



**Healed  
to Serve,  
Healed  
to Love**

JANUARY 31, 2021  
ROYAL OAK FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

*Ground of Being*  
Jason Sherman

Pastor's Welcome

Hymn #593

Here I am, Lord  
Tim Schoenherr

Invitation to Mission

Erica Plesco

Time of Prayer

Carrie Beerer

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Musical Offering

*Lead Me Lord*  
Carillon Ringers

Scripture

Mark 1:29-39

\*CEB

Message

Healed to Serve, Healed to Love

Jeff Nelson

Closing Song

*Child of God*  
House Band

Benediction

\* Common English Bible

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Share the Love!

Help us share some love! In the week leading up to Valentine's Day we hope to send a card to every member of our church. During Valentine's Day weekend, we hope to make and deliver 100 bags of treats and notes. So, we need everyone's hands! We need people to send cards, people to bake, kids to make cards, people to assemble bags and people to deliver. [Click here to sign up](#) or contact Danielle Moody at [dmood@rofum.org](mailto:dmood@rofum.org) if you have any questions.

## Ash Wednesday

**February 17**

It is almost the beginning of Lent and our journey to Easter. Visit [rofum.org/live](http://rofum.org/live) at 7:00 pm for an online worship service. You can also stop by the church 7:00 am-7:00 pm to receive ashes, pray, and partake in Holy Communion.

## Lenten Retreat

**February 19 & 20**

We are blessed to have Rev. Kevin Smalls from Hope UMC and our own Pastor Jeff host a special Lenten retreat. We will come together over Zoom with our siblings from Hope UMC for a time of reflection, prayer, and conversation with God and each other. [Click here to sign up](#).

## Lenten Book Study

**Wednesdays February 24-March 24, 10:00-11:30 am or 7:00-8:30 pm**

Join Pastor Jeff for this study on the deeper meaning of the days of Holy Week. Each class will begin with a talk from Pastor Jeff and then the group will be split into smaller groups with discussion leaders. Studying this book through Lent will prepare us for a deeper understanding of the events of Holy Week, so we can experience it in a new way. [Click here to sign up](#).

## **Men's Retreat**

**March 5 & 6**

Calling all the men of the church! It's been too long since we were able to get together and be in fellowship with one another. Join Pastor Jeff online for this chance for men to connect with God and each other! No preparation necessary, just a zoom friendly device and some time to share with other men from your church family. [Click here to sign up.](#)

## **Week of Prayer**

**March 15-18**

One of the hardest parts of this pandemic is being away from our sanctuary. Find a time this week to come in, spend some time in the sanctuary and pray for the people in your life, the people in our church and our community and world. This can be for an individual or a household group. There will be music playing and a candle you can light. Join us in this special week of prayer and reconnecting with our most sacred space. [Click here to sign up.](#)

## **Enneagram Retreat**

**March 26 & 27**

One of the most ancient spiritual ways of understanding human beings is the Enneagram. Whether you already know "your number" or not, come learn about this enlightening tool of self-discovery. We will be led by Laura Witkowski from the Michigan Conference staff, who has been trained in helping others grow through the Enneagram. [Click here to sign up.](#)

# HOLY WEEK

## **Palm Sunday**

**March 28**

Watch our Palm Sunday worship services at 9 and 11 am or join us at 10:30 am on the church lawn to gather, wave our palms, and make a ruckus as we celebrate Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem.

## **Holy Thursday**

**April 1**

Watch our 7 pm online worship service or come to the church lawn at 7 pm for a hymn sing and partake in communion as we commemorate Jesus' last meal with his disciples.

## **Good Friday Worship**

**April 2**

Join us at 12 pm on the church lawn for an impactful in-person Good Friday worship service remembering Jesus' final day.

## **7 Last Words Preached**

**April 2**

Tune in at 12 pm to this collaborative worship experience with preachers and musicians from area churches lifting up Jesus' last words on the cross.

## **7 Last Words Poetry Slam**

**April 2**

You don't want to miss this livestreamed event at 7 pm where poets and musicians muse on Christ's last words. Unique, poignant, and compelling, the 7 Last Words Poetry Slam offers insights into Christ's humanity and divinity in his final moments.

