



Sunday, September 6, 2026
10:00 AM Worship

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering Music

"Try Love"

House Band

Welcome and Call to Worship

Nicole Wilson

Leader: God, you are a God of love.

People: God, today we receive your love.

Leader: God's love is a source of energy and power.

People: We can do anything through the love of God.

Leader: God, teach us to love ourselves.

People: God, teach us to be kind and gracious.

Leader: God, teach us to love our neighbors.

People: Help us to make Christ's love real to one another. Amen.

Song

"Any More"

Congregational Singing

Verse 1

You got a voice in your head
The same old guilt and regret
You heard a thousand times be - fore
After the choices you've made
You're waiting for me to say
I couldn't love you any - more

Pre-Chorus

No matter what's been said to you
Just listen to me, here's the truth

Chorus 1

I couldn't love you any
more than I do right now
There's nowhere I wouldn't go
to get to you, my child
Take a look at the cross,
then you'll know it for sure

ORDER OF WORSHIP

I couldn't love you,
I couldn't love you any more
Any more, any more than I do right now
Any more, any more

Verse 2

When the sin and the shame
Try to lock you away
My grace is breaking down the door
You're the one that I'm running a - fter
You're mine and you mat - ter
Your life's worth dying for

Chorus 1

I couldn't love you any
more than I do right now
There's nowhere I wouldn't go
to get to you, my child
Take a look at the cross,
then you'll know it for sure
I couldn't love you,
I couldn't love you any more
Any more, any more than I do right now
Any more, any more

Bridge

The past doesn't own you any - more
The grave doesn't hold you any - more
I say that you're worth dying for
And I couldn't love you any - more

Chorus 3

I couldn't love you any more

ORDER OF WORSHIP

than I do right now
There's nowhere I wouldn't go
to get to you, my child
Take a look at the cross,
then you'll know it for sure
I couldn't love you,
I couldn't love you any more
Any more, any more than I do right now
Any more, any more

Ending

Any more, any more than I do right now
Any more, any more

Invitation to Community

Jeff Nelson

Prayer Concerns

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

For Thine is the Kingdom
The Power
and The Glory, forever.

Amen

Making Christ's Love Real

Jennifer Tripoli

Invitation to Offering

Musical Offering

"You've Got The Love"

Doxology

"Give Thanks"

Congregational Singing

Oh give thanks to the Lord,
oh give thanks to the Lord,
oh give thanks to the Lord,
oh give thanks always!

Oh give thanks to the Lord,
oh give thanks to the Lord,
oh give thanks to the Lord,
oh give thanks always!

For He is good, the Lord is good;
His steadfast love endures forever!
For He is good, the Lord is good;
His steadfast love endures forever!

Oh give thanks to the Lord,
oh give thanks to the Lord,
oh give thanks to the Lord,
oh give thanks always!

Oh give thanks to the Lord,
oh give thanks to the Lord,
oh give thanks to the Lord,
oh give thanks always!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading

Romans 13:8-10

Our Scripture Reading today is from the book of Romans, chapter 13, verses 8-10. Hear these words.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Message

"Love is Our Art Form"

Jeff Nelson

Closing Song

"What A God"

Congregational Singing

Verse 1

Who thought I'd find You at the lowest place
Who thought You'd feel me in the crowd
Who knew You'd make good of my mistakes
You're nothing like I thought You were You're better

Chorus 1

What a God what a God
What a God what a God
What a God what a God
What a God what a God

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Verse 2

I thought You'd show up for per - fection
'Cause what kind of God looks for the lost
They say it's over for a sinner
But You said no it's not no it's not
You say no it's not no it's not

Chorus 2

What a God what a God
What a God what a God
What a God what a God
What a God what a God

Bridge 1

If the highest place I reach is at Your feet
then I've done it all
If the best thing that I've seen is Your glo - ry
then I've seen it all
Your love has saved my life forever satisfied
You are my everything

Bridge 1

If the highest place I reach is at Your feet
then I've done it all
If the best thing that I've seen is Your glo - ry
then I've seen it all
Your love has saved my life forever satisfied
You are my everything

