



Merry Christmas!

Tuesday, December 24, 2024

9:00 p.m. Worship

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	“O Come, All Ye Faithful” “We Three Kings” “Angels We Have Heard on High”	Jennifer Bowen, Jan Matsumoto, Amy Rhoades, Michael Rosas Handbell Ensemble
Call to Worship		Julia Westenberg
Opening Carol #234**	“O Come, All Ye Faithful” (verses 1,2,3,6)	
Welcome		Jeff Nelson
Christ Candle Lighting	Jennifer Bowen, Caroline Bowen, Audrey Fick & Amy Rhoades	
Musical Response #238**	“Angels We Have Heard on High” (verse 4)	
Scripture Reading*	Isaiah 9:2, 6-7	
Carol #229**	“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” Liturgical Dance by Juliet Peck	
Scripture Reading*	Luke 2:1-18	
Invitation to Offering		Jennifer Tripoli
Musical Offering	“Before the Marvel of This Night” Carl Schalk	Sanctus Choir & Woodwind Quartet
Doxology #221**	“In the Bleak Midwinter” (verse 4)	
Scripture Reading*	John 1:1-18	
Message	“A Little Bit of Light”	Jeff Nelson
Service of Candlelight		
Carol #239**	“Silent Night, Holy Night”	
Closing Carol #240**	“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing!”	
Benediction		
Postlude	“The Snow Lay on the Ground”	

**New Revised Standard Version*

***United Methodist Hymnal*

THANK YOU TO OUR WOODWIND QUARTET!

Jeffrey Beyer, flute; Chris Wheeler, oboe;
Amy Beyer Rosas, clarinet; Irina Tikhonova, cello

ANNOUNCEMENTS



JOIN US LATER TONIGHT FOR THE LAST OF OUR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

11:00 p.m. - Outside on the Front Lawn

Join us outside on our front lawn for a simple, yet Holy worship experience in the dark of night as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. A service of candlelight will be included.



ONLY ONE SERVICE ON 12/29 AND 1/5

We will have only one service at 10:00 a.m. on both Sunday, December 29 and Sunday, January 5. There will also be no Sunday School either of those days, but the nursery will be open on those days. We will return to two services (9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.) on Sunday, January 12.



CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

The church office **will be closed** on: Wednesday, December 25, Thursday, December 26, Wednesday, January 1, and Thursday, January 2. The church office will have **reduced hours** from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31. Our normal office hours (Monday-Thursday from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.) will resume on January 6.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



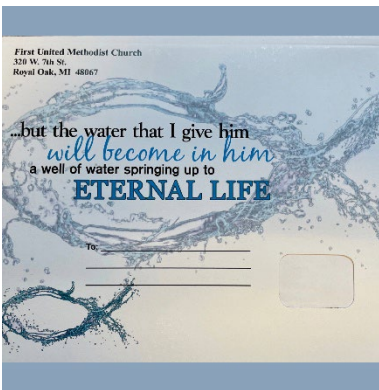
RBI PRODUCE COLLECTION

Thank you for your continued support in providing fresh produce monthly to the families served through Redford Brightmoor Initiative's Free Store! **We are in need of shopping volunteers for the upcoming months.** Scan the QR code to sign up.



FAITH & FILM IS COMING IN JANUARY

Royal Oak First is going to the movies in January! For **three Monday nights in January, (13, 20 and 27), we will head over to the MJR Troy Movie Theater at Maple and Livernois Roads at 7:00 p.m.** to see a current movie together. If you have any questions, contact the church office at 248.541.4100 or office@rofum.org. Stay tuned to this space for details about what movies we will be seeing.



OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE HERE!

2025 Royal Oak First offering envelopes are now available for you to pick up after service at the Welcome Desk! If you are unable to pick up your envelopes, we'll begin mailing them out after January 9. Contact Karen Calhoun at kcalhoun@rofum.org or 248.541.4100 if you have any questions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



SAVE THE DATE! SPAGHETTI DINNER VARIETY SHOW

On **Sunday, February 2** the Music Guild will be putting on a Spaghetti Dinner Variety Show! Proceeds will help our youth go to camp this summer. The opportunity to showcase your talents will be open to all, so stay tuned for details. Plan to come join the fun on Sunday, February 2!

