



**LIVIN'**  
**IN THE LAND**  
**OF THE FREE**



ROYAL OAK FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude *Prelude in Classic Style* Gordon Young

Pastor's Welcome

Hymn #437 This Is My Song \*UMH  
Beth Simms, Songleader

Invitation to Mission

Time of Prayer Nick and Kiley Basel, US Army

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Musical Offering Alive and Breathing Matt Maher  
Laci Marie Basel

Doxology #95 UMH

Scriptures 2 Corinthians 3:17, Galatians 5:1 \*\*NRSV  
Matthew 11:28-30  
Sandy Davis

Message Livin' in the Land of the Free Myra Moreland

Song Take My Life  
Erica Plesco and Jason Sherman

Benediction

# RECENT PRAYER CONCERNS

**Prayers for our church family:** Marilyn Hocking; James Respecki; Kevin Lasky; Bruce and Ginny Conrad; Jenny Lowman; Lee Hoffmann; Inge Wichers; Betty Latimer; Barb Nicholas; Sue Parisi-Reid; Dick LaCombe; Daphne Mitchell; Paula Derkowski; Joe Waisanen Jr; Grace Perkins; Bob & Michele Prud'homme; Crystal Clark; Marian Kremer; Betty Locke; Charlie Yago; Megan Backes; Marguerite Nowacek; Phil & Jane Button; Bill Young; Krista Conyers; Nancy Lorenz; John Wagster; Charlene Faunt; Pastor Jeff Nelson; The Riggs Family

**Prayers for our extended family:** Tracy & Paul; Lucy Sieck; Jamie Radick; Pat Callahan; Pam Payne; Tim Bell; Laurie Harris Wiener; Heidi and Dan Grogan; Essential workers and health care providers fighting COVID-19; Marilyn Mansfield; Margaret O'Donnell; Don & Ann Anderson

**Senior Spotlight:** Ron & Marianne Peludat

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,

Happy Fourth of July weekend! In this weekend where we celebrate freedom, it is odd to see how so much of our freedom has been curtailed by a virus. This will not be a weekend of parades and large gatherings; we must find smaller, safer ways to celebrate what it means to be free. Maybe, just maybe, this is a good time to look at freedom through the lens of Jesus. Jesus will refocus us on a different kind of freedom, a freedom from within, a freedom of the soul. This week we are looking at Matthew 11:28.

*“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”*

Think for a moment about the freedom of giving our burdens over to Jesus: the burden of worry, the burden of fear, the burden of anxiety. We'll also be talking this weekend about the “yoke” that Jesus calls us to take. It simply

means the teachings of Jesus. We take on the yoke of Jesus when we truly follow his example and his teachings. May we all be “gentle and humble in heart,” and may we all find “rest for our souls” on this holiday weekend.

As I said at the beginning, this is not a weekend of large gatherings. Our country has seen record numbers of Covid-19; this virus is still raging. Please be careful. Wear a mask when you are among people. Practice social distancing. I know it seems like we have been doing that for so long; hang in there and keep yourself and those around you safe and healthy.

Grace and Peace

*Pastor Meyer*