



First United Methodist Church
Sunday, September 7, 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 next week.

Prelude **Introduction and Variations on *Holy, Holy, Holy*** Piet Post
Velda Graham Bell, organ

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Jeanine Alexander
*You were created for a purpose, formed into something spectacular –
not just created, but re-created again and again. Ready to be stretched? It's time to be re-shaped!*

*** Call to Worship** Mark Harvey
One: Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
All: **Early in the morning, our song shall rise to thee,**
One: Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
All: **Grace inhabits every face. I feel God's hand in mine.**
One: Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
All: **Holy God restores us. Light the path before us.**

*** Hymn** *Holy, Holy, Holy* attachment

Children's Message Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Morning Prayer Rev. MaryAnne Korsch
Unison Prayer: Creator God, you sit at the Potter's Wheel and continue to fashion beautiful things. Open us to your ongoing re-shaping of our lives and help us believe that we are capable of change. Calm our fears and animate our spirits for this time of discovery. Hear us as we sing together:

Prayer Song *Spirit of the Living God* UM Hymnal #393
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Prayers of Joy and Concern

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us, not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Special Music *Same God*

Kerr, Klein, and Leath

Bailey Fazzio, vocalist

Offering Our Gifts

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 18:1-6

Mark Harvey

This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: "Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you my message." So I went down to the potter's house and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands, so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him. Then the word of the Lord came to me. He said, "Can I not do with you, Israel, as this potter does?" declares the Lord. "Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel."

* Hymn *Have Thine Own Way, Lord*

UM Hymnal #382; v. 1-3

Sermon *Shaped by God: Always Flexible*

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Communion Hymn *Have Thine Own Way, Lord*

UM Hymnal #382; v. 1 & 4

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor Jeanine Alexander and Mark Harvey

* Hymn *As a Fire is Meant for Burning*

The Faith We Sing #2237

Benediction

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

From the Gospel According to Gumby:

All: Blessed are the flexible, for they shall bend but not break.

Remember you were made to survive and thrive – especially during times of change.

Go into the world knowing

that the Potter God is still shaping and re-shaping 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.

Go in peace, Stay in courage.

Amen!

Postlude *Finale on Holy, Holy, Holy*

Piet Post

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.

Next Sunday is Kickoff Sunday, when we celebrate the beginning of a new year, a new season. Many of our musical groups will participate in the service. Sunday School for birth-6th grade will begin (5th and 6th graders will be helpers.)

Kickoff Wednesday is **September 17**, when all our children's activities begin. There will be a free smashburger dinner for everyone, not just families with children, (donations welcome) from 6-7pm. Wednesday night schedule is: Childcare 5-8pm; 5-5:30 JAM Jr. music for nursery-1st grade in the Chapel; 5:15-6:15 Joyful Noise bells, drums and singing for grades 2-6 in the Tweens Room; 5:30-6:30 supervised playtime for 1st grade and younger (**Parents:** please come with your children to this orientation); 6:45-7:30 youth can hang out in the Youth Room with Jason Abbott and reconnect; 6:45 Confirmation Orientation in the Tween Room; 7:30-8:30 Class Ring in the Bell Room.

Friends of the Felgemaker will present their first concert of the 2025-26 season at Sacred Heart Music Center (201 W. 4th St., Duluth) on **this afternoon** at 3pm. The main work is Dan Forrest's award-winning choral composition, "Requiem for the Living," for choir, organ and chamber orchestra, conducted by Dr. Charles Sundquist. Instrumentalists include Velda Graham Bell, and Derek Bromme and Riley Hinnenkamp are singing in the choir. Tickets are \$20 at the door.

Our 4th annual Seniors' Lunch and Fellowship will take place on **Tuesday, September 16 at 11am**. This free event is for all seniors 65 and over, or anyone who considers themselves a senior. We'll eat a light meal together, enjoy entertainment from Derek Bromme, Alex Flinner, Larry Ehresman, and Pastor Jeanine, and just relish being together. **Please sign up by Tuesday, September 9**, so we have enough food. Sign up in the church office, call the office at 218-727-5021, or email Pastor Jeanine (pastor@fumcduluth.com). Let us know if you need a ride.

Faith Forum will again meet on Sunday mornings from 9-9:45 in Fireside Lounge, beginning next week, **September 14**. At our first meeting this fall, Lauren Carolan will share her experiences and work with people with Parkinson's Disease. All are welcome at Faith Forum! Please join us as we share stories, become more informed about our community, and challenge each other to grow in faith and understanding.

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.

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

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Ways You Can Help Your Church

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.



Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

1. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y! Ear - ly in the
2. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly! God re - sides with in me. Grace in - hab - its
3. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly! Voice of Power be - side me. Free my heart and
4. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly! O - pen Hand that feeds me. Help me car - ry
5. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly! Source of all that stokes me. Au - thor of my

morn - ing our song shall rise to thee. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!
eve - ry face; I feel God's hand in mine. Ho - ly God re - store me.
guide my hand to nur - ture in Your name. Ho - ly Love en - twine me.
jus - tice to the hun - gry and the poor. Love will feed and clothe them;
high - est aim and Spon - sor of my soul. Breath of God pro - pel me.

Mer - ci - ful and might - y, God in three per - sons bless - ed Trin - i ty!
Light the path be - fore me. God of Cre a - tion Com - fort - er Di vine!
Soothe the fear that binds me. Hand of Com pas - sion; Balm of all my pain.
shel - ter them and heal them. Come, set the ta - ble; op - en eve - ry door!
Fan the flame that fuels me. Send me with glad - ness to make your peo - ple whole.

NICAEA

WORDS: Reginald Heber (verse 1), Sarah Maddy (verses 2-5); used by permission
MUSIC: John B. Dykes