Bridge 2

If one word is the only thing You speak
then I've heard it all
If I feel Your heart and never see Your hand
I still have it all
No treasure of this life could ever satisfy
You are my everything

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Tag

You are my everything

You are my everything

Chorus 2

What a God what a God

What a God what a God

What a God what a God

What a God what a God

Bridge 1

If the highest place I reach is at Your feet

then I've done it all

If the best thing that I've seen is Your glo - ry

then I've seen it all

Your love has saved my life forever satisfied

You are my everything

Bridge 2

If one word is the only thing You speak

then I've heard it all

If I feel Your heart and never see Your hand

I still have it all

No treasure of this life could ever satisfy

You are my everything

Tag

You are my everything

You are my everything

Benediction

Departing Music

ANNOUNCEMENTS



SOCK IT TO ME SEPTEMBER (UNDERWEAR TOO!)

Our friends at NOAH at Central give out over 10,000 pairs of socks annually as part of their work supporting the homeless of Detroit. It is our goal to contribute 1000 pairs of socks or underwear to NOAH this year, in addition giving 1000 pairs to Outreach on 7th. Please bring a package of NEW MEN'S CREW SOCKS or NEW MENS UNDERWEAR to church during the month of September. Please drop off the items in the white bin near the Welcome Desk by the Lafayette entrance.



FIND YOUR PLACE TO GROW, SERVE & CONNECT AT OUR MINISTRY FAIR!

Sunday, September 13 | right after worship

Join us after our final 10:00 a.m. service of the summer for our Ministry Fair! Enjoy community, connection, and hot dogs while discovering the many ways you can get involved in and around the church. Whether you're looking for a new way to serve, hoping to meet more people or simply curious about what's happening at Royal Oak First, there's a place for you. Come find your place to grow, serve and connect!

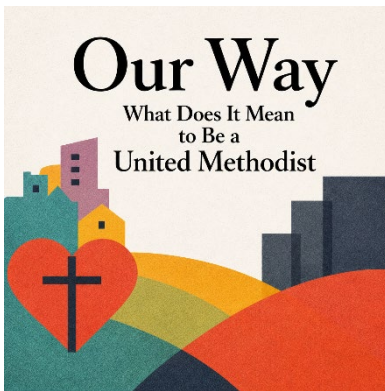


TWO WORSHIP SERVICES RESUME!

Sunday, September 20 | 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Join us as we return to our normal worship times of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. beginning Sunday, September 20. Our 9:00 a.m. service is a more contemporary service and our 11:00 a.m. service is a more traditional service. Join us at one or both services!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A UNITED METHODIST?

Join a six-week small group beginning the week of September 20

What does it mean to be a United Methodist? Have you ever wondered what the significance is to the United Methodist part of our name? Have you always attended a United Methodist church but aren't sure how to tell people how it's different from any other church? This fall, we are going to use a curriculum written for us by Pastor Jeff that helps us understand Our Way. We are inviting you to read this book in groups as a way of understanding how our history as United Methodists shapes us into people who are covered in grace, formed in love, and sent to serve. We have designed a six-week sermon series with accompanying small groups. Most of these groups will kick off the week of September 20. Find a group and sign up today. Buy the book at the church or from Amazon (\$10 print, \$7.50 kindle).



Moms at Pubs (MAP)



MOMS AT PUBS (MAP)

Thursday, September 24 | 7:00 p.m.

Rock & Brews (208 W. 5th St., Royal Oak 48067)

Moms at Pub is a relaxed, welcoming space for moms to connect, share a meal, and enjoy meaningful conversation. We gather once a month on Thursdays, September through June, at different restaurants around Royal Oak. There is no agenda, just good food and great company. Our next gathering will be September 24 at 7:00 p.m. at Rock & Brews (208 W Fifth Street, Royal Oak). We send out a monthly email reminder with details and locations. To be added to the list, please email Pastor Jennifer Tripoli at jtripoli@rofum.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



COMING HOME TO YOURSELF: AN ENNEAGRAM JOURNEY

Saturdays, beginning September 26 | 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Do you ever feel disconnected from yourself? This six-week group explores how the Enneagram can help us understand the ways we have adapted to feel safe, loved, and accepted. Through reflection, discussion, and contemplative practices, we'll focus on: self-understanding, self-compassion, and self-trust. Together, we'll learn to reconnect with our inner experience to live with greater freedom, wholeness, and connection to God. Cost is \$60 per person. Please scan the QR code to sign up.



