

*The
Treasures
of Your
Heart*

DECEMBER 27, 2020
ROYAL OAK FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
rofum.org • 248-541-4100

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Angels We Have Heard On High/We Wish You a Merry Christmas
The Harris Family

Pastor's Welcome

Song Hark the Herald Angels Sing
 Katrina Van Maanen

Invitation to Mission

Time of Prayer

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Musical Offering *Let There be Peace on Earth*
 Beth Simms

Doxology #95

*UMH

Scripture Luke 2:15-19
 Connie Royal

**NIV

Message The Treasures of Your Heart Myra Moreland

Closing Song *Go Tell it on the Mountain*
 House Band

Benediction

* United Methodist Hymnal
** New International Version

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Winter Small Groups

We are offering a set of 4-week small groups, beginning the week of January 10! There are. A variety of topics and times to choose from and all are welcome. Visit rofum.org/SmallGroups to find a way to stay connected to our church family this winter.

Reflecting on a New Year with Pastor Jeff

January 8, 7:00-9:00 pm & January 9, 9:30-11:30 am on Zoom

Join Pastor Jeff for some time to center ourselves for the new year. We will have time to pray, reflect, and discuss some ways to set ourselves up for a good 2021. [Click here](#) or contact Bridget Nelson at bnelson@rofum.org to sign up.

Lunch Program Clothing Ministry

In addition to providing lunches, we also provide clothing and hygiene products to those experiencing hunger and homelessness in our community. If you would like to be part of this vital ministry, contact Carolyn Gabler at 248-342-3112. We are also accepting donations of men's winter clothing, boots, coats, long johns, etc. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, we are not able to accept other donations at this time.

WAVE Project Mobile Showers

The WAVE Project brings mobile showers to people experiencing homelessness in our community, and they bring those showers to Royal Oak First each Sunday. If you would like to be a part of the team that helps provide this ministry, contact Mike Monte at mmonte@rofum.org. Full Personal Protective Equipment will be provided by the WAVE Project, including masks, gloves, face shields, hand sanitizer, and plexiglass barriers. Volunteers will help with setup and breakdown, asking COVID-19 screening questions and taking temperatures, and cleaning an assigned area.

RECENT PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers for our church family: Joyce Nelson; Joe McGee; Janice Martin; Brad & Judy Ather; Colin Walbridge; Krista Conyers; The Richardson Family; Jayden Bryant; Marianne Peck; Todd Menig; Joyce Hollingsworth; Lee & Shirley Gnegy; Marian Kremer; Inge Wichers; Betty Lawson; Nancy Lorenz

Prayers for our extended family: Paul Brown; Jim Brown; Jim Castellani; Tara Bouck; Sally Sou; Anni Richardson; John McClure; Mary Sleeman; Joe & Dionne Chzanowski; Kelly & Charley Connolly; Lorraine Murdoch; Paul Edward; Richard Gifford; Cheryl & Jimmy Clark; Anthonne Tracy; Mary Jo Cady; Teresa Baker; Kathy Kearns; Lorraine Bowden; Essential workers and health care providers fighting COVID-19

Senior Spotlight: Gwen Ross

Sympathy to Gerald Elliot for the death of his husband, Michael Johnson, December 22.

Sympathy to Sam Garrett for the death of her grandmother, Theresa Guellec, December 22

Sympathy to Brian Wright for the death of his aunt, Dolly Ralph, December 21.

Sympathy to Amy Newberg for the death of her father, December 3.

For the complete Prayer List, please contact our
Pastoral Care Team at prayers@rofum.org.

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Christmas Day of 2020 is behind us. While many things seem different today as they have throughout this season, many things are the same. Here at my house there are still mounds of wrapping paper on the floor and the leftovers from Christmas dinner are crowded in the refrigerator. I'm still glittery from far too much sugar and the vows of a better eating in the New Year are at the forefront of my mind (as they normally are.)

I have been thinking a lot about "season" and the things that we treasure in each season. Christmas is a season, but in many ways, this quarantine has been a season of our collective lives. We have a lot to ponder. The memories of those we lost this year, the highlights of heroes who stepped up to bring care and comfort where and when it was needed. Those who helped us find new ways to cope and cook and live under the shadow of a global pandemic. Look back through the year. There are things that we do not need to treasure; those moments when we and our country were not our best selves. Let's let those things go. Let's save room in our hearts for the things that really matter. Those things we take with us throughout the year and in some cases through our lives. Memories are a part of that for sure, but the essence of what we truly treasure are more than that, deeper and wider than that.

This Sunday we are looking at a single verse from the Christmas story:

"But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart." Luke 2:19

I'm using the NIV translation because I believe it captures the spirit of the original language. Mary "treasured up". There is action there. She is not just thinking and reminiscing, she is sorting through. She is looking back at all that has happened and sifting out those things that are important for her and her family and the tasks that God has asked them to do.

Join us on Sunday as we look at the things that we "treasure up" from the season of Christmas and the season of this unconventional, unprecedented year.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Meyer