



First United Methodist Church
Sunday, March 16, 2025
Second Sunday of 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.

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 *Washed by the Water* Needtobreathe
Tapestry; Corey and Leah Hulst, directors

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Jeanine Alexander

*** Call to Worship** Ron Yardley

One: As darkness gives way to light, and winter sleep brings fresh beginnings,

All: **We come today to be reminded of God's love for us.**

One: Like the green shoots of renewed life, stirring beneath the soil,

All: **We welcome an awakening of God's word in our lives.**

One: In this season of reflection and repentance,

All: **We affirm our identity, and we claim our security, as children of God.**

*** Hymn** *Wade in the Water* The Faith We Sing #2107

Children's Message Pastor Jeanine Alexander

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

Morning Prayer Rev. MaryAnne Korsch

Unison Prayer:

All: **New every morning is your love, Great God of light, and all day long you are working for good in the world. Stir up in us desire to serve you, to live peacefully with our neighbors, and to devote each day to your Son our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of Joy and Concern

One: God in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

Jesus' Prayer

Loving God, Sacred One, Blessed be your name. May your kingdom come, your dream arrive, your purpose prevail, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us the wrongs we have done, as we forgive those who have wronged us. Help us steer clear of temptation and protect us from evil. We trust you in this, for the kingdom, its power and its beauty, are yours forever. Amen.

Anthem *Hear My Prayer*

Moses Hogan

Sanctuary Choir; Derek Bromme, director

Scripture Reading

Ron Yardley

Matthew 13: 1-9 and 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. If you have ears, hear!" "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

* Hymn *Bring Forth the Kingdom*

The Faith We Sing #2190

Sermon *One Seed*

Brandon Veale

Anthem/Special Music *Something Beautiful*

Barbara York

Derek Bromme, tuba

Offering Our Gifts

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Hymn *Sent Forth By God's Blessing*

UM Hymnal #664

Benediction

Rev. MaryAnne Korsch

Postlude *Festal Flourish*

Gordon Jacob

Velda Graham Bell, organ



Announcements

*Please remember 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.

*Faith Forum is held Sunday mornings from 9-9:45am in the Fireside Lounge. Next week, **March 23**, PFAS: What are they? Why are they a problem? How can we reduce our exposure to these toxic chemicals that the state of Minnesota is banning? WLSSD staff member Erik Johnson will offer info and answer questions.*

Faith Forum follow-up: As a follow-up to the last two weeks' Faith Forums, Jean Walsh has invited Pat Benson, Congregational Outreach and Advocacy Coordinator for CHUM and deacon at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, to lead us in a deeper and nonpartisan discussion of how we, as committed followers of Christ, are called to eliminate the suffering in the world. What can we do as faithful individuals united in a common cause? Please join us if you are able! We will meet in the Fireside Lounge at 11:30am **Today**. Everyone welcome, come with coffee and donuts.

Fridays at NOON, If the chaos in our world is upsetting you, or if you're not sure where to go or what to do next, you are not alone!

At times like these, Jesus took time apart for reflection and prayer. As Christ's people in this community, you are encouraged to do the same. You are invited to join others for a short time of prayer, scripture, reflection, and communion in the Three Brothers Chapel. Geoff Bell and MaryAnne Korsch will lead this time that will be designed to soothe your soul in a quiet setting. All are welcome - bring friends if you'd like to. We anticipate that this session will continue on Fridays throughout Lent, until we reach Good Friday on April 18.

The next "Explore FUMC" class will be held after worship **Sunday, March 23**. This is the only session needed to join the church. There is a signup sheet in the Narthex if you're interested in joining the church or just finding out more about FUMC.

