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ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	<i>Canzona per sonare No. 4</i> Brassworks	Giovanni Gabrieli
Pastor's Welcome		
Hymn #302	Christ the Lord is Risen Today	*UMH
Invitation to Mission		Erica Plesco
Time of Prayer		Dave Beerer
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		
Musical Offering	"Hallelujah Chorus" from <i>Messiah</i> Sanctus Choir	G.F. Handel
Scripture	Mark 16:1-8	*CEB
Message	Who Will Roll Away the Stone?	Jeff Nelson
Closing Song #322	Up from the Grave He Arose Kelsey Lockwood	UMH
Benediction		
Postlude	"Fanfare" from <i>Water Music</i> Brassworks	G.F. Handel

* United Methodist Hymnal

** Common English Bible

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Spring Missions Collection

Certain things are necessities. Everyone needs cleaning supplies, personal hygiene items, and weather protection, but not everyone is able to get them. Many of these crucial supplies are not covered by assistance programs like food stamps. This spring, we are collecting rain ponchos, deodorant (especially men's deodorant), cotton swabs, dish soap, all-purpose cleaning spray, sponges, cleaning pails, and travel-size personal wipes. If you would like to help us with this collection, you can drop off your donations at the church Monday-Thursday, 10-3, or you can make a monetary contribution at rofum.org/giving.

Easter

April 4

Easter Sunday is finally here! Celebrate the resurrection with us at our drive-in worship celebration in the church parking lot at 10:30 am. Be sure to watch the Children's Easter Play at rofum.org/live.

In-Person Worship

Beginning April 18, 9 am

We are thrilled to begin our 7-week pilot program to bring back in-person worship. This will be a chance to ease back into in-person community life, to learn about best practices, and make the necessary adjustments moving forward. In order to keep everyone safe, attendance will be limited to 50 people. Nursery care will be available for preregistered children age 4 and under. [Click here to sign up for worship.](#)

RECENT PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers for our church family: Julie Baker; Nancy Lorenz; Betty Lawson; Shery & Bob Giles; Mark Thatcher; Bruce Conrad; Abby Tripoli; Logan Haines; Roger Johnson; Ed Cline; Fred Bowden; Marilyn McCreedy; Neil Franks; Ron & Marianne Peludat; Kristin Frey; Marian Kremer

Prayers for our extended family: Tony Monte; Vanessa & Katelyn Elrod; Joe Dorsey; Bret Thatcher; Michael McFarlane; Effie Lambros; Leslie Inch; Joe Percy; Mike J; Tim Bell; Patricia Callahan; Mike Carr; Chad Ludtke; Paul Edward; Darryl Warren; Troy & Amber DuPrey; Sue Sugden; Lori Karoitt; Scott R; Sally Sou; 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: Betty Lawson

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

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

One of the most memorable Easter's in my life was back when I was in high school. It was often our tradition on the big holidays to get into my dad's Buick and drive the two and a half hours to my grandparent's house. The drive was always filled with music of Elvis, Johnny Cash, and Willie Nelson playing from the 8-track tape player installed in the radio.

My mother's parents were Western Wisconsin farmers who never owned their own land. This meant they always made their living for others until later in life when my grandfather would drive a milk truck. This left them pretty poor and made feeding and clothing their six children a struggle. Once they retired, they were able to scrape together enough money to buy a trailer home and a small piece of property on which to live.

Every Holiday all of six of their kids and their spouses and their 22 grandchildren would cram into that small trailer for the day. Most of the adults smoked. The women were in the kitchen preparing the food. The men were at the dining table playing Dirty Clubs (The Wisconsin variation of Euchre),

and we kids were everywhere!!!! The room was filled with constant chatter and laughter and crying babies. The only time it got quiet was when Hee Haw came on the only channel the rabbit ears on top the TV could get. But the food was good and plentiful and a constant reminder to me that I came from hardworking folks who loved each other fiercely.

What I remember about this Easter was that it was the last Easter my grandmother was with us. For the two years prior, she was living in a nursing home as dementia had robbed her of her memory. By this year, she was frail and weak. She was brought into the trailer, and she was sitting in her chair - the orange burlap-covered Lazy Boy with the wooden armrests - and a peace came over her that I can barely explain. She didn't say a word. She couldn't call any of us by name. But she knew she was home. She knew she was surrounded by love. She knew she belonged. She knew... even though she couldn't remember.

And at least for that moment, the stone had been rolled away, and the tomb was empty! It was really Easter.

I suppose this story is pretty fresh in my memory because it is hard to remember right now what life was like before COVID. This is the second Easter where we won't be together in the ways that have been familiar. But as we have read the stories of Holy Week, been singing the songs in worship, have been continuing to feed and care for the hungry and those experiencing homelessness, and have been connecting together in study, praying, and supporting each other, I have felt a very familiar peace come over me.

All I can hope for you this Easter is that you know the deepest truth of this day.

You are surrounded by love.

You have a home with God and with us.

You belong!

He has risen!

He has risen indeed!

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive 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.