



The Stories We Tell



Parables of Jesus



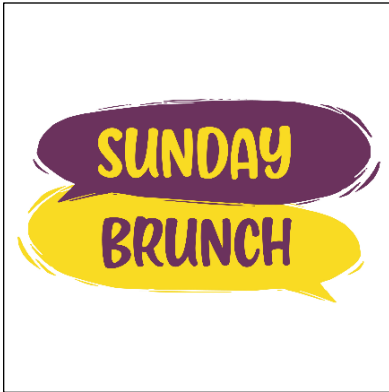
Sunday, March 30, 2025
11AM Service

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude	“Sicilienne” Maria Theresa von Paradis	Michael Rosas
Call to Worship		Sandy Prokopp
Opening Hymn	“The Reign of God”	
Welcome & Invitation to Mission		Jennifer Tripoli
Confession & Assurance of Pardon		
Response	“Kyrie Eleison” (Mass of Light)	
Time of Prayer		Nicole Wilson
Invitation to Offering		
Musical Offering	“Psalm 84: My God and King” Konstantin Zhigulin	Sanctus Choir
Doxology #298**	“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” (verse 4)	
Gospel Procession	“Glory to You, O Word of God”	
Scripture Reading*	Matthew 13:31-33	
Sermon Song	“Blessed Assurance” arr. Diane Bish	
Message	“The Mustard Seed: A Hope Story”	Bridget Nelson
Closing Hymn #295**	“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”	
Benediction		
Postlude	“Rondo Allegro from Sonata in E-flat Major” Marianna d’Auenbrugg	

**New Revised Standard Version*
***United Methodist Hymnal*

ANNOUNCEMENTS



PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH

Sunday, April 13, 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. We hope you will join us!

CONFIRMATION YOUTH BAKE SALE!

We have had 13 middle school students gathering this year to learn about their faith and to grow in Christian love in preparation for their Confirmation. **On Sunday, April 13 after both the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services, some of them are sponsoring a bake sale** where all of the proceeds will go to fund their Kingdom Projects that will support various non-profits in the metro area.



“LIVE IT OUT”

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

June 23-26, 2025 6:00-8:00PM

Come join us as at Vacation Bible School this summer where we will explore what it means to love like Jesus, by showing kindness and forgiveness, praying for and serving others.

We'll learn how to "Live It Out" by showing Jesus' love in everything we do! The adventure awaits! Cost is as follows: \$20 for the first child in a family; \$10 per additional child; \$50 maximum per family. There are opportunities to volunteer as well as donate supplies if you are interested. Any questions, please contact Tori Kozan at tkozan511@gmail.com. NOTE: Due to ordering restrictions, any registrations submitted after May 11 will not receive a t-shirt. Scan the QR code to sign up and to volunteer.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



WANT THE BEST VIEW OF THE SERVICE DURING HOLY WEEK?

Are you interested in singing with the Sanctus Choir for any of the services during Holy Week (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter). You can come to the rehearsals on Thursdays from 7:00 to 7:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary (our next rehearsal is March 27). You can commit to singing in one or all four services. Great opportunity for high schoolers and adults alike! No signup needed, just show up for any or all of the rehearsals.

FISH DINNERS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



VOLUNTEERS FOR FINAL FISH DINNER

These dinners are a beloved tradition, drawing in many from the surrounding area and offering a welcoming space for connection. The funds raised from the dinners help provide scholarships that ensure our youth can attend summer camp, fostering growth, learning, and faith in the next generation. Please scan the QR code to sign up for our final fish dinner on **Friday, April 4, 4:30-7:00 p.m.** Note: Kids that volunteer get credit towards their camp costs!



OUR LAST FISH DINNER

Friday, April 4, 4:30-7:00 p.m.

Join us for our last fish dinner with your family and friends and wonderful food and fellowship. Our fish dinners benefit our children and youth where proceeds are used to send them to choir camp. We have Cod (baked or deep fried), Zander (Pike Perch) and Chicken Tenders along with choice of Baked Potato or French Fries, Coleslaw, Roll with Butter and a Beverage and Dessert!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Support Our Youth by Baking!

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH BAKE SALE AT OUR LAST FISH DINNER BY BAKING!