## **Easter**

**April 4**

Easter Sunday is finally here! Celebrate the resurrection with us for an in-person worship celebration on the church lawn at 10:30 am. Be sure to watch the Children's Easter Play at 8 am on our website and our Easter worship services at 9 and 11 am.

# RECENT PRAYER CONCERNS

**Prayers for our church family:** Bob Giles; Marilyn McCreedy; Cheryl Buxton; Neil Franks; Bruce Conrad; Carol Hardt; Sue Minch; Jeff Harris; Joe & Jean Foster; Lee & Shirley Gnegy; Bill Howell; Peggy Waisanen; Ron & Marianne Peludat; Joe Waisanen, Jr.; Kristin Frey; Joe McGee; Janice Martin; Krista Conyers; Marianne Peck; Todd Menig; Marian Kremer; Inge Wichers; Betty Lawson; Nancy Lorenz

**Prayers for our extended family:** Troy & Amber DuPrey; Sue Sugden; Mindy Grissom; Lori Karoitt; Mary Ann Standing; Scott R; Juli Sweet; Laurella Perser; 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:** Priscilla Benson

**Sympathy** to the family and friends of long-time member Charles White, for his death January 27.

**Sympathy** to the Fall and Kempf families for the death of their aunt, Barbara Gute, January 29.

**Sympathy** to the Richardson family for the death of Kevin's mother, Anni Richardson, February 2.

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,

Over the past months, I have really enjoyed the opportunities to connect with many of you over Zoom. Whether it has been for Bible studies, children and youth events, book studies, or retreats, the chance to “be together” has truly been a blessing.

Over the next several weeks, we have several other opportunities to connect for prayer, friendship and learning. If you haven't tried any of these virtual opportunities, I encourage you to sign up for at least one of these gatherings. If you need some help with the technology needed to participate, please let us know and we will help you get connected. As we wait for the day when we can gather safely, let's take advantage of all the ways we can connect with God and with one another.

These are the different ways we can come together during the Lenten Season.

### **Lenten Book Study:**

Wednesdays at 10:00 am-11:30 am or 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm. Starting February 24, through March 24.

We are encouraging our congregation to be reading Amy-Jill Levine's book, *Entering the Passion: A Beginners Guide to Holy Week*. [Click here to purchase the book](#). Levine's book will help us grow deeper in our understanding of Jesus' mission and ministry.

We will gather on Zoom where I will go over the highlights of the reading for the week and then we will breakout into smaller groups for discussion.

We are especially excited that Dr. Levine will join via Zoom on March 24th to discuss her work and answer our questions.

[Click here to sign up to be a part of the class.](#)

### **Lenten Retreat:**

Friday, February 19, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm and Saturday, February 20, 9:30 am - 11:30 am.

Come and spend a few hours with me and our special guest Pastor Kevin Smalls from Hope United Methodist in Southfield. We will focus on Jesus' parable of The Sower as a way to reflect on how God is at work in our lives.

[Click here to register for the Lenten Retreat.](#)

### **Men's Retreat:**

Friday, March 5, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm and Saturday, March 20, 9:30 am - 11:30 am.

I wanted to set aside some time to connect with the men of our church. This will be a time to reflect on our journeys with God and with each other by using Jesus' story of the Prodigal Son as a lens for our time together.

[Click here to register for the Men's Retreat.](#)

### **Self-Discovery Weekend**

Friday, March 26, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm and Saturday, March 27 9:30 am - 11:30 am.

John Clavin, the great Protestant reformer, once said, "Without knowledge of self, there is no knowledge of God." We are going to be led this week by Michigan Conference Staff Person Laura Witkowski. Laura will be introducing us to a powerful spiritual direction tool known as the Enneagram. I am personally excited for you to experience her teaching because I will attest that the Enneagram has been the most helpful tool, and especially helpful during my personal leave, for better understanding my God-given gifts as well as my areas of struggle. I hope you too will experience the kind of insights I have from this weekend.

[Click here to register for the Enneagram Retreat.](#)

I cannot wait until we can all be back together again - so let's not wait! Let's keep finding creative ways to stay connected to God and to each other. I sincerely hope you will try one or more of these offerings.

See you in the Zoom!

Grace & Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Jeff". Below the signature is a simple line drawing of a smiley face with two dots for eyes and a curved line for a mouth.