



Advent 2024

"With Us on the Journey"

Sunday, December 1, 2024
9:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering Music	“Build My Life”	House Band
Greeting		Griffin Anspach
Song	“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”	
Song	“Go Light Your World”	
Welcome & Invitation to Mission		Jennifer Tripoli & Jeff Nelson
Introduction of Frederick Fife and Griffin Anspach		
Advent Candle Lighting		The Guerra Family
Musical Response	“On the Journey”	
Time of Prayer		
Scripture Reading*	Jeremiah 33:14-16	
Invitation to Offering		
Musical Offering	“Caprice No. III in D minor” David Salleras	Griffin Anspach, saxophone
Doxology	“Advent Doxology”	
Scripture Reading	Luke 21:25-36	
Message	“Don’t Make Me Come Down There”	Bridget Nelson
Sacrament of Holy Communion		
Song	“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”	
Benediction		
Departing Music		

**New Revised Standard Version*

ANNOUNCEMENTS



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

We are excited to offer the choice of purchasing a poinsettia or contributing to UMCOR in honor or memory of a loved one. The poinsettias will decorate the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 22 and at our Christmas Eve services. The names of the donors and those to be honored or memorialized will be printed in the Sunday, December 22 Bulletin. If you wish to participate, fill out the form below and drop off at the Connections Table OR scan the QR code before **Sunday, December 8.**



***Please use one (1) form per poinsettia/UMCOR tribute.
More forms are available at the Connections Table.***

Payment must accompany this order form (checks payable to Royal Oak First United Methodist Church)

___ Enclosed is \$18.00 for a 1 stem red poinsettia

___ Enclosed is \$33.00 for a 2 stem red poinsettia

___ I will pick up my plant(s) following the 9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

___ Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____ for UMCOR in place of a poinsettia.

This will be a memorial to _____
(Please Print)

OR in honor of _____
(Please Print)

Given by _____
(Please Print)

Phone # _____

ANNOUNCEMENTS



CHILDREN'S STORYTIME WITH PASTOR JEFF ON FACEBOOK LIVE

Join Pastor Jeff on Facebook Live **every Sunday evening at 7:30 p.m. in Advent (December 1, December 8, December 15, and December 22)** for a reading of a children's story that will get you in the spirit of the season.



CHRISTMAS MINI-CONCERTS— LIVESTREAMED AND IN-PERSON

Join us in-person or on our YouTube Channel or Facebook page for live mini-concerts featuring musicians from Royal Oak First. **Concerts will be presented at Noon during the three Wednesdays in Advent: December 4, Christmas Organ Music with Michael Rosas; December 11, Christmas Carol Sing with Maria Moro and Chris Mikell; December 18, Violin and Piano Christmas Music with Allison Harris and Neal Harris.** Concerts will last approximately 30 minutes and will lift your spirit with the music of the season.



SPREAD THE CHEER

Saturday, December 7 from 10:00-11:00 a.m.

We need kids to make cards, people to send cards, to bake, to assemble bags of cookies and to deliver cookies. There are also mailing labels for church members that you can pick up at the Connections Table to mail Christmas cards to. On Saturday, December 7, bring four dozen of your favorite type of cookie or holiday treat to share and you will go home with a variety of cookies. This is a lovely, and delicious, way to spread holiday joy within our church family. Scan the QR code to sign up!



ANNOUNCEMENTS



70TH ANNUAL FEAST OF CAROLS CONCERT

Sunday, December 8 at 3:00 p.m.

Join us for the 70th “Feast of Carols” Christmas Concert featuring ensembles of Royal Oak First including our Sanctus Choir, Carillon Ringers, Children’s Choirs, Youth Choir, and Bands. Be sure to take in the sounds of our ensembles at Royal Oak First for an afternoon of glorious music. Join us after the concert for cookies and punch in the Gathering Space.



SHAWL MINISTRY CRAFT & CARD SALE

Shawl Ministry is having a craft and card sale on Sunday, December 8 after each service. Crocheted kitchen items, toys, fidgets, scarves and more. Come and purchase one-of-a-kind gifts. All proceeds will benefit Outreach on 7th and the Music Guild.



ADVENT MISSION PROJECT

For this year’s Advent Mission Project, **we will be collecting children’s Christmas gifts for area families who are struggling financially.** You can pick one or two tags off our “giving tree” on the Connections Table in the Gathering Space. **Shop for those items and return them unwrapped to the church collection bins by December 15.** But feel free to bring in any fun, unwrapped toy of your choice, as the giving tree simply gives ideas for those who need them. These gifts will help stock the Cass Community Social Services Christmas Store where nearly 300 families in Detroit will “shop” for their kids’ Christmas gifts.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS SWEATER SUNDAY



CHRISTMAS SWEATER SUNDAY

Sunday, December 15 at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Worship

Wear your favorite Christmas sweater - "ugly" or not! Come and spread the joy of the season with your best Christmas get-up!

Longest Night Service



LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

Thursday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Whether mourning the loss of a loved one, dealing with an illness, navigating financial struggles or simply not feeling the spirit of Christmas; this service is a quiet, prayerful moment acknowledging the difficulties of the season.

Children's Christmas Pageant



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Sunday, December 22, 11:00 a.m.

At our 11:00 a.m. service, the children of Royal Oak First will present the story of the first Christmas. Music will be provided by the Children's Choirs of Royal Oak First. Please note there will not be a Christmas Pageant on Christmas Eve this year!

Sunday, December 22, 11AM

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Diana Shornak • David Salvette • Charlene Orletski • Vanita Wallace •
Diane Sexton • Theresa Skelton • Joe Nowaczok • Carrie Morse •
Marlene Yago • The England Family • Noel Peterson • Jeanette Maylen •
Sue and Dave Minch • Joyce Russell • Michele Prud'homme •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Effie Lambros • Marykay McCaskey • Dan Cowles • Charlie Maher •
Robin Mayers • Mary B. • Dorothy Follette • James • Joyce Micheaux •
Jessica Boyer • Holly Hempstead • Michael Retaskie • Bret Thatcher •
Fred Jackson, Jr. • Susie Inch • Margie Reese • Diane Miller • Ellen Delangy •
Lisa Wilson • Grayson Hamlet • The O'Mara Family • Margaret Maas •
Deana Sawicki • Barbara Witherspoon • Val Globish • Dave Lozowski •
Steve Sealander • Pat Timmons • Pamala Winnie • Darby Dickenson •
Micki Rhen • Missy Winter • Marie Russian •

*If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List,
please contact Danielle Moody at prayers@rofum.org.*

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent! That means we have four Sundays until Christmas, during which we will light the Advent candle and prepare for the birth of Jesus.

There are a lot of extra activities happening - please be checking your Bulletins, Monday emails, Facebook, our website and the Connections Table to be sure you get to be part of all of it!

One thing I want to be sure everyone knows is that our CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT is happening SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 at the 11:00 a.m. service. Our kids are busy getting ready to share a wonderful show with you and I don't want anyone to miss it because it's earlier than we have usually done it. We are trying something new and hope everyone can join us to support our kids as they tell the story of Jesus' birth.

Our Advent theme is "With Us on the Journey" and we will be talking about how God is always present with us. Amidst the chaos and challenges of life, God wants to be in it all with us, so much so that He came to live among us. Why did God do this? I think it starts with a desire to know us and make sure we are ok. I hope you can join us this Sunday as we start the Advent season.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bridget Nelson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pastor Bridget Nelson