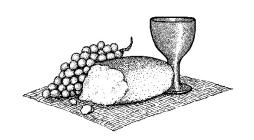
First United Methodist Church Sunday, March 5, 2023 Second Sunday in Lent



Please be aware that our services are livestreamed, and any adults and/or children participating in musical groups, children's messages and liturgist roles will appear on camera.

Prelude Stand By Me Ben E. King

Tapestry; Leah and Corey Hulst, directors

Welcome and Announcements
Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Call to Worship Ashton Enroth

One: Gather us in, all peoples together

All: In this sanctuary, online, in many homes, near and far.

One: Gather us in, and hold us together,
All: Not in some heaven light years away

One: But here in this place, this sanctuary, this home, this city, the world, All: The new light is shining! Now is the kingdom, now is the day!

* Hymn Gather Us In The Faith We Sing #2236

Children may leave for Sunday School following the hymn.

Scripture Reading
Ashton Enroth

Matthew 18:21-35

One: Peter came up to the Lord and asked, "How many times should I forgive someone who does something wrong to me? Is seven times enough?"

All: Jesus answered, "Not just seven times, but seventy-seven times!"

One: This story will show you what the kingdom of heaven is like: One day a king decided to call in his officials and ask them to give an account of what they owed him. As he was doing this, one official was brought in who owed him fifty million silver coins. But he didn't have any money to pay what he owed. The king ordered him to be sold, along with his wife and children and all he owned, in order to pay the debt. The official got down on his knees and began begging.

All: "Have pity on me and I will pay you every cent I owe!"

One: The king felt sorry for him and let him go free. He even told the official that he did not have to pay back the money. As the official was leaving, he happened to meet another official, who owed him a hundred silver coins. So he grabbed the man by the throat. He started choking him and said,

All: "Pay me what you owe!"

One: The man got down on his knees and began begging,

All: "Have pity on me and I will pay you back."

One: But the first official refused to have pity. Instead, he went and had the other official put in jail until he could pay what he owed. When some other officials found out what had happened, they felt sorry for the man who had been put in jail. Then they told the king what had happened. The king called the first official back in and said,

All: "You're an evil man! When you begged for mercy, I said you did not have to pay back a cent.

Don't you think you should show pity to someone else, as I did to you?"

One: The king was so angry that he ordered the official to be tortured until he could pay back everything he owed. That is how God in heaven will treat you, if you don't forgive with all your

heart.

* Hymn Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive UM Hymnal #390

Sermon *Jesus Taught Us ... Forgiveness Frees and Saves* Pastor Cynthia Coffin-Langdon

Morning Prayer Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Prayers of Joy and Concern

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, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Anthem On Eagle's Wings Michael Joncas; arr. Lloyd Larson

Sanctuary Choir; Derek Bromme, director

The Sacrament of Holy Communion Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Communion Music In the Singing Carlton Young

Alix Craft, soloist

Offering Our Gifts Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Hymn Go Forth for God UM Hymnal #670; v. 1, 2, 4

Benediction Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Postlude Praeludium in D minor Johann Pachelbel

Velda Graham Bell, organ

^{*} Please stand as you are comfortable.



Announcements

Please remember to 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, where your help can make a difference! These will change often, so check them each week and please sign up where you can.

Guests: 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.

Join us for Faith Forum Sunday mornings 9:00-9:45 in the Fireside Lounge. On March 12, FUMC member Jana Picotte will share her faith journey. On March 19, Carol Donahue will talk about surviving the death of an adult child.

A devotional booklet for each day in Lent (Ash Wednesday – Easter) is available electronically. Email the church office (<u>info@fumcduluth.com</u>) and ask for it.

Lent/Easter Mission Project. This year our Easter financial offering will be split two ways: 50% to the ministry and mission of our congregation, and 50% to the ministry and mission of the Union Gospel Mission. Please mark "Easter Offering" on your check or giving envelope. We will also be collecting items for the Union Gospel Mission to give to people in need: hand and foot warmers; toiletries such as shampoo, conditioner, body wash, shaving gel and razors; deodorant (both men's and women's); menstrual products (tampons, pads, PH-safe wipes); reusable shopping bags.

An informational class about the church will be held after worship on Sunday, March 12 in the Fireside Lounge. If you are interested in joining the church or just learning more about FUMC, this is the class for you! This is the only session needed to join the church.

During March, we will be collecting items for breakfast bags that will be given to people when they leave the warming shelter in the morning. We are looking for donations of soft granola or breakfast bars (since many homeless people do not have good teeth to bite into harder things) and individually wrapped cheese sticks. We'll be preparing 100 breakfast bags on Wednesday, March 8; and Tuesday, March 21. Please put the granola bar donations in the box in the Narthex and the cheese sticks in the staff refrigerator in the office.

Yogadevotion comes to FUMC! Join a new Yogadevotion class for a bit of peace and Presence to begin your week. Instructor Carla Egge will guide us through a practice intended to promote healing in our bodies, calm clarity in our minds and joy in our Spirits. This 8-week session will be Mondays, March 13 - May 1 at 5:30 pm in the chapel. Please register at this link:

https://yogadevotion.com/class/first-united-methodist-duluth-yogadevotion-flow/

Over the last few weeks, the countries of Turkey and Syria have been struck by a series of devastating earthquakes. At last report, the death toll was over 47,000 and climbing. If you would like to help alleviate suffering, UMCOR (the United Methodist relief agency) is on the scene, working through its partner organization, the International Red Crescent. There are two ways to give:

- 1. Write a check to FUMC and put "Earthquake relief" in the memo, or
- 2. Donate directly to UMCOR online at https://umcmission.org/umcor-international-latest-responses/

Thank you to Alex Flinner, Tommy Kishida and the Livestream Team for making the online service possible.

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