



PALM SUNDAY

April 9, 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

Were You There

David Lasky

Introit

* **Hymn #278 (UMH)**

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

* **Call to Worship**

Myra Moreland

One: We come to prepare for the holiest of weeks.

All: We will journey through praise with joy on our lips.

One: Jesus leads us through this week and we will follow.

**All: He leads us to the life we long for;
He brings the word that sustains us.**

One: We wave palm branches in anticipation.

All: We lay down our pride to make way for Christ.

One: Setting aside all power, glory, and might, Jesus comes in humility.

All: Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed are those who bring the Kingdom of God.

* **Hymn #2274 (FWS)**

Come, All You People

* **Greeting Your Neighbor**

Welcome and Invitation to Mission

Music Ministry

Please Enter My Heart, Hosanna
Treble and Revelation Choirs

arr. Nyles L. Butler-Moore

Time with Children

Sunday school will follow Time with Children. If you are 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

The Palms

Gabriel Fauré

Sanctus Choir; Neal Harris, solo

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

* **Prayer of Dedication**

Time of Prayer

Prayer

One: You set your face towards Jerusalem and walked alongside those who suffer.

All: Be our vision that we too may walk the way of the cross and extend a hand to those we meet.

One: Lord, you stopped to heal the sick, cure the lame and give sight to the blind.

All: Be our vision that we too may give time to others and respond to their needs.

One: Lord, you said, "The first shall be last and the last first."

All: Be our vision that we too may work towards your kingdom when the exalted will be brought low and the lowly exalted.

One: Lord, you ate with tax collectors and sinners and heard their stories.

All: Be our vision that we too may listen to the despised and rejected and value their lives.

One: Lord, you took time to pray and time to be silent.

All: Be our vision that through our prayers, fasting, and almsgiving, we too may draw closer to you and find your way.

One: Lord, you entered Jerusalem with peace in your heart.

All: Be our vision that we too may desire peace where others desire war, and may work for justice where injustice reigns.

Moment of Silent Reflection

One: God does not turn away when we fail to be faithful. God does not reject us when we do not trust fully. God continues to love us, to forgive us, to restore us.

**All: It is God who helps us; it is God who saves us.
It is all we need or ever will need. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture

Mark 11:1-11

Common English Bible

When Jesus and his followers approached Jerusalem, they came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives. Jesus gave two disciples a task, saying to them, "Go into the village over there. As soon as you enter it, you will find tied up there a colt that no one has ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'Its master needs it, and he will send it back right away.'"

They went and found a colt tied to a gate outside on the street, and they untied it. Some people standing around said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them just what Jesus said, and they left them alone. They brought the colt to Jesus and threw their clothes upon it, and he sat on it. Many people spread out their clothes on the road while others spread branches cut from the fields. Those in front of him and those following were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest!" Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. After he looked around at everything, because it was already late in the evening, he returned to Bethany with the Twelve.

Message

What Would Jesus Drive?

Jeff Nelson

* **Hymn #159 (UMH)**

Lift High the Cross

* **Benediction**

* **Postlude**

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Dale Wood

Dear Friends,

I love a parade. LOVE THEM!

I love the fire trucks all washed and polished. I love that the veterans from the American Legion put on their uniforms and carry the flags. I love the floats with the small town beauty queens waving to the fans. I love that the little kids watch from the shoulders of their parents. I love the clowns, the candy, and the mayor riding in the nicest car in the community. And of course I love the marching bands!

I love a parade. LOVE THEM!

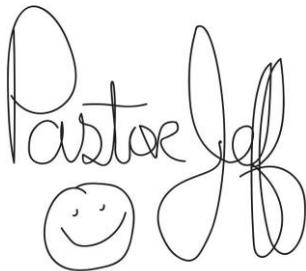
What I love most about parades is that they bring the whole community together. Everybody shows up and lines the streets. Parades get us all caught up in the larger picture of belonging. In the crowd of parades there are all kinds of people and at least for the moment we can get caught up as one.

Today is our parade. Palm Sunday, the day we remember Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem. Like all good parades it was loud and chaotic and it brought people together. When Jesus came to town everyone was invited to the celebration.

Today no matter who you are and where you have been, or what you have been through, you are a part of the Jesus community today. No matter your country, color or creed, your gender, orientation or identity, you are invited to pick a palm and wave it with all your heart.

Parades are moments and today is ours. Don't let this one pass you by!

Grace and Peace,



Pastor Jeff