NEW HERE? COME TO PASTOR CHAT!

Sunday, September 27 | 10:15 a.m.

Are you new to Royal Oak First or just curious to learn more about our church? Want to find out how to get involved? Join us for Pastor Chat—a relaxed, informal time to meet the pastor, ask questions, and discover your next steps at Royal Oak First. The next Pastor Chat will be on Sunday, September 27 at 10:15 a.m. in the Parlor and last no more than 45 minutes. We'd love to meet you!

BIG BOY NIGHT

Tuesday, October 13 | 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Troy Big Boy (200 W. Maple, Troy 48084)

The Music Guild invites you to an evening of fellowship and support for our Youth Summer Camp! On Tuesday, October 13, from 4:00-8:00 p.m., the Troy Big Boy (200 W. Maple, Troy) will donate 15% of our sales to our cause when you present a card at checkout (card available for pickup at the Connections Table). There will also be wonderful door prizes donated by our members, you won't want to miss it! Come enjoy a good meal, connect with friends, and help make Summer Camp possible for all of our youth.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



OUTREACH ON 7TH (007)

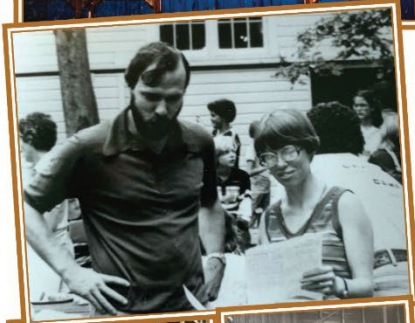
CLOTHING CLOSET WISH LIST

Our Outreach on 7th Clothing Closet is currently looking for:

- **Backpacks**
- **Bath towels**
- **Blankets**

These everyday essentials help us provide practical support and a warm welcome to our Outreach on 7th guests. Donations may be dropped off at the church during regular office hours or on Sunday mornings. Thank you for helping us keep the Clothing Closet stocked and ready to serve our community.





*Different times.
Same song.
Forever friends.*



Royal Oak First Choir Reunion Weekend

ROYAL OAK FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OCTOBER 16 – 18, 2026

Royal Oak First United Methodist Church is hosting a reunion of choir members the weekend of October 16 – 18, 2026.

This reunion is for the current members of the Sanctus Choir, and all former choir members, Music Directors, Choir Camp Deans and Counselors and their guests.



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16 5:00 – 8:00 P.M.

Welcome Reception – featuring fellowship, memories shared and pictures of past choir performances and choir camps.

Pizza and Salad will be served.



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

1:00 – 3:30 P.M. Gathering at the church.

Tours of the renovated church building will be available, and fellowship, memories and pictures shared.

3:30 – 5:30 P.M. Choir Practice.

We will rehearse the three songs that will be sung during the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service, including:

- "In Remembrance of Me/You Shall Know the Truth" (from *Celebrate Life*).
- "What a Fellowship (Leaning on the Everlasting Arms)".
- "Amen".

6:00 – 8:00 P.M. Dinner



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

10:30 A.M. Arrive at the church

11:00 A.M. Worship Service

12:00 P.M. Coffee Hour Reception

Registration

Register for any or all of these events by scanning the QR code.



