

# Epiphany of the Lord

January 4, 2026  
8:30 AM

✠ Rise in body or in spirit.  
The congregation speaks /  
sings the text in **bold type**



For information about the  
ministries, mission, and  
activities of Duluth First  
UMC, please visit  
[duluthumc.org](http://duluthumc.org).



Children are welcome in  
worship!

Children's activity sheets  
& crayons are available at  
the main entrance to help  
guide them in active  
participation of worship.

Children newborn through  
Pre-K are invited to go to  
Childcare Corner, near the  
Gathering Room.



Listening devices are  
available during all  
worship services. See an  
usher or  
greeter for assistance.



## ENTRANCE

Prelude

Seoyoung Lee, *Organist*

Welcome & Announcements

Vicki McLemore, *Liturgist*

✠ Hymn 254 | *We Three Kings* – KINGS OF ORIENT

✠ Call to Worship

We gather as people looking for the star, a sign that God is at work in the world.

**God, help us find your glory.**

We gather as people listening for the whispers of the Spirit, hints of the good news in the least likely places.

**God, help us notice your glory.**

We gather as people yearning for Love's presence, the assurance that we are not alone and Love will have the last word.

**God, help us encounter your glory.**

On this Epiphany Sunday, may the Light of Love shine among us, revealing divine glory through neighbors known and unknown, vulnerable children, and unexpected gifts.

**God, reveal to us anew the glory of your expansive Love that gathers us together and sustains us in loving service to one another and all creation. Amen.**

# WORD & RESPONSE

✠ Scripture | John 1:1-18

Amy Burk

Common  
English Bible

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> The Word was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup> Everything came into being through the Word, and without the Word, nothing came into being. What came into being <sup>4</sup> through the Word was life, and the life was the light for all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light. <sup>6</sup> A man named John was sent from God. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify concerning the light, so that through him everyone would believe in the light. <sup>8</sup> He himself wasn't the light, but his mission was to testify concerning the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light that shines on all people was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> The light was in the world, and the world came into being through the light, but the world didn't recognize the light. <sup>11</sup> The light came to his own people, and his own people didn't welcome him. <sup>12</sup> But those who did welcome him, those who believed in his name, he authorized to become God's children, <sup>13</sup> born not from blood nor from human desire or passion, but born from God. <sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his home among us. We have seen his glory, glory like that of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup> John testified about him, crying out, "This is the one of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is greater than me because he existed before me.'" <sup>16</sup> From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace; <sup>17</sup> as the Law was given through Moses, so grace and truth came into being through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. God the only Son, who is at the Father's side, has made God known.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon | *Glory Revealed: Seeing the Light*

Rev. Dr. C. Kay Fuino  
*Associate Pastor*

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Hymnal pg.12

✠ Sharing the Peace of Christ

Ministry Moment | *Human Relations Day Offering*

## Receiving God's Tithe & Our Offering

Offertory | *In the Bleak Midwinter* – Gustav Holst

Bel Canto Choir  
Sara Burns, *Pianist*

✠ Doxology | *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* – OLD 100TH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING

✠ The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

...

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer our ourselves in praise and thanksgiving,  
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

...

All honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

The 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.**

Breaking the Bread, Receiving the Bread & Cup



Your giving is the  
sole support of the  
ministries of  
Duluth First UMC.  
For online giving,  
go to  
[duluthumc.org/  
online-giving](http://duluthumc.org/online-giving), or  
scan the QR code  
with your  
mobile device.



## Prayer after Communion

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Invitation to Christian Discipleship & Church Membership

For questions regarding membership, contact  
Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles –  
arawles@duluthumc.org  
or 770.476.3776, x. 128.

Those who wish to join the church today are invited to come forward as we sing the final hymn.

## ALSO SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

*Audio/Visual Team:*  
Charlie Greene  
Johnathan Ancell  
Ian Toole

*Usher Captains:*  
David Burleson  
Charlie Doerlich

## SENDING

✠ Hymn 188 | *Christ Is the World's Light* – CHRISTE SANCTORUM

Reception of New Members (as applicable)

Hymnal, pgs. 34, 38

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

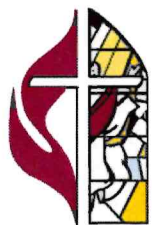
✠ Benediction

✠ Postlude

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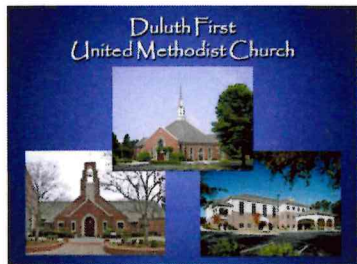
# The Sunday Supplement



JANUARY 4, 2026

## **Welcome to Duluth First United Methodist Church!**

We are glad that you came to worship with us today. The mission of Duluth First United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ. If you are looking for more information about Duluth First United Methodist Church and its ministries, Bible studies, and other programs and events, please be sure to visit our church's website at [www.duluthumc.org](http://www.duluthumc.org).



