

Prep Work



ADVENT 2021

Rooted in Patience

Sunday, December 5, 2021 11:00AM
ROYAL OAK FIRST: A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	“Love Has Come” arr. David Cherwien	Kyle Webber
Bell Peal		
Hymn #213 (*UMH)	Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates	Congregational Singing
Introduction to Advent		Erica Plesco
Lighting of the Advent Candle		Monte/Wright Family
Musical Response #211 (*UMH)	O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Stanza 2)	Congregational Singing
Invitation to Mission		Erica Plesco
New Members Reception		Bridget Nelson
Time of Prayer		Jennifer Tripoli
Offering Our Gifts and Tithes		
Musical Offering	“Noel” Chris Tomlin feat. Lauren Daigle	Laura Potter
Doxology #95 (*UMH)	Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow	Congregational Singing
Scripture (**CEB)	Malachi 3:1-4	Jennifer Tripoli
Message	Prep Work	Josh Wright
Communion		
Hymn #216 (*UMH)	Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming	Congregational Singing
Benediction		Josh Wright
Postlude	“Savior of the Nations, Come” arr. Paul Manz	Kyle Webber

**United Methodist Hymnal
**Common English Bible*

ANNOUNCEMENTS



DETROIT LUTHERAN SINGERS CONCERT SERIES

You don't want to miss this wonderful concert series from our friends, the Detroit Lutheran Singers (including some of our very own Sanctus members). Tickets are available online at <https://detroitlutheransingers.com/tickets>, or you can purchase at the door. Concert dates: 12/4, 12/5, 12/10, 12/11.



CHILDREN'S STORYTIME WITH PASTOR JEFF

Join Pastor Jeff every Sunday evening in Advent (12/5, 12/12, 12/19) at 7:00 p.m. on Facebook Live for an online story that will get you in the spirit of the season.



SPREAD THE CHEER!

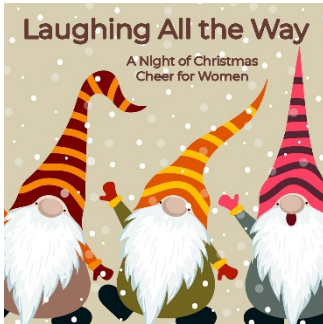
Bring four dozen of your favorite type of cookie or holiday treat on Saturday, December 11 from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. You will go home with a variety platter of cookies and also a couple treat bags to deliver to the home of our church members. No need to be a baker to spread holiday cheer. We need people to send cards, people to bake, kids to make cards, people to assemble bags and people to deliver. Visit www.rofum.org to sign up.



A COMMUNITY-WIDE CAROL SING

On Sunday, December 12 at 3:00 p.m., join us on our front lawn for cookies, hot chocolate and a good ole Christmas Carol sing. Bring the whole family along for this special event - it will be sure to get you in the Christmas spirit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



LAUGHING ALL THE WAY: A NIGHT OF CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR WOMEN

On Monday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m., put on your Christmas pajamas, grab your favorite snack and beverage and join us online via Zoom for an evening of storytelling and cheer. All women are welcome! Hosted by Jennifer Tripoli and Bridget Nelson.

CHRISTMAS SWEATER SUNDAY



CHRISTMAS SWEATER SUNDAY

Sunday, December 19 at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Worship. Wear your favorite Christmas sweater - “ugly” or not! Come and spread the joy of the season with your best Christmas get-up!

Longest Night Service



LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

Tuesday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m.
Whether mourning the loss of a loved one, dealing with an illness, navigating financial struggles or simply not feeling the spirit of Christmas; this service is a quiet, prayerful moment acknowledging the difficulties of the season.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Toy and Clothing Drive

Cass Community Social Services

CASS CHRISTMAS STORE

The Royal Oak First United Methodist Women's Group (UMW) is once again helping the children at Cass Community Social Services to celebrate Christmas. Before December 12, you can contribute by bringing in NEW unwrapped toys and NEW winter clothes appropriate for kids age birth to 18 years. Please, avoid battery operated gifts. Thank you!