SCAN ME



FOR ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE EMAIL choirreunion2026@gmail.com

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Barb Simmons • Linda Anderson • Lee Gnegy • Mike Dabney • Kathy Border •
Margie Carrington • Myra Pollard • Carrie Morse • Lee Hoffmann • Megan Grimm •
Elizabeth Kincannon • Phyllis Hassberger • Pam Payne • Ann Anderson •
Michele & Bob Prud'homme • Jerry Elliott • Kay Nowaczok • Mark Thatcher •
Kathy MacFarlane •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Harold Baker • Sue & Harold Williams • Latha Ravi • Angie Grose • Ashley Mink •
Allyson Jones • Kathy Latham • Tom & Ann Thompson • Bud & Debbie Tucker •
Russ Dore' • John Barber, Jr. • Doug Zorn • William McMahon • Effie Lambros •
Ron Gilmour • Pamela & Richard Rush • Tracy Zawaski • Donna Bartley •
Judy Gombert • Kerry Doty • Huntley Thatcher Reed • Faye Rogers • Julie Rogers •
Ken Rogers • Marietta Cunningham • Sharon Connors • Jen Moore • Megan Colett •
Christina Buchanan • Craig Brooks • Jim • Beverly Bazzell • Carol Marshall •
Jean Murphy • Ron & Betsy Fisch •

Sympathies to:

George Bard on the death of his aunt, Yolanda Lewis in August 2026

The Jahnke family on the death of James' father, Mark Jahnke on August 30, 2026

*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,

I am a sucker for a festival. I grew up going to county fairs and little community festivals where there was always music playing, people selling things you didn't know you needed, kids carrying prizes they had won, and food that somehow seemed completely reasonable to eat simply because you were at a festival. I mean, I'm a sucker for an elephant ear. Give me a corn dog, some cheese curds, or just about anything deep-fried that probably has no earthly business being deep-fried, and I'm in. And I'm looking at you, Oreos.

One summer during college, I interned on a congressional campaign in western Wisconsin, and I swear my entire job was going to small-town festivals and parades. Let's Go Dutch Days. Pure Water Days. Cheese Fest. Butterfest. I'm pretty sure somebody had Viking Days. There were all kinds of "days" that I attended without ever really knowing what we were celebrating. If there was a parade, a marching band, a festival queen, and somebody selling something on a stick, we were there. I loved it.

There is something wonderful about a community gathering in the streets together. Music playing. Food cooking. Artists making things. Kids laughing. People bumping into neighbors they haven't seen in a while. For a few days, the ordinary rhythm of life gets disrupted and everybody comes outside. Maybe that is part of why I have always loved Arts, Beats & Eats.

This weekend, downtown Royal Oak will be full of music, art, food, noise, people, and all the wonderful chaos that comes with a festival. And once again, Royal Oak First gets to be right in the middle of it. On Sunday morning, we will leave our sanctuary and worship together on the Country/Americana Stage at Sixth and Lafayette. I love that tradition. I love singing and praying right there in the middle of our community.

But I've been thinking about something this week. That worship service isn't really our art. It may look like it. We'll have musicians on a stage. There will be microphones and speakers. People will sing. From a distance, it probably looks a lot like a show. But our real art is what happens after we leave the stage.

Our art is the way we love people. It is making room for someone who has been pushed aside. It is standing up for the dignity of our neighbors. It is feeding, welcoming, forgiving, listening, serving, and refusing to give up on one another. Paul says it beautifully in Romans: *"Owe no one anything, except to love one another."* Maybe love is the particular art form Jesus has given us to practice. And this weekend there is a quiet reminder of that happening right here.

Arts, Beats & Eats changes almost everything about our normal rhythm. Streets close. Parking changes. We even move worship out of the building. But we will still feed people. Outreach on 7th will adjust because of the festival, but it will not stop. Our Essentials Pantry will adjust too, but it will still be there for neighbors who need the things that are so easy to take for granted: deodorant, laundry detergent, toilet paper, paper towels, and other basic necessities that food assistance programs often don't cover. There probably won't be a stage for any of that. Most of the people walking through the festival may never even know it happened. But the person who needs a meal will know. The neighbor who needs laundry detergent or toilet paper will know. The person who needs to be reminded that somebody sees them and cares about them will know.

And maybe that is the kind of art Jesus has been trying to teach us to make all along.

So come worship with us Sunday. Sing loudly. Enjoy the music. Wander through the art. Eat something fried that your doctor would prefer not to know about. And then let's keep making our art. Let's love somebody.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jeff

Pastor Jeff Nelson

