



First United Methodist Church
Sunday, January 12, 2025

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.

A nursery for children age 5 and under is on the lower level, and will include a Bible lesson. Sunday School for children K-5th grade will be held in the upper level Children's Lounge following the Children's Message. Please pick up your kids in the Lounge after worship.

Prelude *Come Thou Fount* arr. Rachel Kurtz
Tapestry; Leah and Corey Hulst, directors

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Jeanine Alexander

*** Call to Worship** Pastor Jeanine Alexander

One: We gather to connect with God, our Creator, Savior, companion on the journey, guide and friend.

All: God's spirit gives us a story to tell and a song to sing.

One: We gather to connect with God, our Creator, Savior, companion on the journey, guide and friend.

All: God blesses us with echoes of mercy and whispers of love.

One: We gather to connect with God, our Creator, Savior, companion on the journey, guide and friend.

All: We are filled with goodness, completed in love!

*** Hymn** *Amen, Amen* The Faith We Sing #2072; v. 1, 2, 3, 6

Children's Message Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Children 5th grade and under may leave for nursery and Sunday School following the Children's Message.

Anthem *We are Called* arr. Graeme Shields
Sanctuary Choir; Derek Bromme, director

Morning Prayer Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Unison Prayer: Gracious and loving God, thank you for hearing our prayers. We thank you for the gift of your presence with us in our busyness and our hurried lives. Help us to slow down, share our burdens with you, and live more fully in your presence. Help us share your love, hope, and healing with others.

Prayers of Joy and Concern

Jesus' Prayer – from the New Zealand Prayer Book

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 sustains our hope and comes 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.

* Hymn	<i>Be Thou My Vision</i>	UM Hymnal #451
Special Music	<i>Syrinx</i>	Claude Debussy
	Johanna Gruskin, flute	
Offering Our Gifts		Pastor Jeanine Alexander
	<i>Doxology: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	UM Hymnal #95
	<i>Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;</i>	
	<i>praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.</i>	
Scripture Readings		Pastor Jeanine Alexander
	<u>Psalm 119:97-98, 103, 105</u>	
	Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all day long. Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is always with me. How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.	
	<u>Hebrews 4:12</u>	
	The word of God is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.	
* Hymn	<i>O God, Our Help in Ages Past</i>	UM Hymnal #117
Sermon	<i>Scripture to Guide Our Path</i>	Rev. MaryAnne Korsch
* Hymn	<i>This is a Day of New Beginnings</i>	UM Hymnal #383, v. 1-4
Benediction		Pastor Jeanine Alexander
Postlude	<i>"Allegro" from Canonic Sonata</i>	Georg Philipp Telemann
	Johanna Gruskin and Shelley Gruskin, flutes	



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, 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 coffee and doughnuts in the lower-level Lakeview Social Hall following the worship service.

Giving envelopes for 2025 can be found on a table in the Narthex. Your name will be on the packet. If you requested giving envelopes but do not find one with your name, contact the church office (218-727-5021) on Monday.

Did you know the church has a gift/donation policy? Before bringing donations of furniture, dishes or glassware, art, etc. to the church, please check with Director of Operations Sandy Smith in the church office. While we appreciate the kind intentions, often the church does not need or cannot store these items.

There is a large Get Well card for Bill Alexander in the Narthex. Please add your good wishes!

All Wednesday activities, including dinner, will resume this week.

*Kids in grades K-5 are invited to enjoy "A Morning with the Felgemaker" at Sacred Heart Music Center (201 W. 4th St., Duluth) on **Saturday, January 18** from 10-11:30am. This **free** interactive program is all about animals and will feature the historic Felgemaker pipe organ. There will be humorous organ music about animals, live zoo animals from the Lake Superior Zoo, a tour inside the Felgemaker organ, and more! All children must be accompanied by an adult; tickets are not needed.*

***From Duluth to New Zealand:** Our own Johanna Gruskin will be playing a recital at The College of St. Scholastica's Mitchell Auditorium on **Saturday, January 18 at 7:30pm**. The recital program features music for flute and piano by New Zealand composers. Johanna lives in New Zealand and is the principal piccolo in the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. She will be joined by Jessica Schroeder, music faculty member at CSS. The program will also include new compositions by Duluth composer Mina Kaiser. A shortened version of this program will be featured as part of the "Lunch with Friends" series on January 21. Tickets are available at thecollegeofstscholastica.ticketspice.com/from-duluth-to-new-zealand. \$12 general admission; free for students.*

*Explore FUMC, the only session needed to join the church, will be held after worship on **Sunday, January 19, and Sunday, February 23**. There are signup sheets in the Narthex if you're interested in joining the church or just finding out more about FUMC.*

***Faith Forum** is held on Sunday mornings from 9-9:45am in the Fireside Lounge. Next week, **January 19**, Debbi King will talk about her memoir, "Gravedigger's Daughter: Growing Up Rural," a collection of tales and essays recalling her family's experiences during the 1950s-1970s in west-central Wisconsin.*

***Happy Birthday to all of us!** We'll be celebrating everyone's birthday after worship on **Sunday, January 26**. Sign up in the Narthex to attend a potluck birthday party; everyone will sit at the table labeled with their birthday month. You may also choose to host a birthday-month table. Look for details in the December/January First Family.*

***Conversation with Church Friends:** A group is meeting over Zoom every second and fourth Tuesday at 10am to catch up with each other and talk about what comes up that day. If you're interested in joining the group, contact Pamela Brown at pamela.brown@reliabilitysolutions.us*

Yogadevotions, led by Carla Egge, is held on Mondays in the Chapel. This session runs through February 24. Register at: clients.mindbodyonline.com/classic/mainclass?studioid=5739129&tg=31.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Events

Community Worship Service: Sunday, January 19, 4:00pm, Peace United Church of Christ (1111 N. 11th Ave. E., Duluth)

Community Breakfast: Monday, January 20, 7-9:30am, FUMC. There will be a brief local program and a viewing of the program broadcast from Minneapolis. Keynote speaker will be author and journalist Michele Norris.

Gathering and March: Monday, January 20, 10:30-11:45am. Gather at the Family Freedom Center/Washington Center Gymnasium.

MLK Rally: Monday, January 20, 12-1:30pm, DECC Symphony Hall (350 Harbor Dr., Duluth)

“Coming Together for the Common Good” is a gathering hosted by Loaves and Fishes on **Monday, January 20** from 6-8pm at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church (1710 E. Superior St., Duluth). People are invited to share reflections, poems, and songs to recognize and celebrate how we are helping to create a more resilient, humane, and equitable world. The event celebrates the spirit of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and prepares for the presidential inauguration.

Women Rowing North: Chase the winter blahs away! Anne Miller will facilitate a discussion of Mary Pipher’s book *“Women Rowing North: Navigating Life Currents and Flourishing as We Age.”* There will be six sessions, beginning **Tuesday, February 18** at 10am in the church library. We’ll explore specific issues women face as we transition from middle age to old age. A similar discussion group held last spring was very popular with the participants! Please sign up in the Narthex; the group will be limited to 10 people in order to enhance and encourage discussion.

Guest WIFI Network: FirstUnitedPublic. Password: Public2022.

Thank you to the Livestream Team for making the online service possible.

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[Ways You Can Help Your Church](#)

Damiano Center is still looking for donations of hats, gloves and mittens, any size.

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

