

WHERE
IS GOD
CALLING
YOU?

February 26, 2017

11:00 am Traditional Worship

Royal Oak First United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Nelson

320 W Seventh St, Royal Oak, Michigan 48067

(248)541-4100 •  • www.rofum.org • office@rofum.org

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 Faith We Sing Hymnal **UMH:** Song printed in blue United Methodist Hymnal

Prelude

Voluntary in D

William Boyce

* **Hymn #88 (UMH)**

Maker, in Whom We Live

* **Call to Worship**

Mary Lou Graeber

One: Whether we live in an apartment or a house, in a shelter or on the streets,

All: God tells us to pray for the places where we live.

One: Whether we are exiles or prisoners, whether we are young or old, insider or outcast,

All: God says, "When you search for me, you will find me."

One: Whether we have been wandering and lost,
or if we have lived in the same place all our lives,

All: God says, "I will gather you from all your places and bring you home."

One: All are welcome here!

All: Thanks be to God.

* **Hymn #393 (UMH)**

Spirit of the Living God

* **Greeting Your Neighbor**

Welcome and Invitation to Mission

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. Children can be picked up in the Fellowship Hall following worship.

Noisy Bucket Offering to support our partner church in Lithuania

Musical Offering

Let All the World

Stan Pethel

Revelation Choir

Time of Prayer

Call to Reconciliation

Unison Prayer of Forgiveness

God beyond borders, there are times we may not have noticed those who are lost, left out, or left behind. We fall silent in the presence of those who speak words of anger and hate. We tolerate a culture that is suspicious of all who are different from us.

Have mercy on us, God of justice. Send us friends from places we least expect. Call us to be generous with our blessings, so that we may be blessings to others. Forgive us Lord.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Pardon

One: God challenges us and encourages us. God confronts us and accepts us.

All: God forgives us, guides us, and leads us home. Thanks be to God.

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

Offertory

Here I Am, Lord
Carrie Zaitz, flute

- * Doxology Hymn #95 (UMH)
- * Prayer of Dedication

Scripture

John 14:9-14

Jesus replied, "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been with you all this time? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I have spoken to you I don't speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me does his works.

Trust me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or at least believe on account of the works themselves.

I assure you that whoever believes in me will do the works that I do. They will do even greater works than these because I am going to the Father.

I will do whatever you ask for in my name, so that the Father can be glorified in the Son. When you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it."

Message

Claim Your Mission

Jeff Nelson

- * Hymn #571 (UMH)

Go, Make of All Disciples

- * Benediction

- * Postlude

Ellacombe

arr. Travis

Dear Friends,

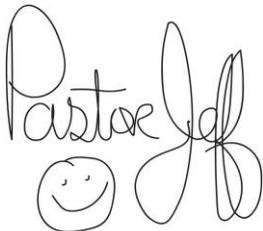
This week we start a new journey together. We begin the walk towards Easter - a day and season of rebirth and renewal. The season leading up to Easter is called Lent. The word Lent is derived from the Greek word which means fortieth and signifies the forty days leading up to Easter. The number forty is significant in our scriptural tradition. The Israelites spent forty years journeying in the desert in search of the Promised Land. Jesus, emulating the journey of his spiritual forbearers, started his public ministry by spending forty days in the wilderness discerning God's call. The number forty reminds us the God is calling people on a journey of transformation.

So, I am inviting you to set aside the time over these next forty days to journey with God, with me and your church family. It begins this Wednesday, March 1st, with Ash Wednesday. We will be having a service at 7:30 that evening in our sanctuary. Through music, prayers and reflection, we will begin to make room for God to enter our story. Please plan to attend.

Another important way to make this journey meaningful is to set aside time for study. In order to help you with this we are having a series of small groups for you to connect into. These groups will offer you a space for reflection, conversations and deeper friendships with your church family. Please consider joining a small group for Lent. You can find more information at the *Here I Am, Lord* table in the Fellowship Hall after every service.

I am looking forward to taking this journey with you. I believe God is preparing us for renewal.

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.