Ringtones, the handbell choir for upper elementary-aged children, has started rehearsals again under interim handbell director Christine Winkler Johnson's direction. If your child would like to learn how to play bells as well as learn music fundamentals, this would be a great musical activity, plus, it's a lot of fun! Ringtones rehearse on Wednesdays from 5:00-5:40 in the Bell Room. For more information, please contact Christine Winkler Johnson at christinewinklerjohnson@gmail.com

Lenten Book Study: All are welcome at this year's Lenten book study on six consecutive Monday evenings from 6-7pm, beginning March 10 and concluding April 14, on Zoom. We will join United Methodists across the Minnesota and Dakotas Conferences as we take a deep dive into "The Third Day: Living the Resurrection" by Bishop Tom Berlin. Class will be facilitated by Dr. Maryjane Burdge and Rev. MaryAnne Korsch. Pastor Jeanine will join if her schedule allows. Sign up in the Narthex or call the church office (218-727-5021) to register. Books are available for purchase for \$13 in the church office. The book describes how the resurrection of Jesus Christ profoundly changed the lives of those who followed him and how it can transform ours as well.

The Women's Retreat at Camp Amnicon will be **Saturday, March 29**, 9am-6pm. Join us for a day of renewal, relaxation, and inspiration at Camp Amnicon! This retreat is a chance to step away from the busyness of life and connect with other women from FUMC in a peaceful, scenic setting. Enjoy a day filled with meaningful activities, uplifting conversations, and time for reflection. Whether you're looking to recharge your spirit or make lasting connections, this retreat is the perfect opportunity to nurture your mind, body, and soul. Look for a signup sheet at church. Cost is \$15 to attend. Please email jana.picotte@gmail.com with any questions. Jana will be selling homemade crafts and baked goods to raise money towards costs associated with the Women's Retreat starting March 9 after church on Sundays. Keep an eye out for "Treats for the Women's Retreat!" Cash and Venmo payments will be accepted.

Habitat for Humanity and Super One Foods are partnering during March to raise funds to help local families build and purchase affordable homes. From **March 7-24**, Super One customers can "round up" at the checkout, with all donations going to Habitat for Humanity. A small donation can make a big impact. Please see the poster on the bulletin board outside the Bell Room for more information.

The Friends of the Felgemaker are hosting a **Birthdays Celebration Concert on Friday, March 21 at 7:00pm at Sacred Heart Music Center (201 W. 4th St.) in Duluth**. The Birthdays Celebration Concert is a tribute to Johann

Sebastian Bach on his 340th birthday and Rev. Dr. David Tryggestad on his 75th birthday. The organ concert will feature our own Velda Graham Bell, along with musicians Rosemary Guiney, Thomas Hamilton, Brian Kapp, Tasha Kapp, Rachael Kresha, Karen Hanson Sande, Charles Sundquist and David Tryggestad. Come hear the masterful music of J.S. Bach and friends played on the beautiful, historic Felgemaker pipe organ at Sacred Heart Music Center. A reception follows with birthday cake! Admission is free but donations are gratefully accepted; all donations will support the Felgemaker Organ Fund, which is used to maintain the Felgemaker pipe organ. Parking is available on the street and in the parking lot diagonally across from Sacred Heart Music Center.

LeAnn House Memorial Concert

Matinee Musicale's April 1 Angela Hewitt concert is being presented in memory of LeAnn House, a longtime member of the Matinee Musicale Artist Committee. This concert will take place on Tuesday, April 1 at The College of Saint Scholastica's Mitchell Auditorium.

One of the world's leading concert pianists, Angela Hewitt has appeared in recitals and as soloist with major orchestras throughout Europe, the Americas, Australia, and Asia. Her J.S. Bach performances and recordings have established her as one of the composer's foremost interpreters. Hewitt will perform Bach's Goldberg Variations in this not-to-be-missed event.

Advance Tickets: Adults \$35, Seniors \$30, Students FREE

Day of Show: Adults \$40, Seniors \$35, Students FREE

Concert: 7:00 p.m. (Concert is 90 minutes, no intermission)

Doors Open: 6:30 p.m.

Tickets at: <https://matineemusicaeinc.ticketspice.com/angela-hewitt-piano>

Meet the artist! Join us for a post-concert reception immediately following the performance. Light refreshments will be served.

Guest WIFI Network: FirstUnitedPublic. Password: Public2022.

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OR text COPPERTOP to 73256 ***OR*** mail to FUMC, 230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811.