TRANSFORMATIVE RETREATS WITH PASTOR JEFF

Feeling the weight of everyday demands? Craving a moment to pause, reflect, and reconnect with God? We invite you to immerse yourself in our **2025 Retreats, held every third Saturday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.** Our retreats are intentional spaces designed to cultivate a deeper relationship with the divine, offering you the opportunity to recharge your spirit and discover the profound peace that comes from being in God's presence. Scan the QR code to sign up! Here's a glimpse of what we have planned for you:



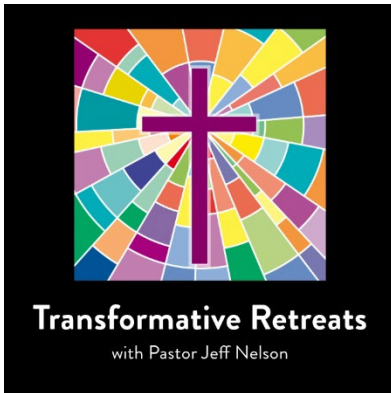
****January 18th: Silence, Stillness, and Solitude****

****February 15th: Faith and Fatherhood****

****March 15th: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross****

****April 19th: Listening for God's Resurrecting Voice****

****May 17th: A Morning with the Mystics****



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Everyone at Royal Oak First wishes you a very Merry Christmas! "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward all." Luke 2:14

Poinsettias Decorating Our Sanctuary



In Memory of

Beloved Church Friends
Mark & Velma Lowman
Our parents we deeply miss
Maryann Cristof
Stephen Nielander
Gerald Gibson
Brothers Don, Bill & Jim Kincannon
Bill Kincannon
Our parents & grandparents
 Floyd & Marjorie Showers
Our parents & grandparents
 Harlon & Dorthy Kincannon
Neva Callihan
Mary Nahhat
Phyllis Turner & Jacob Ross
Josie Nunéz
Delphine Frey
Zola Webster
Joseph Waisanen, Jr.
Jim & Marie Dunstan
Dennis & Kathy Nelson

In Honor of

Alejandro & Maria Vasquez
Kay & Joe Nowaczok
Beverly & James Miller
Rocco Opari

Given by

Kim Christopher
Dan & Jenny Cattran
Roger & Sue Lynn
The Nielander Family
The Nielander Family
Richard & Diane Gibson
The Kincannon Family
Elizabeth Kincannon
The Kincannon Family

The Kincannon Family

Sue & John Showers
Sam Nahhat, her children & grandchildren
Lee & Jon Ross Family
The Tovarez Family
Mike & Colleen Frey
Zola Webster's Family
Jay & Patty Dunstan
Jay & Patty Dunstan
Jeff, Bridget, Casey & Sam

Given by

Gerson Vasquez
Fred, Jen, Olivia & Audrie
Fred, Jen, Olivia & Audrie
Mike Dabney

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Landon & Sawyer Cattran • Robin Burkett • Lily Faunt • Lisa Rye •
Pam Shewchuck • Ginny Panone • Michelle Wirsu • Diana Shornak •
Melissa Couture • David Salvette • Charlene Orletski • Diane Sexton •
Theresa Skelton • Joe Nowaczok • Carrie Morse • Marlene Yago •
Noel Peterson • Sue and Dave Minch •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Val Globish • Missy Winter • Renee Rahim • Jim Castellani •
Barbara Witherspoon • Meghin Russell • Camryn Cogburn • John Morris •
Bernie Stubitsch • Mike Elliott • Deana Sawicki • Effie Lambros •
Marykay McCaskey • Dan Cowles • Charlie Maher • Robin Mayers • Mary B. •
Dorothy Follette • James • Joyce Micheaux • Jessica Boyer •
Michael Retaskie • Bret Thatcher • Fred Jackson, Jr. • Susie Inch •
Margie Reese • Diane Miller • Ellen Delangy •

Sympathies to:

The McNutt Family on the death of Heather's father, Larry Campbell on
December 19, 2024

*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,

Welcome to Royal Oak First! We're delighted you've chosen to celebrate Christmas Eve with us.

If this is your church, welcome home!

If you're joining us for the first time, welcome home!

No matter what has brought you here tonight, just know we're truly glad you're here.

Christmas Eve is a night of warmth and welcome. Come, enjoy the music, be inspired by the Christmas story, light a candle, sing "Silent Night" with us, and just know that the love of Christ is here for you.

I want to invite you to participate in our Christmas offering this evening. Your generosity supports vital ministries that extend our Christmas welcome throughout the year. Tomorrow, on Christmas Day, we'll host a meal and celebration for those who have nowhere else to go, including many of our unhoused neighbors. They'll enjoy a delicious meal and receive gifts like jackets, boots, sleeping bags, warm socks, and new underwear. What we collect tonight will bless others tomorrow.

As Mother Teresa said, "It's not how much we give, but how much love we put into our giving." So, embrace the love tonight, knowing it will truly be a blessing to someone else tomorrow.

And if you're seeking a community filled with welcome and compassion, know you're always welcome to join us anytime. You are welcome here!

Merry Christmas! We're so glad you're here.

Grace and Peace,



Pastor Jeff Nelson

