



First United Methodist Church

Sunday, September 21, 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 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 *Fantasia and Fugue in D Minor* Johann Pachelbel
Velda Graham Bell, organ

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Jeanine Alexander

*** Call to Worship**

One: We awake in the morning with our hearts praising God!
All: **At work and play, we remember God, and we follow the ways of Christ.**
One: At the end of the day, we praise God, and we find light, even in the time of darkness.
All: **May all the world praise God in words and in actions!**
One: In every moment of life, we belong to God, and Jesus shows us the path of life.
All: **May Jesus Christ be praised!**

*** Hymn** *When Morning Gilds the Skies* UM Hymnal #185

Children's Message Pastor Jeanine Alexander
*A nursery for children age 5 and under is on the lower level, and will include a Bible lesson.
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following the Children's Message. Please pick up your kids in the Lounge after worship.*

Anthem *Take My Life* arr. Kurt Kaiser
Sanctuary Choir; Derek Bromme, director

Morning Prayer Pastor Jeanine Alexander
Unison Prayer: Breaking-open God, you call us to let the seeds of your love be planted anew in us again and again. Open us to letting go of how we think things are, and allow us release as we are broken open into new life. Calm our fears and animate our spirits for this time of discovery. Amen.

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.

Scripture Reading

John 12:20-26

There were some Greeks in town who had come up to worship at the Feast. They approached Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee: "Sir, we want to see Jesus. Can you help us?" Philip went and told Andrew. Andrew and Philip together told Jesus. Jesus answered, "Time's up. The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Listen carefully: unless a grain of wheat is buried in the ground, dead to the world, it is never any more than a grain of wheat. But if it is buried, it sprouts and reproduces itself many times over. In the same way, anyone who holds on to life just as it is destroys that life. But if you let it go, reckless in your love, you'll have it forever, real and eternal. If any of you wants to serve me, then follow me. Then you'll be where I am, ready to serve at a moment's notice. The Holy One, Parent of Us All, will honor and reward anyone who serves me."

Offering Our Gifts

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Hymn *Spirit, Open My Heart* attachment

Sermon *Re-shaped by God #3: Everything Changes* Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Hymn *In the Midst of New Dimensions* The Faith We Sing #2238

Benediction

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Remember that perfection is not the point, but growth, which needs both light and rain. Go into the world knowing that the Potter God is still shaping and reshaping you as you were made to do; that the Teacher Jesus is inviting you to a change of heart, making it all so very possible; and that the Adventurous Spirit is luring you to more play and curiosity in your precious life.

Postlude *Love Can Build a Bridge*

Naomi Judd, Paul Overstreet, and John Barlow Jarvis
Tapestry; Leah and Corey Hulst, directors

* 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.

Faith Forum meets on Sunday mornings from 9-9:45 in Fireside Lounge. Next week, **September 28**, Tim Zager talks about "Leaving a Legacy and Testimonial for Future Generations." The following week, **October 5**, UMD Library Director Matt Rosendahl will talk about the state of libraries today.

The next "Explore FUMC" class will be **today**, following worship, in Fireside Lounge. This is the only session needed to join the church. Come if you're interested in joining or would just like more information about the church.

Sunday, September 28 is Bible Sunday, when Bibles will be presented to 3-year-olds (and 4- and 5-year-olds who haven't received a 3-year-old Bible), to 3rd graders (and 4th and 5th graders who haven't received a 3rd grade Bible), and to Confirmation students during our 10am worship service. Please let Pastor Jeanine (pastor@fumcduluth.com) know if you have a child that age.

Mark your calendars! Our annual Roast Beef Dinner will be Thursday, October 2. This will again be a drive-through event, from 4:30-6:30 in our east parking lot, and dinners will be \$15 each. Lots of help is needed! Signup sheets are available on the tables in the Narthex or at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CA8A82CA4FFC61-57987603-fal>

Habitat for Humanity is having a homecoming picnic for anyone ever involved with or supportive of our local chapter, on **Sunday, September 28** from noon to 3pm at Munger Park (1114 E. 8th St., Duluth, next to Trinity Lutheran Church). FUMC has helped build houses for Habitat in the past. Free food, music, story-sharing.

The Twin Ports Wind Orchestra, under the direction of our own Dr. Mark Whitlock, will present their fall concert on **Sunday, September 28**, at 3pm in our Sanctuary.

Join our Wednesday online Bible study, led by Biblical scholar and former FUMC member Lynn Millikan. This in-depth Bible study meets on Zoom every Wednesday evening at 6:30pm. For more information, contact Rev. MaryAnne Korsch (maryanne.korsch@gmail.com) or Lynn Millikan (millikan.lynn@gmail.com).

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

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Ways You Can Help Your Church

Signup to help with the Roast Beef Dinner. Signup sheets are in the Narthex.

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.

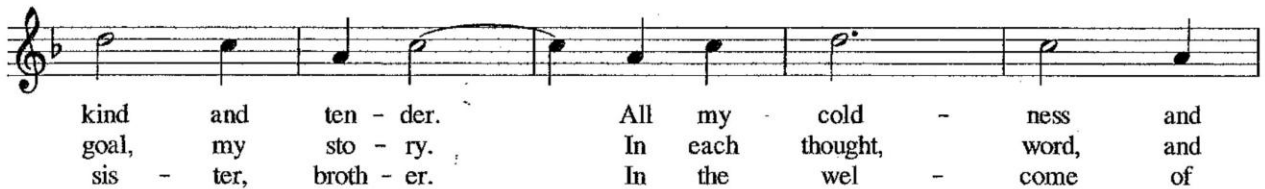
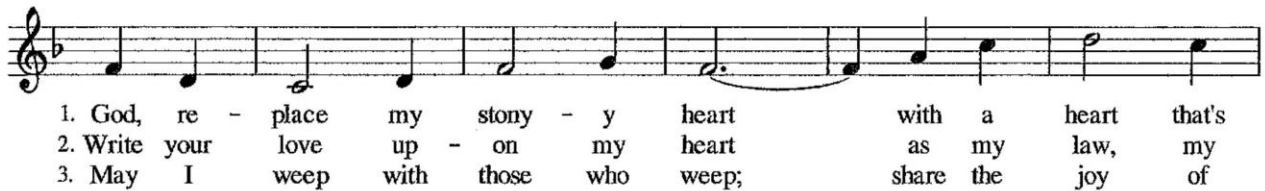


Spirit, Open My Heart

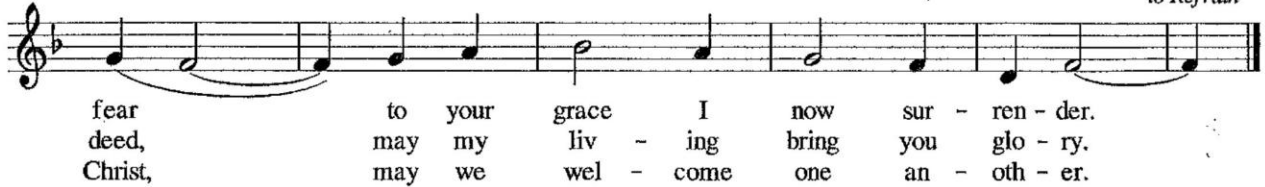
Refrain



Fine



to Refrain



TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1994

MUSIC: Irish melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011

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WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

Irregular