To join Duluth First United Methodist Church, please come forward as we sing the song that follows the Invitation to Church Membership.

If you have any questions regarding membership or you are visiting and would like additional information, please contact Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles, Associate Pastor, by e-mail at [arawles@duluthumc.org](mailto:arawles@duluthumc.org), or call 770-476-3776, ext. 128.

## **Prayer Concerns**

- Kathy Anderson • Tracy Balkcom • Lorraine Day
- Don Greene • Rosemary Hall • Shamain Hallett
- Carol Hitchcock • Carol Johnson • Linton Jones
- Cheryl Otto • Charlie Pierce • Lin Ramstead
- Ann Reifert • Ethel Sales • Clara Truesdell • Dale VanPelt



## **Want someone to talk to? Stephen Ministers are there for you.**

For more information or to request the support and care of a Stephen Minister, contact Rev. Dr. C. Kay Fuino by e-mail at [ckfuino@duluthumc.org](mailto:ckfuino@duluthumc.org) or call Stephen Leader Ann Fleming at 678-644-9108.



## **This Morning's Communion Offering: Human Relations Sunday Offering**



Any gifts left on the altar rail or communion table will go toward this morning's communion offering, the **Human Relations Day Sunday Offering**. Because of your gift, lives are changed through social justice ministries and outreach through Community Developers, Volunteer Service and Youth Offender Rehabilitation Programs.

The communion offering is in addition to your regular giving to the Church.

## **Help Needed in Taking Down Christmas Decorations: Today**

If you have a few free minutes to spare after this morning's 11:00 worship services, the Worship Committee could use your help in taking down the Christmas decorations around the church. Many hands should make quick work of this project. Thank you for your help!

## **The Stars Come Down on Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**

If you have some free time to spare on the morning of Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, volunteers are needed to help down take the stars in the front of the church. We will meet at 10 a.m. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles by e-mail at [arawles@duluthumc.org](mailto:arawles@duluthumc.org).



## **Youth Ministry Sunday Night Gatherings for January**

Students in the 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to join us on Sunday nights for **Sunday Night Gatherings** from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank"), located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center. **Sunday Night Gatherings** include great dinners, fun games, amazing worship, inspirational and relevant messages and life-changing small groups.

**Our schedule for the month of January is:**

- **Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup>:** Sunday Night Gathering at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>:** Sunday Night Gathering at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>:** Sunday Night Gathering at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>:** Sunday Night Gathering at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank").



Please visit the **Youth Ministry's** website at <https://dfumcstudents.org> for more information. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Min Lee, Director of Youth Ministries, by e-mail at [mlee@duluthumc.org](mailto:mlee@duluthumc.org), or call 770-476-3776, ext. 119.

## **Wednesday Night Dinner in Hinton Hall: January 7<sup>th</sup>**

Our **Food Ministry** staff, along with our amazing **Dinner Belles and Beaus** volunteers, prepare excellent meals at very reasonable prices. Enjoy fellowship around the table with family and friends. **The menu for Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, is herb-roasted chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, squash, rolls, and dessert. For the kids – chicken tenders and fries.** Dinner service hours are 5 to 6:30 p.m., with to-go boxes available from 6 to 6:30 p.m.

**The prices for Wednesday Night Dinners are:**

- \$10.00 for adults (including seniors and from 11 years up);
- \$7.00 for children 10 years and younger;
- \$30.00 for family meals (nuclear family members only – husband, wife, their children under 18 years);
- \$7.00 for salad bar only, which includes the salad bar, a choice of baked potato or sweet potato, dessert and a drink.



Credit/debit card payments, as well as cash and checks, are accepted.

## **Wednesday Night Food Drive: January 7<sup>th</sup>**

The **Wednesday Night Food Drive** at Duluth First UMC for the **Hands of Christ Duluth Co-Op** is our weekly mission project, combined with the many Wednesday evening activities offered at the church. **On January 7<sup>th</sup> we ask you to bring peanut butter and jelly.** A table for donated items will be located outside of the main entrance to Hinton Hall.

Join us for a delicious dinner and fellowship in Hinton Hall, pick up a to-go dinner for your family, join us for any of our Wednesday evening activities, and drop off food items to help other families in need. We thank you for your support.



## **GriefShare Support Group to Begin a New Series of Classes on January 7<sup>th</sup>**

**GriefShare Support Group**, led by the church's Stephen Ministers, will walk alongside you through the loss of a loved one. Our next session of weekly classes will start on Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>. Meeting each week from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in room F153, located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center, you will gain access to valuable **GriefShare** resources to help you through your grief.

