



# Palm Sunday



**ROYAL OAK  
FIRST**  
A United Methodist Church

**Sunday, April 2, 2023  
9:00 AM Worship**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

<b>Gathering Music</b>	“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” arr. Mary McDonald	Kyle Webber
<b>Song</b>	“Hosanna (Praise is Rising)”	
<b>Song</b>	“Throne Room Song”	
<b>Welcome &amp; Invitation to Mission</b>		Kyle Webber & Jeff Nelson
<b>Time of Prayer</b>		
<b>Offering Our Gifts and Tithes</b>		
<b>Musical Offering</b>	“The Holy City” Stephen Adams	Jenni Clark
<b>Doxology</b>	“Give Thanks”	
<b>Scripture*</b>	Matthew 21:1-11	
<b>Message</b>		Jeff Nelson
<b>Sacrament of Holy Communion</b>		
<b>Song</b>	“Christ Be Magnified”	
<b>Benediction</b>		
<b>Sending Music</b>	“Hosanna (Praise is Rising)”	House Band

*\*Common English Bible*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**SUNDAY  
BRUNCH**

## **PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH**

**Sunday, April 2, after 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services**  
The Abide Men's Fellowship is sponsoring a Sunday Brunch after both services on Palm Sunday. There is no cost for the brunch and reservations are not necessary.



**EGG MY HOUSE**

## **EGG MY HOUSE**

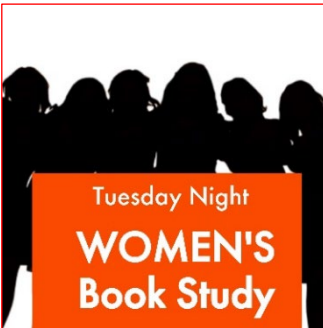
Let your kids wake up to a yard full of candy and toy filled eggs on Easter morning! Twenty four (24) eggs are \$25 or forty eight (48) eggs are \$50. All proceeds go to the Youth Mission Trip. **To place an order through Sunday, April 2**, scan the QR code.



*Easter Egg Fillers  
Collection*

## **EASTER EGG FILLERS COLLECTION**

The youth are collecting donations of individually wrapped pieces of candy, toys/trinkets, and plastic eggs for their annual 'Egg My House' fundraiser. **Donations are being accepted through Sunday, April 2.** A collection bin will be set up at the Connections Table on Sunday mornings.

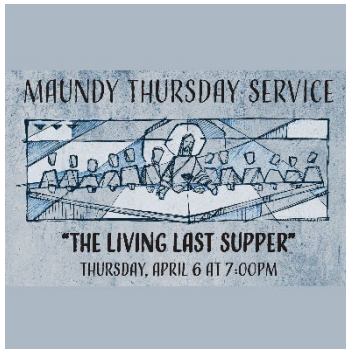


Tuesday Night  
**WOMEN'S  
Book Study**

## **TUESDAY NIGHT WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY**

We gather weekly to discuss our current book selection. We explore meaningful questions of life and faith and connect with each other in lively conversation. We are not serious scholars, but we are serious about fostering a deeper relationship with God and with each other. Join us at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 4 in the Youth Room**, to begin "The Gifts of Imperfection" by Brene Brown. Any questions, email Pam Belecki at [pbelecki@wowway.com](mailto:pbelecki@wowway.com).

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## **MAUNDY THURSDAY—“THE LIVING LAST SUPPER”**

**Thursday, April 6, 7:00 p.m. -- IN PERSON & ONLINE**

Leonardo da Vinci’s Renaissance masterpiece “The Last Supper” is brought to life in this remarkable work created by Ruth Elaine Schramm through character monologues, expressive melodies, and dramatic enhancements for an unforgettable communion celebration. Musicians featured will be our Sanctus Choir and Orchestra.



## **GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**

**Friday, April 7, 12:00 p.m.**

Join us in-person or online for an impactful Good Friday worship service remembering Jesus’ final day. This is a service of deep reflection.



