



*First United Methodist Church*  
*Sunday, January 26, 2026*

*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 includes 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. After worship, please pick up elementary children in Lakeview Social Hall and younger children in the nursery.*

**Prelude**                      *My Story*    Big Daddy Weave  
Tapestry; Leah and Corey Hulst, directors

**Welcome and Announcements**    Pastor Jeanine Alexander

**Call to Worship**    Mark Whitlock

Leader: We gather, grateful to be together.

**All: Past, present, and future, we find strength in each other.**

Leader: We share stories that offer hope and consolation.

**All: We read sacred Scripture that guides our way.**

Leader: We gather, grateful to be together.

**All: Past, present, and future, we find strength in each other, and God guides us.**

**\* Hymn**                      *Thy Word is a Lamp*    UM Hymnal #601

**Children's Message**    Pastor Jeanine Alexander

*Children in 6th grade and under may leave for nursery and Sunday School following the Children's Message.*

**Anthem**                      *How Can I Keep from Singing?*    Taylor Davis  
Sanctuary Choir; Derek Bromme, director  
Jenna Mattson, violin; Erin Wiig, oboe

**Morning Prayer**    Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Unison Prayer

**Gracious and loving God, thank you for hearing our prayers. We thank you for the gift of sabbath worship and rest in our lives. Help us to take time each day and each week to simply enjoy your goodness. Give us the wisdom to set apart time for play, for rest, and for re-creation. Be with us on this journey of seeking wholeness and abundant life.**

**Prayers of Joy and Concern**

Jesus' Prayer – retranslation from the Aramaic

**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!**

## Scripture Readings

Mark Whitlock

### Psalm 119:105

Your word is a lamp before my feet and a light for my journey.

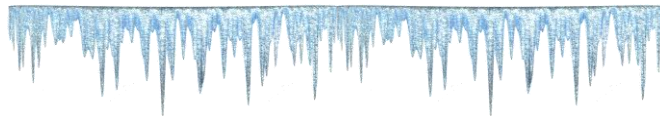
### 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Every scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for showing mistakes, for correcting, and for training character, so that the person who belongs to God can be equipped to do everything that is good.

### John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

* Hymn	<i>Lord, Speak to Me</i>	UM Hymnal #463
Sermon	<i>Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith #2: Is the Bible True?</i>	Pastor Jeanine Alexander
Special Music	<i>The Call (Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life)</i> Brandon Veale, tenor	Ralph Vaughan Williams
Offering Our Gifts		Pastor Jeanine Alexander
* Hymn	<i>The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve</i>	The Faith We Sing #2241
Benediction		Pastor Jeanine Alexander
Postlude	<i>"Jig" Fugue in C Major</i> Velda Graham Bell, organ	Dietrich Buxtehude



## *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! Check them each week and please sign up where you can.*

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

*There was a bank error last week* that caused anyone with automatic giving on the 10th to be charged twice. Director of Operations Sandy Smith did a reversal, but has heard from some people that their giving is still incorrect. Please check with your bank if you normally have an automatic transaction on the 10th of the month. If it has not been reversed, please call the office so we can make a correction. Thank you!

*Today, after worship: Happy Birthday to all of us!* We'll be celebrating everyone's birthday with an all-church potluck. Please sit at the table labeled with your birthday month. If you didn't bring something for the potluck, please join us anyway!



*Faith Forum* meets on Sunday mornings from 9-9:45 in Fireside Lounge. Next week, **February 1**, guest speaker Jill Cornwell will talk about Judaism and the Jewish community in Duluth.

*CHUM Food Shelf needs:* Next Sunday, **February 1**, is Communion Sunday, when we encourage the congregation to bring donations of food or money for the CHUM Food Shelf. Our Food Shelf contact is currently out sick, so we don't have information about their urgent needs. Please bring whatever food you think would be useful: cereal is always needed, soup, canned fruit or vegetables, etc. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need!

*The church's annual meeting* to elect leadership, take action on membership, hear the annual financial report, learn about our Foundation, and have a time of connection will be held on **Sunday, February 15**, at 11:15am, following worship. All church members and friends are invited to participate.

*Are you missing anything?* The Lost and Found, outside the church office door, has been collecting items. Please claim anything that is yours before February 9, when everything will be donated or discarded.

*How to Train Your Dragon:* The Friends of the Felgemaker will host "A Morning with the Felgemaker" on **Saturday, February 7** from 10:00-11:30am at Sacred Heart Music Center (201 W. Fourth St., Duluth). This FREE, interactive program for children will feature music from the movie "How to Train Your Dragon," played on the historic Felgemaker pipe organ. We'll also see live bearded dragons (courtesy of the Lake Superior Zoo), see up close how a pipe organ works, and have a snack of animal crackers and juice. The event is geared toward children in K-5th grade. All children must be accompanied by an adult. No tickets are required.

*Guest WIFI Network:* FirstUnitedPublic. Password: Public2022.

*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](http://fumcduluth.com) or use the QR code **OR** text COPPERTOP to 73256 **OR** mail to FUMC, 230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811.

