



*First United Methodist Church*  
*Sunday, January 5, 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.*

*Children will remain in worship today. Activity bags are available outside the Sanctuary. A nursery is available on the lower level for children 5 years old and younger. Sunday School will resume next week.*

**Prelude**      Two chorale preludes on *How Brightly Shines the Morning Star*

Paul Manz and Niels Gade

Velda Graham Bell, organ

**Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. MaryAnne Korsch

**\* Call to Worship**

Mark Harvey

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: **We sing, and live, the message of Christmas all year round.**

**\* Hymn**      *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*

UM Hymnal #247

**Morning Prayer**

Rev. MaryAnne Korsch

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

Anthem "Christmas Lullaby" from *Songs for a New World* Jason Robert Brown, arr. Mac Huff  
Vocal trio: Mary Whitlock, Alix Craft, Ann Gumper

Scripture Readings

Mark Harvey

John 1:1-14

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 everyone. The light keeps shining in the dark, and darkness has never put it out. God sent a man named John, who came to tell about the light and to lead all people to have faith. John wasn't this 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 himself was the one who made them his 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, the complete gifts of undeserved grace and truth have come down to us.

John 14:27

Jesus said, "I give you peace, the kind of peace only I can give. It isn't like the peace this world can give. So don't be worried or afraid."

Sermon *The Other Christmas* Brandon Veale

Offering Our Gifts Rev. MaryAnne Korsch

\* Hymn *'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime* UM Hymnal #244

The Sacrament of Holy Communion Rev. MaryAnne Korsch

Communion Music *Of the Father's Love Begotten* arr. Wilbur Held

\* Hymn *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* UM Hymnal #206

Benediction Rev. MaryAnne Korsch

Postlude *Swiss Noël* Louis-Claude Daquin

Velda Graham Bell, organ



## 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.*

*Thank you to Brandon Veale for preaching today while Pastor Jeanine, Larry Ehresman, and family are on vacation. If you need pastoral care this week, please contact the church office and they will connect you with Rev. MaryAnne Korsch or Faith Community Nurse Linda Wiig, or you can contact them directly.*

*There are no children's activities, dinner, or bell rehearsals on Wednesday, January 8. The Sanctuary Choir and Tapestry are rehearsing, and nursery care will be available.*

*Faith Forum is held on Sunday mornings from 9-9:45am in the Fireside Lounge. Next week, **January 12**, we'll look at how geography affects people's sustainability attitudes and behaviors. Geoff Bell will let us in on the extensive research study he and his colleagues at UMD are conducting.*

*Next Sunday is Pajama/Movie Day for children.*

*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. 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](mailto:pamela.brown@reliabilitysolutions.us)*

*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.*

*Yogadevotions with Carla Egge will begin again on **Monday, January 6**. This session runs through February 24. Register at: [clients.mindbodyonline.com/classic/mainclass?studioid=5739129&tg=31](https://clients.mindbodyonline.com/classic/mainclass?studioid=5739129&tg=31).*

*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.*

*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 desperately needs donations of hats, gloves and mittens, any size.*

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