## **7 LAST WORDS POETRY/MUSIC SLAM**

**Friday, April 7, 7:00 p.m. -- IN PERSON & ONLINE**

Don’t miss this live event where poets and musicians muse on Christ’s last words. Unique, poignant, and compelling, the 7 Last Words Poetry/Music Slam offers insights into Christ’s humanity and divinity in his final moments.



## **EARTHQUAKE SUPPORT DAY OF SERVICE**

Join us on **Saturday, April 15, 8:45-11:30 a.m.**, to help fill a shipping container with medical supplies to be sent to Turkey. As part of Royal Oak First’s response to the tragic earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, we have been asked to lend our hands to help these aid shipments from World Medical Relief leave their warehouse. We are hoping for 20 volunteers; teens are welcome too. Scan QR code to sign up.



SCAN ME

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

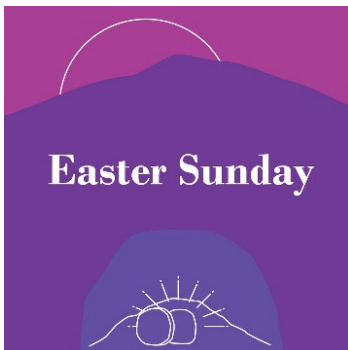
## Freedom Dreamers



## FREEDOM DREAMERS

Royal Oak First is cordially invited to a Freedom Dreamers Ministry for Returning Citizens Luncheon and Worship Event on **Saturday, April 8 from Noon-2:00 p.m. in the Parlor**. Pastor David Mayer will be hosting. Come hear a story of redemption by Thomas White (pictured) and learn more about Freedom Dreamers. Music during worship will include liturgical dance by Juliet Peck. Please RSVP to [davidmayer1512@gmail.com](mailto:davidmayer1512@gmail.com).

## Easter Sunday



## EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

**Sunday, April 9, 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.**

Christ is risen! Hallelujah! Join us in-person or online for a morning of worship and celebration featuring a brass quintet and Sanctus Choir. This is a morning celebration not to be missed!

Royal Oak First

**CHANGE  
THE  
WORLD**

**Social Action  
Committee**



## SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE KICK-OFF

Ever felt powerless and hopeless following a national or community tragedy? The Social Action Committee at Royal Oak First (The Justice League) is a place for you to begin political engagement/advocacy and will serve as a resource for the church's social justice community outreach efforts. Join us for our kick-off event on **Tuesday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the Royal Oak Taphouse**. Contact Christie Mikell with any questions ([christie.mikell@gmail.com](mailto:christie.mikell@gmail.com) or 734.347.4006).

## SECOND HALF SAGES

Join us on **Sunday, April 16 at 12:30 p.m. in the Parlor** to gauge interest in forming a group of men and women aged 50+ from the church getting together for fun social gatherings. A light lunch will be served. Questions? Please contact Joyce Hollingsworth (312.330.7632 or [jhollingsworth@rofum.org](mailto:jhollingsworth@rofum.org)) or Lee Trumbull (248.541.4100 or [ltrumbull@rofum.org](mailto:ltrumbull@rofum.org)).





# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Earth Day Clean-Up

### EARTH DAY CLEAN-UP WITH MICAH 6

To celebrate Earth Day on Saturday, April 22, we will head outside with our friends at Micah 6 to clean up a park and sidewalks in Pontiac.

This will be their eighth year hosting the event, but the first time Royal Oak First will be joining. Let's enjoy the beautiful spring weather and spread some joy throughout the community! This family-friendly event runs from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. We are also hoping for 4-5 volunteers who have battery powered hedge trimmers and want to clean up the hedges around Indian Village Park on Huron Street. Direct questions to Carrie Morse at [carriemorseinmi@gmail.com](mailto:carriemorseinmi@gmail.com). Scan QR code to sign up.



### Big Boy Night is Back!

Tuesday, April 25, 4-8pm



### BIG BOY NIGHT

Mark your calendar for **Tuesday, April 25, from 4:00-8:00 p.m.** for Big Boy Night. This is a fundraiser sponsored by Royal Oak First's Music Guild. The restaurant is giving us 15% of all sales which will support our summer choir camp. Every 30 minutes we will be raffling off lots of wonderful items donated by our members. Come on out and meet your church friends for a tasty dinner, maybe win a prize or two and support our youth ministry. The Big Boy is at 30460 John R, between 12 and 13 Mile, in Madison Heights.