For more information, please visit the **GriefShare** website at [griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org), or contact Tracy Brinker by e-mail at [tbrinker@duluthumc.org](mailto:tbrinker@duluthumc.org), or call 770-476-3776.







### **Wednesday Night Activities Resume on January 7<sup>th</sup>**

Join us on Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, as the following evening activities resume at Duluth First UMC:

- **Book Bunch for kids (ages 3 – 4):** 6:15 to 6:30 p.m. in The Louise McDaniel Memorial Library, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center;
- **DuluthKids (ages Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade):** 5:45 to 7 p.m. in the Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall;
- **Youth Bible Study (grades 6 – 12):** 6 to 7 p.m. in room F149, 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center;
- **Parent Connection Group:** 6 to 7 p.m., room F207, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center;
- **“The History and Archaeology of the Bible” Class for Adults:** 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in room F145, 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center;
- **Yarn Art Ministry:** 6 to 7 p.m. in room F205, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center;
- **Happy Sacks:** 6 to 6:15 p.m. in room F152, 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center;
- **Handbell Ensemble Rehearsal:** 6 to 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary;
- **Chancel Choir Rehearsal:** 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Don Lee Music Suite.

### **United Women in Faith One-Day Retreat - “How the Stars Get in Your Bones”:**

**Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**

What is it that allowed Mary to say, “Let it be?” Do you remember a time when you received a blessing that helped you be present to a change that arrived? The **United Women in Faith** invite **all women** to join them on Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to take time for one day, after Christmas and during Epiphany, to find a place where other women see you, welcome you and help you to be there for what comes next.

This casual retreat is an opportunity to relax after all the Christmas activities. Lunch, drinks, and snacks will be provided. We will meet from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall. Please sign-up during December at the **United Women in Faith** information tables located around the church to help us prepare for handouts and lunch. Please bring a pint size clear glass jar/Ball jar to use for one of the art projects.

The retreat will include readings and art from Jan Richardson’s book **How the Stars Get in Your Bones**. You may bring a donation of \$7 to be sent to Jan Richardson for “Sanctuary of Women” to be shared with the A21 Campaign, an organization devoted to ending human trafficking and providing sanctuary and healing for those rescued from slavery.

Look at the stars of your world, your life, your family and see how they get into your bones. Look around to see another who might need a blessing from you. We will come together with art, readings, comfort, and a challenge to find something of sabbath rest to find the stars of your life. Perhaps there will be something that stretches you to a new place or invites you to think in a direction of an uncharted sky for your spirit. We will delight in blessings and prayers, share in a meal and in conversations of laughter, concern, sighs, and joys.

Blessings and joy for advent as you prepare the way for the Christ child to shine in your heart, to see the stars and count your blessings. Celebrate all you have done with a retreat together on January 10<sup>th</sup> to find your blessing. For additional information contact Terrie Adkins by e-mail at [ttadkins@sprynet.com](mailto:ttadkins@sprynet.com).



United  
Women  
in Faith

### **Library Book Club to Discuss “Ashes” by Sharon Gloger Friedman: Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**

The **Library Book Club** will meet on Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. in room F145, located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center, to discuss the book **Ashes** by Sharon Gloger Friedman. Sharon will be here in person to discuss her book **Ashes**, the story of a Jewish family flees persecution in Russia to New York, where their daughter works at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory and becomes involved in the workers’ rights movement.



### **New Titles in Our Church Library for Winter Reading**

Cozy up with a good book this winter from **The Louise McDaniel Memorial Church Library**, located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center, where you can find your next great read!

**The Life We Bury** by Allen Eskens (adult fiction). A college student interviews a dying Vietnam veteran and convicted murderer for a writing assignment, leading him on a quest to uncover the truth about the crime and confront his own personal demons.

**Mixed Blessings** by Barbara Brown Taylor (inspirational). In this new edition of her earliest collection of sermons, Barbara Brown Taylor brings her down-to-earth wisdom and keen perspective to the Bible readings of the lectionary cycle. Originally preached for the congregation of All Saints' Episcopal Church in downtown Atlanta, the topics of these sermons range from conversations with Abraham and Moses in the texts of the Hebrew scriptures to our awareness of the communion of saints and how to recognize a miracle when one comes our way.

**For Those Who Are Lost** by Julia Bryan Thomas (adult historical fiction). Inspired by true events, **For Those Who Are Lost** begins on the eve of the Nazi invasion of the island of Guernsey, when terrified parents have a choice to make: send their children alone to England, or keep the family together and risk whatever may come to their villages.



## Duluth First United Methodist Church



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Facebook: DuluthFirstUMC • Instagram: duluthfirstumc

### **Church Staff Directory**

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