Throughout this month, our team will be celebrating our amazing pastors with some special gifts and treats to show how much we value them. We also invite *you* to join in! Take a moment to express your gratitude, whether it's with a card, a small gift, a sweet treat, or even a simple email of thanks. We are truly blessed by their leadership, care, and presence in our lives!



OCTOBER IS
PASTOR
APPRECIATION
MONTH

ANNOUNCEMENTS



IT'S CHRISTMAS GREENS SALE TIME!

We have wreaths, crosses, canes, balls, centerpieces, and garlands! Royal Oak First Music Guild's Christmas Greens Sale benefits our Summer Choir Camp Program to help offset costs so that camp is affordable for every child. **You must place and pay for your order by November 4. Scan the QR code or stop by the Connections Table to order yours today!**



ALL SAINTS DAY

On **Sunday, November 23**, at both the **9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services**, we will remember the many beloved church members, family members, and friends who we have lost since November 1, 2024. The names of these loved ones will be included in the All Saints pages in the Bulletin.



MEN'S WINTER GEAR COLLECTION

To support the Outreach on 7th Lunch Guests as the weather turns chilly, we will be collecting much needed winter items throughout October. **Much appreciated items include: Men's gloves, hats, long/thermal underwear in larger sizes (L, XL, 2XL), hand/foot warmers, boots, and sleeping bags, along with used men's winter clothing.** You may drop off items in either round white bin located by the Welcome Desk, or you can **shop from our Amazon Wish List and have items delivered** to church by scanning the QR code.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



3RD ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT

Save the date! March 20-22, 2026! Join women from Royal Oak First for a weekend of fun, fellowship and faith! Stay tuned for all the exciting details! Plan to take some time to get away, enjoy a beautiful place and meet some new friends from church.



TRANSFORMATIVE RETREATS WITH PASTOR JEFF: "ENCOUNTERING CHRIST"

Join us for a series of **monthly Saturday morning retreats from 9:30-11:30 a.m.**, led by Pastor Jeff, designed to help you pause, reflect, and open your heart to encountering Christ in new ways. Each retreat offers a sacred space for prayer, conversation, and spiritual renewal.

The next retreat is on **November 15 "If You Are Willing – The Healing Ministry of Jesus."** To get more details about each retreat and to sign up, scan the QR code.



FOOD BOX ASSEMBLY & COLLECTION WITH KIDS EMPOWERED

The Missions Team is joining up with Kids Empowered to fill an important need in our community. Kids Empowered receives many calls each week from individuals and families in Oakland County unexpectedly without shelter and food. **On Saturday, November 15th, 1:00-4:00 p.m., we will meet in the Fellowship Hall to help assemble emergency food boxes** that will be used to meet these urgent food requests. Please scan the QR code to sign up to volunteer or to donate needed supplies to fill the food boxes.



Consecration Sunday Is Coming

Over the next few weeks, we will be mentioning that Consecration Sunday is coming, because we want to give you time to prayerfully consider what God might be inviting you to financially commit towards the life of our church.

Our goal this year is to approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective rather than thinking about giving merely to help the church pay its bills. Our congregation's Compass Team has selected the *Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* focused on biblical and spiritual principles of giving as a response to what God has done for us.

Consecration Sunday is based on the principle that giving is part of the giver's personal spiritual discipline and we want to practice being followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God nudging me to give?"

During worship services on Consecration Sunday, November 9, we will ask each of you to make your financial commitment to our church's ministries. Our guest leader, Pastor Brad Bartelmay, will provide a brief period of inspiration and instruction that will allow members to make their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

You will continue to hear about Consecration Sunday from the Compass and Consecration Sunday teams. We will make every effort to inform, inspire, and motivate everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship. If you have any questions about what this means, please contact Rick Buxton, Consecration Sunday Chair or Pastor Jennifer Tripoli.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events!

Grace and Peace,



Amy Rhoades, Compass Team Chair



PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Al Pollard • Patti Peterson • Keith Messing • Joyce Negrich • Mark Thatcher •
Janice Marsh • Nick Harris-Ko • Rita Nicholas • Maggie Blum •
LeeAnn Witherspoon • Karen Porter • Megan Mckenzie-Grimm •
Heather Diemond • Leonard Benyas • Mary Lou Graeber • Joel Palmer •
Phyllis Hassberger • Kathy MacFarlane • Ann Anderson • Don Matson •
Dennis Allen • Janie Castle • Bill Courtney •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Elma Holloway • Amanda Lewandowski • Kimberly • Bruce Snyder •
Ron & Denise Bell Haines • Bob Payne • Penny Carolin • Ann Marie Rogers •
Dorothy Follette • Karen Cunningham •

*If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List,
please contact Danielle Moody at prayers@rofum.org.*



TIME OF PRAYER

All are welcome to the Time of Prayer on Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. at church. We review the church prayer list, spend time in silence and pray together in the Sanctuary. This is wonderful opportunity to uplift your personal prayer requests.

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Beloved Community,

Get ready—it's almost here! Mark your calendars for November 9th! You won't want to miss being at church that day. Trust me!

Why, you ask? Because we are celebrating Consecration Sunday!

That's right! We're pulling out all the stops, and yes, there will be a scrumptious brunch following both services. I mean, who doesn't love a good brunch? It's like breakfast and lunch had a baby, and it's absolutely glorious!

So, why are we celebrating, you wonder? It's simple—God's abundant blessings to us! If I were to ask you right now what you are most thankful for, what would spring to mind? Maybe it's your family, your friends, or that incredible new pair of shoes you found on sale! And if I were to ask you how Royal Oak First has blessed you—what comes to mind? The warmth of our community? The uplifting music? Our transformational missions? Or perhaps your ability to keep a straight face while I deliver my dad jokes?

Here's a freebie: Why did Noah have to discipline the chickens on the ark? Because they were using fowl language!

We'll be celebrating the joy of this community and our lives together on November 9th, and I can't stress enough that you won't want to miss it. For more details, please see Amy Rhoades' note inside the Bulletin.

Oh, and just a friendly reminder: it will also be the day we fill out our annual financial commitment cards at church. Yes, I know that sounds super serious, but I promise it's all part of the celebration!

Think of it as a way to invest in our future together—a future filled with even more blessings, laughter, and maybe a few extra dad jokes. Okay, here's one more: Why did the scarecrow become a pastor? Because he was outstanding in his field! Sorry, not sorry!

So, mark your calendars now, folks! You won't want to miss out on what promises to be a joyful day filled with gratitude, community, and of course, delectable food!

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Jeff". The signature is stylized and includes a small smiley face drawn below the name.

Pastor Jeff Nelson