Our Youth Group (ROY) is selling baked goods at our last Fish Dinner and you can help! All proceeds will go towards the Youth Group's summer service trips. **If you would be willing to bake something for their sale, scan the QR code to sign up.**



SCAN ME



HANDS OF MERCY – LENTEN ESSENTIALS COLLECTION

Throughout the Lenten season, we will be joining together to provide gifts of mercy for our neighbors in need. We are asking you to bring in a grocery bag filled with personal hygiene items (toothpaste, bar soap, shampoo & conditioner) to stock the Outreach on 7th (OO7) Essentials Pantry. These are items that everyone needs, but are not covered through assistance programs, and OO7 shares with anyone who asks. Full size items, but not jumbo/bulk bottles, are preferred. Thank you for being Hands of Mercy this Lenten Season!



LENT SANDWICH & LUNCH ASSEMBLY FROM HOME

Are you looking for a one-time service opportunity this Lent? We've designed an opportunity for many households to sponsor another NOAH at Central lunch together. You can sign up to **make 30 sandwiches or 30 lunches at your home to be delivered to church on Sunday, April 13. Additionally, we are hoping to send 3-5 volunteers to help serve the meal on Tuesday, April 15.** Please scan the QR code for more information and to sign up!



SCAN ME

ANNOUNCEMENTS



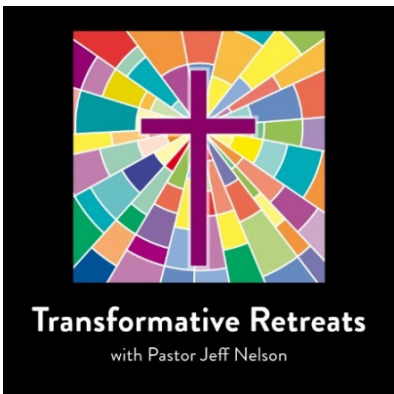
GET READY FOR “EGG MY HOUSE”!

Make Easter morning “egg-stra” special for your kids with a yard full of candy and toy-filled eggs delivered by Royal Oak First! Purchase twenty-four (24) eggs for \$25 or double the fun with forty-eight (48) eggs for \$50. All proceeds support the Youth Mission Trip. Order by scanning the QR code before Sunday, April 13.



EASTER EGG FILLERS COLLECTION

The kids and youth of Royal Oak First are collecting donations of individually wrapped pieces of candy, toys/trinkets, and plastic eggs for their annual ‘Egg My House’ fundraiser through Sunday, April 13. A collection bin is at the Connections Table. If you prefer to shop from home and have it delivered, simply scan the QR code to order from our Amazon Wish List.



TRANSFORMATIVE RETREATS

We invite you to step away from the busyness of life and immerse yourself in these retreats, held every third Saturday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Our retreats are intentional spaces designed to cultivate a deeper relationship with the divine, offering you the opportunity to recharge your spirit and discover the profound peace that comes from being in God’s presence.

****April 19th: Listening for God’s Resurrecting Voice****

****May 17th: A Morning with the Mystics****

Scan the QR code to sign up for any or all of the retreats.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



BAKERY ITEMS (HOMEMADE OR STORE BOUGHT) FOR COFFEE BAR ARE ALWAYS NEEDED

Would you like to make everyone who comes to Sunday service happy? Do you like to bake/make yummy snacks or buy treats from the bakery at your local store? If so, **please sign up to bring 3 dozen snacks for the Coffee Bar on Sundays.** The smiling faces and happy bellies will be all the joy you need for the day for sure! Scan the QR code or stop by the Connections Table after service to sign up.



CLOTHING CLOSET NEEDS

The Outreach on 7th's Clothing Closet really needs donations of **backpacks (any condition) and men's shoes sizes 10 & 10.5.** Please drop off at the church office, Monday-Thursday between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

holy week

at Royal Oak First

PALM SUNDAY *Sunday, April 13, 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services -- IN PERSON & ONLINE*

Join us as we celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem with palms to wave and joy to spread. We will be led by our House Band and the Sanctus Choir at both services. In addition, the Pre-K/K and Lower Elementary Choirs will be singing at the 9:00 a.m. service and the Upper Elementary Choir will be singing at the 11:00 a.m. service. Any children that are here can participate in a Palm Parade at both services. The Abide Men's Fellowship is sponsoring a **SUNDAY BRUNCH** after both services as well. There is no cost for the brunch and reservations are not necessary. There will also be a **YOUTH GROUP BAKE SALE** for you to purchase yummy treats to support the Confirmation class Kingdom Projects.

MAUNDY-THURSDAY *Thursday, April 17, 7:00 p.m. service -- IN PERSON & ONLINE*

We will have a simple Soup Supper at 6:00 p.m., and then join us for a worship experience at 7:00 p.m. where we will remember the Last Supper. There will be a homily by Pastor Jeff, communion, and music led by the Sanctus Choir.

