

Listen

Praying in a noisy world.

March 19, 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

* **Processional #529 (UMH)** How Firm a Foundation

* **Call to Worship**

One: We come to this place to be known by God,

All: who helps us set aside the past and calls us to walk the path to new life.

One: We come in these moments to be known by Jesus,

All: who shares our lives with us and anoints us with the resurrection.

One: We come with these people to be known by the Spirit,

All: who shapes us for life in community and moves us to work for peace with justice!

One: All are welcome in this place!

All: Thanks be to God!

* **Hymn #2164 (FWS)** Sanctuary

* **Greeting Your Neighbor**

Welcome and Invitation to Mission

Musical Offering

Praise You
Angelus Choir

Elizabeth Goodine

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.

Welcoming New Members

Music Ministry

One
Jason Storms

U2

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Offertory

The 23rd Psalm (for My Mother)

McFerrin

Sanctus Choir

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

* **Prayer of Dedication**

Time of Prayer

Song of Faith #2057 (FWS)

Be Still and Know That I Am God

Prayer Practice

The Lord's Prayer #2278 (FWS)

Scripture

Psalm 139:1-10

Lord, you have examined me.

You know me.

You know when I sit down and when I stand up.

Even from far away, you comprehend my plans.

You study my traveling and resting.

You are thoroughly familiar with all my ways.

There isn't a word on my tongue, Lord,

that you don't already know completely.

You surround me—front and back.

You put your hand on me.

That kind of knowledge is too much for me;

it's so high above me that I can't fathom it.

Where could I go to get away from your spirit?

Where could I go to escape your presence?

If I went up to heaven, you would be there.

If I went down to the grave, you would be there too!

If I could fly on the wings of dawn,

stopping to rest only on the far side of the ocean—

even there your hand would guide me;

even there your strong hand would hold me tight!

Common English Bible

Message

Search Me

Jeff Nelson

* **Hymn #2193 (FWS)**

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

* **Benediction**

* **Postlude**

Dear Friends,

This weekend we will be welcoming over 20 new people into the life our church. We are a church that is continuing to draw the circle wide, inviting others to offer their unique gifts and talents to our community. We are so excited about what the Spirit is doing here!

These are some of the things that help people feel welcome at a new place.

- Warmth: Smiles, laughter, and genuine kindness go a long way to letting people know they are welcome in a new place.
- Connection: Most new people can point to the first person that said hello or went out of their way to introduce themselves. Please make it a point to introduce yourself to at least one person you haven't met each week.
- Helpfulness: Coming into a new place can be scary. Where should I go? Where can I take my kids? Where are the restrooms? Clear instructions, proper signage, and informed people who can answer questions are key to helping new people feel welcome.
- Non-judgment: If we are going to say that, "All are Welcome," then we'd better mean that ALL are welcome. It cannot matter what clothes people are wearing or if they have been able to change them this week. It cannot matter if they are single; if their kids act like kids; if they are gay or straight; black, white, Asian, or Hispanic. Folks will be able to tell quickly when we say, "All are welcome," whether we mean it or not.
- Mission: People want to be involved in something that is making a difference. They want to change the world. They will want to know that the offering they give is going to things that are transforming lives and strengthening communities.

As we continue to draw our circle wide, let's make sure we are mindful of the ways we can continue to make radical hospitality the center point of our life together.

Pastor Jeff
