



First United Methodist Church
Sunday, March 23, 2025
Third 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 *Prière (Prayer)* C. Saint Saëns
Rebecca Peterson, cello; Velda Graham Bell, piano

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Call to Worship Bailey Fazzio

One: Lord, you are our hope, our strength, our life!

All: We praise you with all of our hope!

One: Lord, you are our hope, our strength, our life!

All: We praise you with all of our strength!

One: Lord, you are our hope, our strength, our life!

All: We praise you with all of our life.

One: Lord, you are our hope, our strength, our life!

All: Our hope, strength and life are in you!

* Hymn *My Life Is In You, Lord* The Faith We Sing #2032

Children's Message Pastor Jeanine Alexander

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

Anthem *There is a Balm in Gilead* arr. Philip M. Young
Class Ring; Christine Winkler Johnson, director

Morning Prayer Rev. MaryAnne Korsch

Prayers of Joy and Concern

Jesus' Prayer --- paraphrase by Parker Palmer

Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother, heavenly One, Holy and blessed is your true name. We pray for your reign of peace to come, we pray that your good will be done, let heaven and earth become one. Give us this day the bread we need, give it to those who have none. Let forgiveness flow like a river between us, from each one to each one. Lead us to holy innocence beyond the evil of our days — Come swiftly Mother, Father, come. For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy: Forever your name is All in One. Amen.

Scripture Reading
Matthew 25:14-18

Bailey Fazzio

The Kingdom of Heaven will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to their ability. Then he went on his journey. The one who had received five bags of gold went at once and put their money to work and gained five bags more. So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. But the one who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid the master's money.

Statement of Faith – from the United Church of Canada

Bailey Fazzio

One: We are not alone, we live in God's world.

All: We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God

One: We are called to be the church:

All: To celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

One: In life, in death, in life beyond death,

All: God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Offering Our Gifts

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Anthem

Great I Am with *Holy, Holy, Holy*

arr: Heather Sorenson

Sanctuary Choir; Derek Bromme, director; Jenna Mattson and McKenzie Ball, violins;

Kevin Peterson, viola; Rebecca Peterson, cello; Alex Flinner, bass

Congregation please join the choir in singing "Holy, Holy, Holy"

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty.
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in Three Persons, Blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy, all the saints adore Thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea.
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Which wert and art, and evermore shall be.

Sermon

Digging Ourselves into a Hole

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

*** Hymn**

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

UM Hymnal #133

Benediction

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Postlude

The Last Days of Elijah

Robin Marks

Tapestry; Leah and Corey Hulst, directors



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 30**, Helen and Frank Kampa will lead a discussion on **Where and what is AI-Anon**.*

***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! 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 **Today**. 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.*

***Walking in Old Turtle's World**, Join Douglas Wood, award winning author, musician, environmental educator, outdoor guide & storyteller on **Sunday, April 6** for a special day of events. **9:00** in the Social Hall a light continental breakfast is available with Douglas reading "Old Turtle" and sharing wisdoms, **10:00** Church service with Douglas sharing a Care for the Earth message, **3:00** Community Concert featuring Music and Storytelling by Douglas Wood. During the pajama/movie Sunday school hour, a large live turtle from "The Snake Pit" will be joining the group.*

***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.*

The Arrowhead Chorale invites you to join us on **March 28 and March 29** for **Circle of Life: Songs of the Stage & Screen**.

During our spring concerts, audiences will experience an evening filled with joy, and nostalgia with a performance that resonates across generations, touching the hearts of music lovers of all ages! From Richard Rogers' *It's a Grand Night for Singing (State Fair)* and Samuel Barber's *Adagio for Strings/Agnus Dei (Platoon)* to John Williams' *Hymn to the Fallen (Saving Private Ryan)*, the Chorale and orchestra reimagine songs that have truly shaped our life experience. The program also features music from *West Side Story*, *The Mission*, *Into the Woods*, *The Lion King*, and more.

The concerts will also feature elements of puppetry theatre, created and directed by our own Paul Robinson, a veteran of 17 years with *In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre*, Minneapolis, this performance is not one to miss!

WHEN Friday, March 28, 7:30 PM, Saturday, March 29, 3:00 PM

WHERE First Lutheran Church in Duluth

TICKETS \$30 Advance, \$35 Door / \$10 Students with ID & 17 and Under
Angel tickets available at the door.

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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