



First United Methodist Church

Sunday, August 17, 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. Activity bags, found on the Family Resource Table outside the Sanctuary, are available for children to use during worship. Please return the activity bags following the service. Sunday School will resume in the fall.

Prelude **Meditation** Jules Massenet, arr. William Stickles
MaryAnne Korsch, piano; Velda Graham Bell, organ

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Jeanine Alexander

*** Call to Worship** Mark Harvey

One: This is a day of new beginnings.

All: Time to remember what love is bringing.

One: This is a day of new beginnings.

All: God's Spirit can make for us a world of difference, as faith and hope are born anew.

One: This is a day of new beginnings.

All: With the Spirit's daring, we will seek new paths as we show and share what love can do.

One: This is a day of new beginnings.

All: Our God is making all things new!

*** Hymn** *This is a Day of New Beginnings* UM Hymnal #383, v. 1-4

Children's Message Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Morning Prayer Rev. MaryAnne Korsch
Prayer Song: **Spirit Song** UM Hymnal #347

1. O let the Son of God enfold you
with his Spirit and his love.

Let him fill your heart
and satisfy your soul.

O let him have the things that hold you,
and his Spirit like a dove
will descend upon your life
and make you whole.

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

2. O come and sing this song with gladness
as your hearts are filled with joy.

Lift your hands in sweet
surrender to his name.

O give him all your tears and sadness;
give him all your years of pain,
and you'll enter into life
in Jesus' name.

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Prayers of Joy and Concern

Jesus' Prayer – Celtic version by John Philip Newell

Holy One beyond all names, Eternal Wellspring, may love rise again in us today with food for every table, shelter for every family, and reverence for every life. Forgive us our failings in love and free us from all falseness, that the light of our souls may shine and the strength of our spirits endure for Earth and all its people, this day, tonight, and forever. Amen.

Offering Our Gifts

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Special Music *Salut d'Amour*

Edward Elgar, arr. William Stickles

MaryAnne Korsch, piano; Velda Graham Bell, organ

Scripture Reading

1 Samuel 13:1-14

Mark Harvey

Saul was thirty years old when he became king, and he reigned over Israel forty-two years. Saul chose three thousand men from Israel; two thousand were with him at Mikdash and in the hill country of Bethel, and a thousand were with Jonathan at Gibeah in Benjamin. The rest of the men he sent back to their homes. Jonathan attacked the Philistine outpost at Geba, and the Philistines heard about it. Then Saul had the trumpet blown throughout the land and said, "Let the Hebrews hear!" So all Israel heard the news: "Saul has attacked the Philistine outpost and now Israel has become obnoxious to the Philistines." And the people were summoned to join Saul at Gilgal. The Philistines assembled to fight Israel, with three thousand chariots, six thousand charioteers, and soldiers as numerous as the sand on the seashore. They went up and camped at Mikdash, east of Beth Aven. When the Israelites saw that their situation was critical and that their army was hard pressed, they hid in caves and thickets, among the rocks, and in pits and cisterns. Some Hebrews even crossed the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. Saul remained at Gilgal, and all the troops with him were quaking with fear. He waited seven days, the time set by Samuel; but Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and Saul's men began to scatter. So he said, "Bring me the burnt offering and the fellowship offerings." And Saul offered up the burnt offering. Just as he finished making the offering, Samuel arrived, and Saul went out to greet him. "What have you done?" asked Samuel. Saul replied, "When I saw that the men were scattering, and that you did not come at the set time, and that the Philistines were assembling at Mikdash, I thought, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the Lord's favor.' So I felt compelled to offer the burnt offering." "You have done a foolish thing," Samuel said. "You have not kept the command the Lord your God gave you; if you had, he would have established your kingdom over Israel for all time. But now your kingdom will not endure; the Lord has sought out a man after his own heart and appointed him ruler of his people, because you have not kept the Lord's command."

*** Hymn** *Amazing Grace*

UM Hymnal #378, v. 1-4

Sermon *Voices of Wisdom: Saul (When We Listen to the Wrong Voices)* Pastor Jeanine Alexander

*** Hymn** *To God Be the Glory*

attachment

Benediction

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Postlude *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

setting by Joel Raney

MaryAnne Korsch, piano; Velda Graham Bell, organ

** 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.

Join us for coffee and doughnuts in the lower-level Lakeview Social Hall following the worship service.

Baptized this morning after worship: Oliver Harold Glander, son of Jessica and Patrick Glander, was born August 20, 2024. His grandparents are Diane and Gary Fortney, and Kim and Tim Glander.



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. 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 the Choral Scholar fund. Mark your calendars for this fun summer evening event!

Ruby's Pantry is celebrating its 15th anniversary here at FUMC! Ruby's Pantry takes place the third Thursday of every month, and many of you have volunteered to make this happen. August and December are the months where our congregation is asked to provide additional volunteers. If you can help on **Thursday, August 21**, please sign up in the Narthex or contact the church office (218-727-5021) and they will connect you with Ruby's Pantry.

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.

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Ways You Can Help Your Church

Volunteers are needed to help with Ruby's Pantry on **Thursday, August 21**. See the announcement above.

We're collecting new school supplies for our teachers and students. See the announcement above.

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.



To God Be the Glory

To God be the glo - ry, great things he hath done! So loved he the
O per - fect re - demp - tion, for - give - ness of sins, to ev - ery be -
Great things he hath taught us, great things he has done, and great our re -

world that he gave us his Son, who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for
liev - er the pro - mise of God; the great - est of sin - ners who tru - ly be -
joic - ing thru Je - sus the Son; but pur - er, and high - er, and great - er will

sin, and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
lives, that mo - ment from Je - sus a par - don re - ceives. Praise the Lord, praise the
be our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people re - joice! O come to the

Fa - ther thru Je - sus the Son, and give him the glo - ry, great things he hath done!

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1875

Music: William H. Doane, 1875