KNOWLEDGE CIRCLE

This circle meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor. Women come for devotions, mission, learning and fellowship. The next meetings are December 8, skipping January, and then meeting again on February 9 at 7:00 p.m. Any questions, please call Kathy Riggs at 248.390.4345.



SHAWL MINISTRY

If you love needlework and would enjoy the fellowship of others in mission, Shawl Ministry will meet Thursday, December 9 in the Parlor from 1:00-3:00 p.m. They create shawls and afghans to give to persons in need of prayer, comfort or blessings. In 2022, meetings will be on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 1:00 p.m.



Christmas Eve Worship Experiences

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP EXPERIENCES

4:00 p.m. - Sanctuary/Livestream

Children's Christmas Pageant - A service for children and families. The children of Royal Oak First will present the story of the First Christmas.

7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary/Livestream

"Blue Jean Christmas" - a modern worship experience. Come as you are and worship with us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. We will also have a service of candlelight as part of our worship.

9:00 p.m. - Sanctuary/Livestream

Traditional Christmas Eve worship service with organ and piano accompaniment. We will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion and have a service of candlelight.

11:00 p.m. - Outside

Join us outside on our front lawn for a simple, yet Holy worship experience in the dark of night as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Communion will be served and a service of candlelight will be included.

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

Don McCreedy • Michael Frank • Yvonne Bashur • John Marsh • Don Matson •
Kira Tull • Brian Nader • Rachel Fitzpatrick • Beckham Boozan •
Phil and Jane Button • Dorthea Schuldeis • Dorothy Matsumoto • Carl Sweet •
Al Simmons • Barb Simmons • Laci Basel • Todd Wells • Nancy Lorenz • Lisa Rye •
Charlene Faunt • Marian Kremer • Tom Soboleski • Janet Ramseyer •
John Wagster • Neil Franks • Dave Minch • Patricia Callahan • Maya Lane Harris •
Kimberlyn Palchak • Diane Shornak • Carrie Morse •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Donald Avesian • Tom Dunstan • The Broderik Family • Beth Roselle • T.B. •
Chrystl Roman • Tina Bell • Jethro Horton • Flora Jones • Deni Bartley •
Earl Hendrickson • Evert & Kay Burchell • Neil Mullins • Effie Lambros •
The Pushman Family • Marc Reddekopp • Michael McFarlane • Darryl Warren •
Sue Sugden • Sally Sou • Teresa Baker •

Sympathies to:

Bridget Nelson on the death of her aunt, Eileen Pelirne, November 23, 2021

Prayers for All That Have Been Impacted by COVID-19

For the complete Prayer List,
please contact Danielle Moody at prayers@rofum.org.

LETTER FROM OUR PREACHER

Friends,

I'm sure many of you are already ahead of us, but this week our family has been decorating the house in preparation for Christmas. It's hard to find time with work to do, sermons to write, homework to complete not to mention all the little surprises that pop up along the way. Then there's getting the decorations themselves out! First, we have to move out the Halloween decorations, then the Easter decorations, then try to remember which box has the indoor decorations and which one has the outdoor ones!

Then there's sifting through the decorations accumulated over more than twenty years of marriage. How did that get broken? No, we can't get rid of that, it belonged to my great aunt. I never liked that ornament, but the people who gave it to us might come over, so we should put it up anyway. Should we stick with the same thing we did last year or go with a different theme? The conversations are the same every year.

Advent is a time of waiting, and waiting times are times of preparation. They're times for moving things around, reorganizing things, setting priorities, and getting rid of things that aren't of any use anymore. This is true in a practical sense, but also in our lives. As we wait for the peace that Christ brings, it's a perfect time to get our houses in order.

Happy Advent and Merry Christmas from my family to yours!

Josh Wright