



HOME BY
ANOTHER
WAY

January 1, 2017

11:00 am Traditional 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.
Hearing enhancement devices and **large print bulletins** are available from the ushers.

*All who choose may stand

UMH: Song printed in blue United Methodist Hymnal

Prelude

Giga on In Dulci Jublio

Norman Della Joio

* **Hymn #238 (UMH)**

Angels We Have Heard on High

* **Call to Worship**

Ginny Borts

One: Arise, shine, inheritors of God's light,

All: Bearers of God's light to our darkened world!

One: The light of God has come into our world

All: And nations will come to its brightness.

One r: Arise, shine, privileged ones who live in the light of Christ!

All: Stand before God, not in shame but in awe.

One: All is visible in Christ's eternal light.

All: In us, God's light never goes out!

* **Greeting One Another**

Welcome

Time with Children

Dismissal to Sunday school will follow Time with Children. For those attending for the first time, parents should accompany children to the Narthex to meet the leaders and sign in.

Time of Prayer

Call to Reconciliation

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of Christmas: we still are playing with our new toys, the nativity figures have not been put away; we have the stacks of Christmas cards, but we memorize the words of greed and hate; we set limits on whom we will love, we make promises we cannot keep, we fail to see the pain and hurt we cause.

God of the angels and shepherds, forgive us. Your Word has come to reshape our lives; your Light has come to show us the way home; Christ has come to make us your family. Have mercy and make us new people. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Moment of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

One: Like the Christ born in Bethlehem, we are born anew. God's forgiveness cradles us; God's love is poured out on us.

All: What a marvelous gift! Filled with hope and new life, we can sing God's praises forever!

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.

* **Hymn #254 (UMH)** We Three Kings

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Offertory *Carol of the Bells* arr. Willard A. Palmer
Anna Nielander and Jennifer Semivan

* **Doxology Hymn #95 (UMH)**

* **Prayer of Dedication**

Scripture

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in the territory of Judea during the rule of King Herod, magi came from the east to Jerusalem. They asked, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We've seen his star in the east, and we've come to honor him."

When King Herod heard this, he was troubled, and everyone in Jerusalem was troubled with him. He gathered all the chief priests and the legal experts and asked them where the Christ was to be born. They said, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is what the prophet wrote:

You, Bethlehem, land of Judah, by no means are you least among the rulers of Judah, because from you will come one who governs, who will shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and found out from them the time when the star had first appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search carefully for the child. When you've found him, report to me so that I too may go and honor him." When they heard the king, they went; and look, the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stood over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy. They entered the house and saw the child with Mary his mother. Falling to their knees, they honored him. Then they opened their treasure chests and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Because they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

Musical Offering Home by Another Way James Taylor
Franklin Wahl

Message Home by Another Way Jeff Nelson

The Lord's Supper

Communion Music *Andante in C, K. 315* W. A. Mozart
Kimi Matsumoto, flute; Mike Matsumoto, piano

* **Hymn #245 (UMH)** The First Noel

* **Benediction**

* **Postlude** *Paen on Joy to the World* David Lasky

Dear Friends,

Here we are on New Year's Day! 2017 is shaping up to be an important year for the life of our church. As we near the completion of our building renovation, we will be deciding about who we are and will reintroduce ourselves to the community around us. We know that this building is a tool to both gather and to send people to share God's love.

As we flip the calendar into this new year, I want to lift up two very important things that will be happening that will need your involvement:

Faith And Film Sermon Series

That's right, we are going to the movies together. This time of year there are always such great movies and many of them raise some of the most important themes of our lives. We have reserved special \$5.00 tickets at the AMC Star Southfield (25333 West 12 Mile Road) to see four of this seasons most talked about movies. For four Tuesdays (the 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st) we will gather to see the movie together at 7:00 pm. The following Sunday the message will focus on one of themes the movie raised. (Part of the fun will be trying to guess what your preacher is going to say!!!) This is a great event to invite a friend or neighbor to join you. Please see the insert in the bulletin for the details.

Leadership Day

I am hosting a church wide Leadership Day on Saturday, January 21 and everyone is invited. We will gather from 9:30 am until 2:30 pm. Lunch will be provided and childcare will be available. Rick Dake, senior pastor at Clarkston UMC, will be our facilitator for the day and will help us better discern where God is calling us. You will leave this event inspired and equipped to support this amazing movement of the Spirit happening here at Royal Oak First. Look for the registration form in your bulletin this morning. If possible, please fill out the form today and put it in the offering plate or leave it at the welcome center.

Please join us in getting this new year started!

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Nelson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "N".