



*First United Methodist Church*  
**Sunday, October 22, 2023**



*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.*

*Children will remain in worship today; activity bags are available in the Narthex. A nursery for children age 5 and under is on the lower level, and includes a Bible lesson.*

**Prelude**      *Love Each Other*

Jay Stocker

Tapestry; Leah and Corey Hulst, directors

**Welcome and Announcements**

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

**\* Call to Worship**

**One:** We gather for worship that we might become more like Jesus!

**All:** We come so that our hearts will be filled with the desire to follow Christ's ways.

**One:** May God inspire our lips, filling us with mercy and grace.

**All:** Draw us into your presence, God, lead us in your ways!

**\* Hymn**      *More Like You*

The Faith We Sing #2167

**Children's Message**

Pastor Jeanine Alexander, Lydia Kantonen, Kelby Werner

**Morning Prayer**

**Prayer Song**      *O Lord, Hear My Prayer*

The Faith We Sing #2200

**All:** O Lord, hear our prayer; O Lord, hear our prayer. When we call, answer us.

O Lord, hear our prayer; O Lord, hear our prayer. Come and listen to us.

**One:** We pray for the people and situations close to our hearts. ... We pray, singing:

**All:** O Lord, hear our prayer; O Lord, hear our prayer. When we call, answer us.

O Lord, hear our prayer; O Lord, hear our prayer. Come and listen to us.

**One:** Hear our silent prayers for our own needs, the needs of those close to us, and the needs of the world.

**All:** O Lord, hear our prayer; O Lord, hear our prayer. When we call, answer us.

O Lord, hear our prayer; O Lord, hear our prayer. Come and listen to us.

**One:** We seal our prayers by joining our voices together, saying:

**All:** Eternal Spirit, Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all. Loving God, in whom is heaven. The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the earth! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. 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, 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.

(Jesus' Prayer – from the New Zealand Prayer Book)

**Scripture Reading**

Connie Adamec

Matthew 22:34-40

Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Anthem      *O Love*      Elaine Hagenberg  
Sanctuary Choir; Derek Bromme, director

Offering Our Gifts      *Stewardship 2024*  
*"Whether we are asking for money or giving money, we are drawn together by God, who is about to do a new thing through our collaboration." ~ Henri Nouwen*

\* Hymn      *The Gift of Love*      UM Hymnal #408

Sermon      *5G Faith: The Great Commandment*      Pastor Jeanine Alexander

\* Hymn      *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*      UM Hymnal #139

Benediction

Choral Blessing      *The Blessing of Aaron*      Norman Ramsey

Postlude      *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*      Paul Manz  
Velda Graham Bell, organ

*\* please stand as you are comfortable*



## *Announcements*



*to fill out the Connect Cards* each week. 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 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.

*Please join us for coffee and doughnuts* downstairs in Lakeview Social Hall following the worship service.

*Sunday, November 12 is Consecration Sunday*, where we make our financial commitments for the mission and ministry of our congregation for 2024. Please be prayerfully thinking about this. Following worship that day, we will celebrate our giving by having a soup lunch together, prepared by Chef Paul Sapyta, in Lakeview Social Hall. You may also drive by to drop off your pledge card and pick up soup.

*Faith Forum* is held Sunday mornings from 9-9:45am in the Fireside Lounge. Next week, **October 29**, Brandon Veale, FUMC member and writer for the *Duluth News Tribune*, will offer his thoughts on sports vis-à-vis

religion and politics. On **November 5**, Krystal Brandstatter, the new director of Harbor House, will talk about what's new at the only emergency shelters for homeless families and single women in Douglas County.



**Trunk-or-Treat will be Sunday, October 29.** There will be Halloween games for children in Lakeview Social Hall during the 10:00am Sunday School time, followed by Trunk-or-Treat in the west parking lot from 11:30-12:30, complete with hot apple cider. This is a great event to share with friends! Come in your favorite non-violent costume. Sign up to

hand out candy from your decorated car or trunk: call the church office (218-727-5021), talk to Pastor Jeanine or sign up in the Narthex.

**The Carol Donahue Music Scholarship Committee** will be accepting applications throughout the month of November. Applications are available in the church office. Students 12-18 years old who have studied an instrument or voice for at least three years may apply, and scholarships are renewable for three years with the recommendation of the music teacher.

**New Yogadevotion sessions** will begin November 6 and 7. Sign up here:

Monday evenings: <https://yogadevotion.com/class/first-united-methodist-duluth-yogadevotion-flow-pm/>

Tuesday mornings: <https://yogadevotion.com/class/first-united-methodist-duluth-yogadevotion-flow-am-2/>

**A Book Sale** will be held on Saturday, November 18 from 9am-3pm. Donations may be dropped off in the East Lounge beginning November 12. Please do not bring damaged books, VHS or cassette tapes, encyclopedias or textbooks. See below for volunteer needs.

**Bakers!** Compostable trays are being provided to use in packaging your baked goods for the Coppertop Craft and Bake Sale on Saturday, November 4. You may pick up trays in the church kitchen beginning today. Please label your baked items with the name, whether it contains nuts, if it is gluten-free, and any other helpful information.

## Ways You Can Help Your Church



**Donate candy** to be handed out for Trunk-or-Treat. Bring your candy donations to the church office.

**Sign up to hand out candy** from your decorated car or trunk at Trunk-or-Treat. There's a signup sheet in the Narthex.

**Volunteers are needed** for the FUMC Book Sale. Help is needed for setup on Thursday and Friday, November 16 and 17, and on the day of the sale, November 18. To volunteer, contact Jean Walsh, [jmbwalsh@gmail.com](mailto:jmbwalsh@gmail.com).

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

**Guest WIFI Network:** FirstUnitedPublic. Password: Public2022.

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

Music reprinted and broadcast under OneLicense #A-704169, CCLI License #388862 and CCS WORSHIPcast License #12033. All rights reserved.