



*First United Methodist Church*  
*Sunday, August 10, 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 is available for children, Kindergarten and under; the nursery is located on the lower level to the left of the bathrooms.*

**Prelude**                      Go Down Moses    arr. Calvin Taylor  
Velda Graham Bell, organ

**Welcome and Announcements**    Pastor Jeanine Alexander

**\* Call to Worship**

One: When waters rise and empires chase...

**All: We choose to go forward in faith.**

One: When silence tempts and comfort calls...

**All: We choose to go forward in justice.!**

One: When grudges grip and wounds still ache...

**All: We choose to go forward in forgiveness.**

One: When fear says "stop" and doubt says "wait"...

**All: We choose to go forward in trust.**

One: God of liberation, part the seas before us. Give us courage to get our feet wet.

**All: We go forward together. Amen**

**\* Hymn**                      Leaning on the Everlasting Arms    UM Hymnal #133

**Children's Message**    Pastor Jeanine Alexander

**Morning Prayer**    Pastor Jeanine Alexander

**Prayers of Joy and Concern**

Jesus Prayer – contemporary paraphrase by Mark Berry

O Breathing Life, your Name shines everywhere! Release a space to plant your Presence here. Imagine your possibilities now. Embody your desire in every light and form. Grow through us this moment's bread and wisdom. Untie the knots of failure binding us, as we release the strands we hold of others' faults. Help us not forget our Source, yet free us from not being in the present. From you arises every vision, power and song from gathering to gathering. May our future actions grow from here! Amen!

**Special Music**

“Scherzando” from Divertimento, Op. 3

Joseph Haydn

Recorder quartet: Bill Bastian, Shelley Gruskin, Karen Keenan, Penny Schwarze

**SCRIPTURE** Exodus 14:10-15

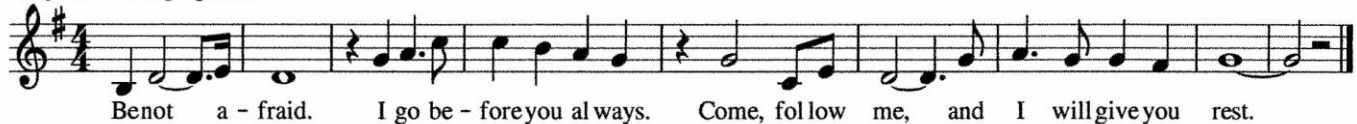
Pastor Jeanine Alexander

As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, “Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? Didn’t we say to you in Egypt, ‘Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians’? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!” Moses answered the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.” Then the Lord said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on.

**Sermon**

Voices of Wisdom: Wisdom from Moses - Going Forward

Rev. MaryAnne Korsch

**\*Hymn** Be Not Afraid*Soloist will sing verses; congregation sings refrain.**Refrain - Congregation***Offering Our Gifts**

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

**\*Hymn** Lead On, O Cloud of Presence

The Faith We Sing #2234

**Benediction**

All: We go forward this week—not because the path is clear, but because the God who goes before us is faithful. We go forward in faith over fear, justice over comfort, trust over control. And may we discover that the same God who parted ancient seas is already at work parting whatever stands between us and the life God is calling us toward. The sea is ahead. Egypt is behind. God is with us. Amen!

**Postlude** “Rondo Allegro”

Leonhard von Call

Recorder quartet: Bill Bastian, Shelley Gruskin, Karen Keenan, Penny Schwarze

*\* please stand as you are comfortable*

## *Announcements*

*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.

**Strikepoint Summer Concert Sunday, August 10, 7pm** – Welcome Strikepoint home from tour at a concert in our own Sanctuary. Admission is free, but an \$18 donation is suggested. This year's tour takes them to Mt. Rushmore and the Black Hills.

**Richard Gurske** will be lighting the church in celebration of his 93rd birthday, and in honor of his brother Ray's 99th birthday on August 11th. His gift will go to support the church's donut fund.

**Echoes of the Lake**, a women's ensemble comprised of members of the Arrowhead Chorale, will be performing a concert on **Tuesday, August 19** at 7pm in Lakeview Social Hall. Our own Mary Whitlock is a member of this group. Echoes of the Lake's mission is to bring camaraderie and belonging while raising the voices of women through song. In addition to the concert, there will be free ice cream sundaes and a bake sale (treats provided by members of our Sanctuary Choir) to benefit First UMC's Choral Scholar Fund. Mark your calendars for this fun summer evening event!

**School supplies collection:** we will again be collecting school supplies for the teachers in our congregation. As we help the teachers, we also help the students. Teachers (of all ages): please send Pastor Jeanine a list of classroom supplies that would help you and your students. Congregation: please bring new school supplies to church. We will be inviting teachers to come to church and pick out their supplies, beginning August 24. This will be fun!

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

Music reprinted and broadcast under OneLicense #A-704169, CCLI License #388862 and CCS WORSHIPcast License #12033. All rights reserved.

## *Ways You Can Help Your Church*

**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.

