



# REVO~~LU~~UTION

**July 9, 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 #2124 (FWS)**

Wa Wa Wa Emimimo  
Everlasting God

\* **Call to Worship**

Janet Kinney

One: Come, everyone, and remember why you're here.

**All: We're here to connect with our creator.**

One: Come, everyone, and remember why you're here.

**All: We're here to build deep community.**

One: Come, everyone, and remember why you're here.

**All: We're here to change the world.**

One: Come, everyone, for all are welcome here!

**All: Thanks be to God!**

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

Spirit of the Living God

\* **Greeting Your Neighbor**

**Invitation to Mission**

**Time with Children**

**Music Ministry**

*Hallelujah*

Leonard Cohen

Bob Prud'homme, Lance Bowen, & Michele Prud'homme

**Time of Prayer**

**Pentecost Prayer**

One: Enlivening Spirit, you transform our imperfect ways through the power of inspired community. But, day-to-day, we forget our interdependence.

We think that our brokenness is the final word.

**All: Recreate us through forgiveness.**

One: We think that we can do it all on our own.

**All: Remind us of our deep connection.**

One: We think that we are ever alone.

**All: Hear our prayers.**

*Moment of silent prayer*

One: Uniting Spirit, rekindle in us a passion for justice, a drive for mercy, and a habit of grace. In your unquenchable love, unleash us to get out and change the world!

All: Amen!

**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**

*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*  
House Band

arr. Sebastian Temple

**Scripture**

Acts 6:1-7

*Common English Bible*

About that time, while the number of disciples continued to increase, a complaint arose. Greek-speaking disciples accused the Aramaic-speaking disciples because their widows were being overlooked in the daily food service. The Twelve called a meeting of all the disciples and said, "It isn't right for us to set aside proclamation of God's word in order to serve tables. Brothers and sisters, carefully choose seven well-respected men from among you. They must be well-respected and endowed by the Spirit with exceptional wisdom. We will put them in charge of this concern. As for us, we will devote ourselves to prayer and the service of proclaiming the word." This proposal pleased the entire community. They selected Stephen, a man endowed by the Holy Spirit with exceptional faith, Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. The community presented these seven to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. God's word continued to grow. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased significantly. Even a large group of priests embraced the faith.

**Message**

The First Committee

Caleb Williams

\* **Song**

God of Justice

**Blessing**

Dear Friends,

This summer's rEVOLution of love is a joy-filled journey paralleling the early church. This week's scripture story reveals some of the friction that rapid growth can cause. The church, which used to be a small group who had been together for years, was now welcoming people who didn't even speak the same language. One group started speaking up, saying that the widows of their community weren't being taken care of as well as those of the group in charge. This was probably true, as helping people is easier when you share a language, culture, and history. The Twelve, who were the preachers and leaders of the young movement had a momentous decision to make. Do they spend more time on the finances and visiting these shut-ins at the expense of their work in leadership, preaching, and healing, or do they increase the tensions and ignore the community's most vulnerable elders?

As wise leaders, they needed to remain focused on their calling and gifts, but they also needed to make sure that someone was representing the body of faith in caring for finances and food for the shut-ins. They asked the community who were being underserved to identify leaders from among themselves, not who were loudest or strongest, but who were most faithful and full of grace. The twelve gathered with these new leaders, maybe not even speaking the same language, and blessed them into this new ministry.

We have a wonderful leadership team here at Royal Oak First, led by Pastor Jeff. He serves through preaching, leading, coaching, and pastoral care. As this church grows, though, we've needed to build a team of people with gifts of patience and care to extend the arms of the church community in ways that Jeff can't on his own. These wonderful people include Rev. Bob Goudie, Peggy Gill, Jenny Lowman, Myra Moreland, and George Marck. Their grace-filled leadership allows people like me to focus my time and energy on developing our worship and arts programs, and I am tremendously grateful for their gifts. If someone has ever called you patient or a good listener, maybe you should be part of this team. If so, please contact Pastor Bob at [bobgoudie09@comcast.net](mailto:bobgoudie09@comcast.net) or call the office.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caleb Williams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Caleb Williams  
Minister of Worship & Arts