

Listen

Praying in a noisy world.

March 5, 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.

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

Adagio in G Minor

Tommaso Albinoni

* **Hymn #451 (UMH)**

Be Thou My Vision

* **Call to Worship**

Bob Prud'homme

One: Jesus began his ministry to the world, led by the Spirit into the wilderness.

All: As we begin our Lenten journey, lead us, Spirit, even into the uncomfortable places.

One: In those forty days, and in that place, Jesus faced choices of hunger, doubt, and temptation.

All: As we seek to follow You, lead us, Jesus, into the uncomfortable choices.

One: Faithful and obedient, Jesus left the wilderness praising God.

All: As we continue on our path to faithfulness, lead us, O Christ, in praise.

One: All are invited on this journey!

All: Thanks be to God!

* **Hymn #2164 (FWS)**

Sanctuary

* **Greeting Your Neighbor**

Welcome and Invitation to Mission

Musical Offering

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Gilbert M. Martin

Angelus Choir

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.

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Offertory

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

arr. William Dawson

Sanctus Choir

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

* **Prayer of Dedication**

Time of Prayer

Hymn #2057 (FWS)

Be Still and Know That I Am God

Silence and Guided Meditation

The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer
Caleb Williams

Alfred Hay Malotte

Scripture

Matthew 17:1-6

Common English Bible

Six days later Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and brought them to the top of a very high mountain. He was transformed in front of them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as light.

Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Jesus. Peter reacted to all of this by saying to Jesus, "Lord, it's good that we're here. If you want, I'll make three shrines: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

While he was still speaking, look, a bright cloud overshadowed them. A voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son whom I dearly love. I am very pleased with him. Listen to him!" Hearing this, the disciples fell on their faces, filled with awe.

Luke 5:15-16

Common English Bible

News of him spread even more and huge crowds gathered to listen and to be healed from their illnesses. But Jesus would withdraw to deserted places for prayer.

Message

Listen

Jeff Nelson

Service of Holy Communion

All are welcome to the table. Our communion is served by intinction (dipping your bread in the chalice of juice) at the center station. Individual communion cups are available at the side stations for those uncomfortable with intinction. All bread is gluten free. Those seated in the balcony are invited come down to the main floor to be served. If you are unable to come forward, a team of servers will bring the bread and juice to your seat. Please indicate your wish to the usher or the servers as they near.

* **Hymn #402 (UMH)**

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

* **Benediction**

* **Postlude**

Toccata in G Minor

Johannes Pachelbel

Dear Friends,

The life of faith is a journey. It is a path full of ups and downs and twists and turns. It has moments when God feels distant and then has moments where it feels that God is guiding your every step. The walk of faith is not a puzzle that needs to be solved, it is not a maze designed to confuse or confound, replete with dead ends.

The life of faith is a journey whose destination is always assured. Its destination is into the very heart of God and into the embrace of unconditional love. It is not a search for the right path but a realization that God is already with you on the very path you are walking. The truth is we can never start from the divine presence.

As a part of our Lenten journey this week, we will have a chance to reflect on our faith journey by participating in the ancient prayer practice of walking the Labyrinth. A Labyrinth is unicursal; that is, it has only a single path. Unlike a maze, a labyrinth is designed for ease of navigation, and it is impossible to get lost within the Labyrinth. As we walk the path, we are able to listen more closely to the nudging of the Holy Spirit speaking within and find clarity for the path we are currently walking. It is a chance to listen and pray in the midst of our noisy world.

This Tuesday we will have a Labyrinth set up in the Sanctuary from 9am to 9pm. Please come and spend some time walking this path. It takes about 20 to 30 minutes. We will have simple instructions and some devotional guidance to help you make the most of this walk along the path.



Come and journey with us. Set aside some time to listen for the inner stirrings of your soul. God is already a part of the journey.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jeff
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