### Diaper & Toilet Paper Collection



### DIAPERS AND TOILET PAPER COLLECTION

Through the remainder of Lent we will be collecting both Diapers and Toilet Paper. Diapers will be donated to RBI and MCHS Family of Services. There is greatest need for diapers size 4 and larger. Toilet paper will be donated to Outreach on 7th and RBI. Collection bins located at Tower entrance and near the Welcome Desk.

# PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

## **Prayers for Our Church Family:**

Lance Perry II • Phil Button • Bill and Faye Bond • Kathi Burger •  
Gloria Knappenberger • Oscar Updyke • Jordan Altman • Kathy Sestok •  
David Salvette • Heather Diamond • Michelle Prud'homme • Jane Sledd •  
Kim Abela-Godfrey • Mike Long • Marian Kremer • Sheryl Hunter •  
Al Knappenberger • Ann Cline • Sue Genschoreck • Lisa Rye •  
Tom Soboleski • Art Miller • Betty Goodrich • Woody Siddall •  
Lee Hoffmann • Polly Tan • Karen Porter • Jim Shumaker •  
Jen Irish-Minewiser • Mary Nahhat • Diane Sexton • Donna Allen •  
Ann Anderson • Mary Lou Graeber • Audrey Leenhouts • Charlene Faunt •

## **Prayers for Our Extended Family:**

Matthew Armour • Connie and Ken Warner • Jonthan Larson • John Monte •  
Mary Lou Howard • Tom Thatcher • Allison and Bill Hempstead • Larry Mead •  
Tom Hill • Judy Gorney • Bob Blonde • Patty Glass • Jim Castellani •  
Suzanne Ortiz • Mary McKinnon • Dolores Mason • Victor Burgess •  
Margaret O'Donnell • Rick Hocking • Scott Morrell • Sharon Pillow •  
Rachel Timm • Linda Swanson • Scott Peacor and Kyla Boyse • Mike Pilon •  
Larry Campbell • Phillip Makinen • Joan Firestone • Jeff and Marcy Carmichael •  
Dan Hicks • Brent Miller • James • Carl Jones • Dorothy Follette •  
Deana Sawicki • Atlas • Kelly • Steve Wurdock • Harold Baker •  
Darryl Warren • Sue Sugden •

*If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List,  
please contact Danielle Moody at [prayers@rofum.org](mailto:prayers@rofum.org).*

# LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

As Holy Week begins, we are saddened, shocked and angered by the shooting at Covenant School in Nashville. According to CNN, the attack was the 19th shooting at an American school or university in 2023 in which at least one person was wounded, and the deadliest since the May 2022 attack in Uvalde, Texas, left 21 dead. There have been forty-two K-12 school shootings since Uvalde.

We remember the lives of Evelyn Dieckhaus, William Kinney and Hallie Scruggs, all nine-year-old students; Cynthia Peak, believed to be a substitute teacher, Katherine Koonce, the head of the school and Mike Hill, one of the custodians.

In moments like this it feels like our world is broken beyond repair, doesn't it?

Holy Week reminds us that in Jesus, God showed up right into the midst of the mess and violence of our world. Throughout this week, we are not only reminded of God's presence in the mess, we will also be reminded that God came proclaiming a vision for a very different world and then gave us the promise that with the help of the Holy Spirit, we would actually be able to create and live in a world much more like the one God has intended.

I don't know about you, but I need to keep being reminded of this alternative vision - a world of peace with justice. A world where children can be safe in the places they learn, play and worship.

So that's what we'll do this week. We will wave palms on Sunday, share a meal on Thursday, come to the cross on Friday and gather around the empty tomb on Sunday in order to catch a glimpse of the life and world Jesus offers.

We need the hope that this week offers. We need its vision. We need its promise that in the face of death and destruction, a new world can be born.

Together, we can live in the new world that Jesus lived, died and rose again to create for us.

Please plan to join us on this journey.

Grace and Peace,

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

Pastor Jeff Nelson