



# *Sunday, February 21, 2021*

## *First Sunday of Lent*

Prelude      *Be Thou My Vision*

Emma Rustan, piano

Irish traditional hymn

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Call to Worship

Lesley and Dustin Nielsen

One: On this first Sunday of Lent, may we begin the journey of love together.

**All: Teach us. Show us. Awaken us. Guide us in your paths, O God.**

One: Grow us to know your ways of love more clearly.

**All: What is the name of this love hidden in common places?**

One: What is the name of this love within our daily work and every human face?

**All: What is the name of this love? It is you, God. It is you.**

Hymn      *How Can We Name a Love*

UM Hymnal #111

led by Michael Goodlet and Velda Graham Bell

1. *How can we name a Love  
that wakens heart and mind,  
indwelling all we know or think  
or do or seek or find?  
Within our daily world,  
in every human face,  
Love's echoes sound and God is found,  
hid in the commonplace.*

2. *If we awoke to life  
built on a rock of care  
that asked no great reward but firm,  
assured, was simply there,  
we can, with parents' names,  
describe, and thus adore,  
Love unconfined, a father kind,  
a mother strong and sure.*

3. *When people share a task.  
and strength and skills unite  
in projects old or new, to make  
or do with shared delight,  
our Friend and Partner's will  
is better understood,  
that all should share, create, and care,  
and know that life is good.*

4. *So in a hundred names,  
each day we all can meet  
a presence, sensed and shown at work,  
at home, or in the street.  
Yet every name we see,  
shines in a brighter sun:  
In Christ alone is Love full grown  
and life and hope begun.*

Morning Prayer  
Prayers of Concern and Celebration

Pastor Cynthia Coffin-Langdon

Jesus' Prayer - contemporary paraphrase from *Human Rites* by Ward and Wild

**Beloved, our Father and Mother, in whom is heaven, hallowed be your name, followed be your royal way, done be your will and rule, throughout the whole creation. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, Now and forever. Amen.**

Anthem *Your Love Defends Me*

Matt Maher

Jana Picotte, vocals and guitar

Scripture Reading

Carmen and Doug Wendland

**1 Corinthians 13**

One: If I speak in the tongues of people or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

All: **Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.**

One: But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I put the ways of childhood behind me. For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

All: **And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.**

Sermon *Love is the Way – Love: God's GPS*

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Pastor Cynthia Coffin-Langdon

Hymn *They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love*

The Faith We Sing #2223  
led by MaryAnne Korsch and Cynthia Coffin-Langdon

1. We are one in the Spirit,  
we are one in the Lord,  
we are one in the Spirit,  
we are one in the Lord,  
and we pray that all unity  
may one day be restored:  
And they'll know we are Christians  
by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are  
Christians by our love.

2. We will walk with each other,  
we will walk hand in hand,  
we will walk with each other,  
we will walk hand in hand,  
and together we'll spread the news  
that God is in our land:  
And they'll know we are Christians  
by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are  
Christians by our love.

3. We will work with each other,  
we will work side by side,  
we will work with each other,  
we will work side by side,  
and we'll guard human dignity  
and save human pride:  
And they'll know we are Christians  
by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are  
Christians by our love.

4. All praise to the Father,  
from whom all things come,  
and all praise to Christ Jesus,  
God's only Son,  
and all praise to the Spirit,  
who makes us one:  
And they'll know we are Christians  
by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are  
Christians by our love.

**Benediction**

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

**Choral Prayer    *The Blessing of Aaron***

Norman Ramsey

FUMC Sanctuary Choir

*The choir dedicates this prayer to the memory of Roger Downs, a true and faithful servant to the choir for decades. We will miss his powerful bass voice, his musicianship and his stories, and we send loving thoughts and prayers to Sue and his entire family.*

### ***Lenten bag pickup info for First and Hillside***

**Hillsiders:** you may pick up a Lenten grab bag anytime during the week. The bags are in the grey bin outside the parking lot doors. In the bags are: a cross for Ash Wednesday, Lenten Devotional book, communion elements, a valentine and candy. If you would like to pick one up for a neighbor, please do!

**First UMC:** Lenten grab bags are on a table just inside the front doors. The bags include: a Lenten devotional book, a cross for Ash Wednesday and a Valentine treat. Home communion elements, masks and Sunday School materials for children are also available, and we have some puzzles if you'd like something new to occupy your winter days.

***Lenten Study and Growth Groups via Zoom:*** we'll be meeting to discuss "Love Is The Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times" by Bishop Michael Curry, but you can fully participate in the discussion whether you read the book or not.

3 group options starting mid-February:

(1) **Thursdays at 10 am** - led by Pastor Jeanine & Kelby Werner

February 18, 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/915188407> Meeting ID: 915 188 407

(2) **Sundays 9-9:45 am** - Led by Rev. MaryAnne & Pastor Jeanine

February 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5446347519> Meeting ID: 544 634 7519

(3) **Mondays 8pm** - Led by Pastor Cynthia & Rev. Jan Barker

February 22, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

<https://us.02web.zoom.us/j/7867461473> Meeting ID: 786 746 1473

To sign up for any of the groups or if you have questions:

- Call the FUMC church office (218-727-5021) or e-mail Pastor Jeanine ([pastor@fumcduluth.com](mailto:pastor@fumcduluth.com))
- Call the Hillside church office (218-727-4257) or e-mail Pastor Cynthia ([pastorcynthiacl@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcynthiacl@gmail.com))

***March is Food Share Month.*** Bins for food donations will be placed outside the front doors of both First and Hillside UMCs, beginning Monday, March 1. Bins will be available from 9-3, Monday through Friday. Donations of money may be mailed to each church. Thank you for helping to feed our neighbors!

***Thank you*** to Bill Alexander and Alex Flinner for recording, compiling, editing and distributing the videos to create our online worship service.

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**Ways to give to support your church:**

**Hillside UMC ([hillsideumchurch.com](http://hillsideumchurch.com)):** please mail gifts to Hillside UMC,  
1801 Piedmont Ave., Duluth, MN 55811

**First UMC ([fumcduluth.com](http://fumcduluth.com)):** give online at [fumcduluth.com](http://fumcduluth.com) **OR** text COPPERTOP to 73256 **OR** mail to  
FUMC, 230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811

