## First United Methodist Church

# Sunday, May 11, 2025

## Garden Sunday \* Mother's Day \* Festival of the Home

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 "Adagio cantabile" from Sonata Pathétique

Haven Anderson, piano

Ludwig van Beethoven

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Jeanine Alexander

#### Welcoming New Members

Today we welcome Nancy and Steve Gibson, Barbara Porter, Lisa Rhoads, Gary Solomonson, and Jean and Claude Williams, to our congregation.

Congregational response: We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

Call to Worship Bailey Fazzio

One: We come to worship, asking God to guide our feet.

All: We come, allowing God to take hold of us.

One: We come with the assurance that the Creator of the universe stands with us.

All: We come knowing that we, and all people, are God's beloved. Come, Lord, guide our feet.

\* Hymn Guide My Feet The Faith We Sing #2208

Children's Message Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Anthem I've Got the Joy George William Cook

JAM and the Peanut Butter Band, and JAM Jr.; Beth Brophy, director

Children may leave for the nursery and Sunday School following JAM's anthem.

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Prayer Song *Come and Fill Our Hearts* 

The Faith We Sing #2157; sing three times

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy. Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

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.

Scripture Reading

Bailey Fazzio

#### **II Kings 4:8-26**

Once, while Elisha was in the town of Shunem, he met a rich woman who invited him to her home for dinner. After that, whenever he was in Shunem, he would have a meal there with her and her husband. Some time later, the woman said to her husband, "I'm sure the man who comes here so often is a prophet of God. Why don't we build him a small room on the flat roof of our house? We can put a bed, a table and chair, and an oil lamp in it. Then whenever he comes, he can stay with us." The next time Elisha was in Shunem, he stopped at their house and went up to his room to rest. He said to his servant Gehazi, "This woman has been very helpful. Have her come up here to the roof for a moment." She came, and Elisha told Gehazi to say to her, "You've gone to a lot of trouble for us, and we want to help you. Is there something we can request the king or army commander to do?" The woman answered, "With my relatives nearby, I have everything I need." "Then what can we do for her?" Elisha asked Gehazi. Gehazi replied, "I do know that her husband is old, and that she doesn't have a son." "Ask her to come here again," Elisha told his servant. He called for her, and she came and stood in the doorway of Elisha's room. Elisha said to her, "Next year at this time, you'll be holding your own baby son in your arms." "You are a man of God," the woman replied. "Please don't lie to me." But a few months later, the woman got pregnant. She gave birth to a son, just as Elisha had promised. One day while the boy was still young, he was out in the fields with his father, where the workers were harvesting the crops. Suddenly he shouted, "My head hurts. It hurts a lot!" "Carry him back to his mother," the father said to his servant. The servant picked up the boy and carried him to his mother. The boy lay on her lap all morning, and by noon he was dead. She carried him upstairs to Elisha's room and laid him across the bed. Then she walked out and shut the door behind her. The woman called to her husband, "I need to see the prophet. Let me use one of the donkeys. Send a servant along with me, and let me leave now, so I can get back quickly." "Why do you need to see him today?" her husband asked. "It's not the Sabbath or time for the New Moon Festival." "That's all right," she answered. She saddled the donkey and said to her servant, "Let's go. And don't slow down unless I tell you to." She left at once for Mount Carmel to talk with Elisha. When Elisha saw her coming, he said, "Gehazi, look! It's the woman from Shunem. Run and meet her. And ask her if everything is all right with her and her family." "Everything is fine," she answered.

Anthem Declare the Maker's Praise

Sermon Is it Well...? Pastor Jeanine Alexander

\* Hymn It is Well with My Soul UM Hymnal #377

Offering Our Gifts Pastor Jeanine Alexander

\* **Hymn** The Trees of the Field The Faith We Sing #2279; sing three times

Benediction Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Postlude My Story Big Daddy Weave

Tapestry; Leah and Corey Hulst, directors

<sup>\*</sup> please stand as you are comfortable



### **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.

Thank you to Haven Anderson for playing the piano this morning. Velda Bell is on vacation and will return Sunday, May 25.

Dahlias and small kitchen compost bags are for sale in the Atrium before and after today's service. Funds will go to support the Memorial Gardens and Sustainability missions of the church.

The Sustainability committee is meeting today, 15 minutes after the end of the worship service. Please pick up your coffee and doughnuts, and join us in the library.

Faith Forum is held Sunday mornings from 9-9:45am in the Fireside Lounge. Next week, May 18, Marlene Wisuri from the Sami Cultural Center of North America, located in Duluth, will talk about the Sami people, Sami culture and crafts, and the Sami American diaspora. This will be the last Faith Forum until the fall.

Next Sunday is Graduate Recognition Sunday. We'll be celebrating the achievements of all our high school and post-secondary graduates. If you or a family member are graduating, please be sure that Pastor Jeanine or the church office has your name, school and degree information.

Mark your calendars! Garden cleanup will be Thursday, May 15 (rain date May 16), beginning at 9am. We'll be planting geraniums on Thursday, May 29 (rain date May 30) beginning at 9am, and planting annuals the following week, on Wednesday, June 4 (rain date June 5) also beginning at 9am. New volunteers are always welcome!



U.S. Bank is sponsoring a blood drive here on Thursday, May 22 from 10am-4pm in Lakeview Social Hall.

New Sound Technician: Noah Bovy will be our new Sound Technician, replacing Tommy Kishida, who moved to Seattle. Noah is a student at UMD and is looking forward to learning our sound system and gaining more experience running live audio, as he continues his studies. Stop by the tech booth and welcome Noah to FUMC!

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

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## Ways You Can Help Your Church



**Volunteers are needed** to help with garden cleanup on Thursday, May 15, at 9am (rain date is May 16). Contact Marlene Bowen, <u>mbowen73@gmail.com</u>

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.