GOOD FRIDAY *Friday, April 18, noon service -- IN PERSON & ONLINE*

Join us for a traditional and impactful Good Friday worship service remembering Jesus' final day with music led by the Sanctus Choir. This is a service of deep reflection. Come to the foot of the cross and experience the Passion of Jesus.

7 LAST WORDS POETRY/MUSIC SLAM *Friday, April 18, 7:00 p.m. -- IN PERSON & ONLINE*

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

EASTER SUNDAY *Sunday, April 20, 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services -- IN PERSON & ONLINE*

Christ is risen! Alleluia! Join us for a morning of worship and celebration featuring our House Band at the 9:00 a.m. worship service, and the Sanctus Choir accompanied by the BrassWorks brass quartet at the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

STAFF DIRECTORY

NAME	TITLE	EMAIL	PHONE
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George Bard	Custodian	office@rofum.org	248.541.4100
Ben Graham	Weekend/Evening Custodian	office@rofum.org	248.541.4100

ONE MORE FISH DINNER LEFT!

Friday, April 4
4:30-7:00PM

Did you know that proceeds from our fish dinners benefit our children and youth?

Kids Meal (12 & under)---\$5

Choice of: Baked or Deep Fried Cod, Chicken Tenders and either Baked Potato or French Fries.
Includes: Coleslaw, Roll with Butter, Beverage and Dessert

Kids Meal (13-18)---\$10

Choice of: Baked or Deep Fried Cod, Chicken Tenders and either Baked Potato or French Fries.
Includes: Coleslaw, Roll with Butter, Beverage and Dessert

Chicken Tenders Plate---\$14

Includes: 1/2 lb. Chicken Tenders, choice of either Baked Potato or French Fries, Coleslaw, Roll with Butter, Beverage and Dessert

Petite Cod Plate---\$15

Includes: 1/3 lb. Deep Fried Cod, choice of either Baked Potato or French Fries, Coleslaw, Roll with Butter, Beverage and Dessert

Full Cod Plate---\$17

Includes: Choice of 1/2 lb. Deep Fried or Baked Cod, choice of either Baked Potato or French Fries, Coleslaw, Roll with Butter, Beverage and Dessert

Zander (Pike Perch) Plate---\$18

Includes: 1/2 lb. Deep Fried Zander (Pike Perch), choice of either Baked Potato or French Fries, Coleslaw, Roll with Butter, Beverage and Dessert



PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayers for Our Church Family:

LeeAnn Witherspoon • Jane Sledd • Ann Cline • Rick Buxton •
Mark Thatcher • Woody Siddall • Nick Maylen • Ann Anderson • Tom Landry •
Judy Bryan • Mary Lou Graeber • Bill & Allison Hempstead •
The Thurman Family • Lori Vickers • George Bard •
Landon & Sawyer Cattran • Tim Murphy • Grace Perkins •

Prayers for Our Extended Family:

Robert Baker • Bernie Stubitsch • Pat Timmons • Michael Elliott •
Beth Copeland • Karen Cunningham • Michael Retaskie • Jeff Callihan •
Lance Wilburn • Ellen Delangy • Carol Marshall •

Sympathies to:

The family and friends of former member Ruth Wooddell on her death on
March 15, 2025

*If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List,
please contact Danielle Moody at prayers@rofum.org.*

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Greetings Friends,

Lent is already half over and Easter is just around the corner. It's been a season full of gatherings already. We have had three of our four Fish Dinners already, while breaking attendance records! We had a wonderful Baseball Night, we hosted a viewing of the documentary "1946" and over 50 people are participating in our Lent Book Study. We also had a well-attended retreat with Pastor Jeff, our children's choirs have sung in worship and we've baptized seven children.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered time and energy to make all of these things possible! And thank you to those who keep showing up! We continue to create community through events and special moments, and it takes a lot of hands to pull it all together.

As we get closer to Holy Week, I hope you'll make plans to join us for special services and events that week. On Sunday, April 13 we will celebrate Palm Sunday with brunch after each service in addition to our Confirmation Class Bake Sale to support their Kingdom Projects. Thursday, April 17 is Maundy Thursday and all are welcome for a soup dinner at 6:00 p.m. and a service at 7:00 p.m. On Good Friday, we will have a noon service as well as our "7 Last Words" service of music and poetry at 7:00 p.m.

This Sunday, the 4th Sunday of Lent we will be looking at the parable of the mustard seed. What might Jesus be trying to tell us when he compares the Kingdom of God to one of the smallest seeds around? Is it about potential? Is it about big things starting as small things? Let's look into it together on Sunday!

Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bridget Nelson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pastor Bridget Nelson