

Sunday, January 2, 2022

Epiphany Sunday



Prelude	<i>Greensleeves</i>		Richard Purvis
		Parker Hinnenkamp, organ	
	<i>Deck the Halls</i>		Welsh carol
		Greta Nielsen, piano	
	<i>We Three Kings of Orient Are</i>		J.H. Hopkins
		Delaney Nielsen, piano	

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Call to Worship

One: Let us sing the message of Christmas!

All: **We raise songs of grateful praise to the God who came to us, and comes to us.**

One: Let us sing the message of Christmas!

All: **Like the kings who came from afar, we bring gifts to share God's love.**

One: Let us sing the message of Christmas!

All: **Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noël.**

* Hymn *Sing We Now of Christmas* UM Hymnal #237, v. 1, 4, 5

Children may leave for Sunday School following the hymn.

Morning Prayer Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Unison Prayer of Confession: Creative God, you make all things new in heaven and on earth. We come to you in a new year with new desires and old fears, new decisions and old controversies, new dreams and old weaknesses. Because you are the God of faith, we confess to you our faltering and failings. Because you are the God of love, we know that you forgive all the mistakes of the past. Because you are the God of hope, we trust that the smoke of our past errors gives way to the light of our future. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: God's grace offers us a new beginning, over and over again. You are loved by God, forgiven, and freed to be all God created you to be. Claim those gifts and share them with others! Amen.

Prayers of Concern and Celebration

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Jeremiah 31:7-14

The Lord says, "Celebrate and sing for Israel, the greatest of nations. Offer praises and shout, 'Come and rescue your people, Lord! Save what's left of Israel.' I, the Lord, will bring my people back from Babylonia and everywhere else on earth. The blind and the lame will be there. Expectant mothers and women about to give birth will come and be part of that great crowd. They will weep and pray as I bring them home. I will lead them to streams of water. They will walk on a level road and not stumble. I am a parent to Israel, my favorite children. Listen to me, you nations nearby or across the sea. I scattered the people of Israel, but I will gather them again. I will protect them like a shepherd guarding a flock; I will rescue them from enemies who could overpower them. My people will come to Mount Zion and celebrate; their faces will glow because of my blessings. I'll give them grain, grapes and olive oil, as well as sheep and cattle. Israel will be prosperous and grow like a garden with plenty of water. Young women and young men, together with the elderly, will celebrate and dance, because I will comfort them and turn their sorrow into happiness. I will bless my people with more food than they need, and the priests will enjoy the choice cuts of meat. I, the Lord, have spoken."

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the one who is called the Word. The Word was with God and was truly God. From the very beginning, the Word was with God. And with this Word, God created all things. Nothing was made without the Word. Everything that was created received its life from him and his life gave light to John, who came to tell about the light and to lead all people to have faith. John wasn't that light. He came only to tell about the light. The true light that shines on everyone was coming into the world. The Word was in the world, but no-one knew him, though God had made the world with his Word. He came into his own world, but his own nation did not welcome him. Yet some people accepted him and put their faith in him. So he gave them the right to be the children of God. They were not God's children by nature or because of any human desires. God's self was the one who made them God's children. The Word became a human being and lived here with us. We saw his true glory, the glory of the only Son of the Father. From him all the kindness and all the truth of God have come down to us. John spoke about him and shouted, "This is the one I told you would come! He is greater than I am, because he was alive before I was born." Because of all that the Son is, we have been given one blessing after another. The Law was given by Moses, but Jesus Christ brought us undeserved kindness and truth. No-one has ever seen God. The only Son, who is truly God and is closest to the Father, has shown us what God is like.

Anthem	<i>The Three Kings</i>	Peter Cornelius
	Riley Hinnenkamp, bass	
Sermon	<i>Can We Have a New New Year?</i>	Bishop David Bard
The Sacrament of Holy Communion		Pastor Jeanine Alexander
Communion Music	<i>Das alte Jahr vergangen ist ("The old year now hath passed away")</i>	J.S. Bach
	Parker Hinnenkamp, organ	
* Hymn	<i>The First Noël</i>	UM Hymnal #245, v. 1-3
Benediction		Pastor Jeanine Alexander
Postlude	<i>"St. Anne" Fugue in E flat</i>	J.S. Bach
	Parker Hinnenkamp, organ	

* Please stand as you are comfortable.



Announcements

*Please fill out the Connect Cards each week. They are replacing the attendance pads formerly found in the pews. Keeping attendance and making sure the church has your current contact information is an important part of church records. **On the back of the card**, is a list of ministry opportunities, places where your help can make a difference! These will change often, so check them each week and please sign up where you can.*

***Visitors:** Welcome to First United Methodist Church. We are so glad you are worshipping with us today! Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Narthex; we have a packet and small gift for first-time visitors.*

***Feeding others in body as we are fed in spirit.** Beginning today, every Communion Sunday (typically the first Sunday of the month), we are asking you to bring a donation of food or money for the CHUM Food Shelf. In this way, when we come to the communion table to be fed spiritually, we are also feeding those who are physically hungry. The Food Shelf cart will be available to hold donations. If you make a financial gift, please note "Food Shelf" in the check memo and make checks out to FUMC. Thank you for loving our neighbors in need!*

***Sermon series to start the year (Jan. 9 – Feb. 13): Soul Reset.** A soul reset is an invitation to slow down, to take stock of what we have given our hearts, time and work to. Together we will take a journey of setting down the burdens of hurry, worry and the urgent, and taking up the kind of meaningful and free living that Jesus offers to all who are willing to accept it.*

January 9: How is it With Your Soul?

January 16: When Depression Hits...

January 23: It's Not All On Me

January 30: Being Nourished

February 6: Life in Crisis

February 13: Living in the Light

***FUMC has a ministry place for YOU.** There are several open or new ministry areas needing your help:*

Hospitality Team – to focus on welcoming for the church and community and all church/community food events.

Mission Team – to plan, organize and implement the mission and outreach of our congregation.

Set-up/Take-down Team – to provide help when we have large set-up and take-downs of chairs and tables. This team will not have meetings.

Finance Team – to oversee and plan the finances of our congregations. There are monthly meetings.

FUMC Foundation – to oversee and use the great resources of our Foundation. There is a quarterly meeting commitment. An orientation to the Foundation and its resources will be held January 11 at 5 pm on Zoom. Please attend to learn more: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5446347519>

Meeting ID: 544 634 7519

Trustees – to care for, maintain and improve our facility. Meetins are once a month, plus special projects.

If you have an interest in any of these ministry areas, please contact Pastor Jeanine, Cindy Hedlund (lay leader) or Mary Giese (director of welcome).

***Thank you** to Alex Flinner, Nick Gosen and the Livestream Team for making the online service possible.*

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***Ways to give to support your church:** give online at fumcduluth.com **OR** text COPPERTOP to 73256 **OR** mail to FUMC, 230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811*