

# ONLY THE LONELY

**UNAFRAID**  
LENT 2020

**SUNDAY, MARCH 15**  
**9:00 AM WORSHIP**

ROYAL OAK FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
rofum.org • 248-541-4100

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Song Don't Be Afraid

Pastor's Welcome

Invitation to Mission

Time of Prayer

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Musical Offering

Scripture Genesis 38:24-27 and Matthew 1:1-3 \*CEB

Message Only the Lonely Myra Moreland

Closing Song

\* Common English Bible

# ANNOUNCEMENT

In response to the Governor's request and information coming from Bishop Bard, the Royal Oak First building will be closed until April 4, 2020. We will continue to monitor, evaluate, and communicate in the days ahead.

***Worship Services move to online!*** Please join us for worship online this Sunday at 9:00 am and 11:00 am. To find us go to [rofum.org/live](https://rofum.org/live).

Additionally, you can join us on Facebook ([facebook.com/RoyalOakFirstUMC](https://facebook.com/RoyalOakFirstUMC)) every weekday at 6:00 pm for a children's bible story. Stay tuned for additional children's activities that will be brought to you online.

Once again, our building is closed and all events or gatherings are cancelled until April 4, 2020.

We will continue to be connected through prayer. We will be praying for each of you and we ask that you join us in prayer for our church, our community, and all those that are impacted by COVID-19.

## RECENT PRAYER CONCERNS

**Prayers for our church family:** Bob & Sherry Giles; Emily Edwards; Brendan Murray; Delores Miller; Mary Nahhat; Allison Hempstead; Marguerite Nowacek; Chris & Nan Orletski; Lorraine Dorsey; Mike Monte; Annabelle Cook; Jan Carlson; Joyce Burton; Marguerite Horak; Rick Vincent; Sheryl Hunter; Carol Hardt; Cindy Vandermark; Pastor Jeff Nelson; The Riggs Family; Dorothy Matsumoto

**Prayers for our extended family:** Vickie Zimmerman; John & Charlene Orletski; Tasha Ellison; Bill Kincannon; Tony Monte; Patti Pittman; Effie Lambros; Gordon Yarbrough; Ivan Rice; Susan McNabb; Kris Beachum

**Senior Spotlight:** Howard Emorey

**Sympathy** to the family and friends of Yvonne Quinn on her death, March 12.

This list includes prayer concerns from the past six weeks.  
For the complete Prayer List, please contact our  
Pastoral Care Team at [prayers@rofum.org](mailto:prayers@rofum.org).

# NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

These are unprecedented times as the World Health Organization announced a global pandemic, our local schools closed and our worship at Royal Oak First moved to Online Worship only. Just know that God is with us as we travel these uncharted waters and we will continue to make Christ's love real in new ways. Believe me when we chose the book *UnAfraid* for our Lenten study, we had no idea what this Lenten season would bring. God does call us to live *UnAfraid*, to live with courage and hope even in times like these. In the book "UnAfraid", Adam Hamilton reminds us that we must face our fears; we must pull them out into the light and weight them against facts, not emotions. Hamilton gives us an acronym to help do that.

**F**ace your fears with faith

**E**xamine your assumptions in the light of the facts

**A**ttack your anxieties with action

**R**elease you cares to God

This week we are looking at some of the fears swirling around us today. We're looking not only the fear of sickness, but the fear of isolation and the fear alone. The fear of being alone and isolated can lead to feeling abandoned and unworthy, and that is the definition of loneliness. In the midst of this God reminds us that we were created in love, created with purpose and valued by God. We'll talk more about that this weekend and we'll look at a story in the Old Testament that will be new to many of you.

It is the story of a woman who was treated unfairly, cast aside and alienated, but she refused to let those around her determine her true value. Her "significance" echoes all through God's story and finds its way into the birth of Jesus.

As James reminded us last weekend: our faith is stronger than our fear. Say that. Know that. Live that. And by the way... God loves you and there is nothing you can do about that.

Grace and Peace,

*Pastor Meyer*