

Entering the Passion:
Risky Love



Risking Rejection

MARCH 14, 2021

ROYAL OAK FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

No Greater Love
Tim Schoenherr

Pastor's Welcome

Hymn #454

Open My Eyes
Tim Schoenherr

*UMH

Invitation to Mission

Erica Plesco

Time of Prayer

Joan Johnson

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Musical Offering

Rainbow
Sam Garrett

Kasey Musgraves

Scripture

Mark 14:3-9

*CEB

Message

Risking Rejection

Jeff Nelson

Closing Song

Changed
House Band

Benediction

* United Methodist Hymnal

** Common English Bible

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March Missions Collection

The lunch program is a cornerstone ministry of our church. Each weekday we hand out bagged lunches and hot meals to approximately 35 people in our community experiencing food insecurity or homelessness. This month, we are collecting pudding, jello, applesauce, and fruit cups; and juice boxes or pouches to include in the bagged lunches. You can drop off your donations at the church Monday-Thursday, 10-3, or you can make a financial contribution at rofum.org/giving, and we will do the shopping for you.

Virtual Church Conference – Date Correction

March 16, 7 pm via Zoom

[Click here to join](#) our special Virtual Church Conference to approve new candidates for ministry.

Week of Prayer

March 14-18

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](#).

Lenten Concert: *From Darkness to Light*

March 21, 2 pm

Join us for a short online musical meditation that acknowledges the challenges we've faced as people, as a church, as a community, and as a country in 2020 and 2021. We will also offer a brief remembrance of Ginny Borts, a long-time member of the Sanctus Choir. [Watch the concert here](#).

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

Stop by the church 4-7 pm for Drive-Up Communion then watch our online worship service 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 to rofum.org/live at 12 pm to watch 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 live-streamed 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: Abby Tripoli; Logan Haines; Roger Johnson; Lucille Evans; Betty Lawson; Ed Cline; Fred Bowden; Sue Minch; Cecelia Tamm; Bob Giles; Marilyn McCreedy; Neil Franks; Bruce Conrad; Carol Hardt; Ron & Marianne Peludat; Kristin Frey; Todd Menig; Marian Kremer; Nancy Lorenz

Prayers for our extended family: Mike J; Tim Bell; Patricia Callahan; Mike Carr; Karen S.; Chad Ludtke; Ronald Avesian; Julie Leigh; Paul Edward; Darryl Warren; Steve Zemonian; Troy & Amber DuPrey; Sue Sugden; Lori Karoitt; Mary Ann Standing; Scott R; Tara Bouck; Sally Sou; John McClure; Mary Sleeman; 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: Robert & Christine Hall

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

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

I want to take this opportunity to let you know about a couple of important things happening in the life of our community.

In-Person Worship:

With Sunday marking the one-year anniversary of online-only Sunday worship, I am excited to announce that we are getting ready to offer in-person worship again. Thanks to the leadership and guidance of our Compass Team, COVID Task Force, and our staff, we are planning to begin in-person worship on Sunday, April 18.

I will make a more detailed announcement on Wednesday, March 17, at 7:00 pm on rofum.org/live. That announcement will be followed by a written Q and A that will be mailed and available electronically the following day.

I just want to thank you for your patience and understanding during this interesting season. You have stayed faithful and connected. I am also thankful for our leadership and staff that have continued to be flexible, resilient, and creative to keep you connected to God and each other.

Special Church Conference: On Tuesday, March 16, at 7:00 pm, you are invited to join our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Charles Boayue, Jr, on Zoom for a special Church Conference. There is only one agenda item for this conference: seeking your approval for the ministry candidacies of Jennifer Tripoli and Bridget Nelson, both of whom are seeking to become Licensed Local Pastors in the United Methodist Church. This is the same process we have followed for Myra Moreland, Robert Demyanovich, Fred Bowden, and George Marck. If you are interested in attending, [click here to join the call](#).

Fish Dinners: I am so excited to say we will be offering Fish Dinner carry out! On Friday, March 26, and Friday, April 2, between 4:30 pm and 7:00 pm, you can get a taste of Royal Oak First's Famous Fish Fry. For only \$11, you will get ½ lb. of Cod, a baked potato, and coleslaw. All carry-outs will be brought to your car through the Tower Entrance on 7th Street. [Click here to sign up for a pick-up time](#).

Lent:

There are still several Lenten experiences for you to participate in along the journey.

Week of Prayer: This week, you are invited to reserve some time in the sanctuary for personal prayer and reflection. There are lots of open times for you and your “bubble” to enjoy the quiet and peace of our most sacred space.

[Click here to sign up](#)

Virtual Music Concert: Under the direction and coordination of Tim Schoenherr and Erica Plesco, we will be providing an afternoon on March 21 of music from members of our congregation. [Click here to watch the concert.](#)

Lenten Spiritual Retreat: On Friday, March 26, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm and Saturday, March 27 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am, Michigan Area Conference staff person Laura Witkowski, we will holding a virtual retreat on how to use the Enneagram as a tool for spiritual growth and self-discovery. The Enneagram has been particularly meaningful to me this past year, as I have taken new steps to grow. [Click here to sign up.](#)

There sure is a lot happening in the life of our church. We are looking forward to being together in some new ways again very soon!

Grace and 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.