

# TAKE ME TO THE RIVER



JANUARY 17, 2021  
ROYAL OAK FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
rofum.org • 248-541-4100

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude *Almighty* arr. Bill Wolaver  
Tim Schoenherr

Pastor's Welcome

Hymn #519 Lift Every Voice and Sing \*UMH  
Liz Wright, Neal Harris, Faye Bond, Ken Stringer

Invitation to Mission

Time of Prayer

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Musical Offering *River In Judea*

Scripture Matthew 3:13-17 \*\*NIV  
Faye Bond

Message Take Me to the River Erica Plesco

Closing Song *Come As You Are*  
House Band

Benediction

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **January Missions Collection**

Many of our lunch guests sleep out in the cold, and one of the most common questions we get asked each winter is if we have any blankets. Help us stock up on new warm blankets to help keep our lunch guests safe this winter. Drop off donations of new blankets Monday-Thursday, 10:00-3:00 all month.

## **Offering Envelopes are Here!**

New 2021 Offering Envelopes have arrived. Stop by the church Monday-Thursday, 10:00-3:00, to pick up your envelopes or call the office to have them mailed to you. If you would prefer to give online, you can set up one-time or recurring giving on our website at [rofum.org/giving](https://rofum.org/giving). If you have any questions about online giving, contact Jennifer Tripoli at [jtripoli@rofum.org](mailto:jtripoli@rofum.org).

## **Love Gift for Pastor Myra**

Say farewell to our friend Pastor Myra Moreland by contributing to a Love Gift for her as she heads to Nashville to continue her education. You can make a contribution to the Love Gift fund at [rofum.org/giving](https://rofum.org/giving).

# RECENT PRAYER CONCERNS

**Prayers for our church family:** Joe & Jean Foster; Lee & Shirley Gnegy; Bill Howell; Peggy Waisanen; Jake Tripoli; Ron & Marianne Peludat; Joe Waisanen. Jr.; Kristin Frey; Joe McGee; Janice Martin; Krista Conyers; The Richardson Family; Marianne Peck; Todd Menig; Joyce Hollingsworth; Marian Kremer; Inge Wichers; Betty Lawson; Nancy Lorenz

**Prayers for our extended family:** Anni Richardson; Lori Karoitt; Mary Ann Standing; Scott R; Juli Sweet; Laurella Perser; Neil Franks; Paul Brown; Jim Brown; Tara Bouck; Sally Sou; 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:** Al Simmons

**Congratulations** to Gordy & Jenny Boozan for the birth of their son, Greyson Gordon, January 7.

**Sympathy** to Celeste Roth for the death of her father, Robert Harrison, December 29.

**Sympathy** to Lee Hoffmann for the death of her aunt Leila Night, January 5.

**Sympathy** to Kathi Burger for the death of her brother, Mike Long, January 7.

**Sympathy** to the family and friends of long-time member Joyce Nelson for her death January 8.

For the complete Prayer List, please contact our  
Pastoral Care Team at [prayers@rofum.org](mailto:prayers@rofum.org).

## NOTE FROM THE PREACHER

Dear Friends,

On January 18, we celebrate the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. In reflection of the importance of this date within our calendar and all that it represents within American History, it's difficult to comprehend how we find ourselves in a society where there is still so much work to be done in the areas of social justice and social reform. Yet in this reflection, I am reminded that I forget all too easily, the extraordinary power love has to effect positive change, and the magic of grace and possibility this presents to our lives. This reminder, reaffirmed in so many of King's teachings...a reminder that we need now, maybe more than ever.

This Sunday, I've been given the opportunity to speak on the Baptism of Jesus, and I can't help but contemplate what Baptism represents in the realm of our personal transformation, and the power we gain in our decision to say "Yes" to the divine possibility, and "No" to the prevalent darkness we find ourselves facing. With every "yes", we too, embrace that amazing power to effect positive change...not only in our personal being, but in every life we touch.

"See you Sunday"

Erica Plesco