

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 1,
2026
11:00 AM



GATHERING

Chiming the Trinity

✠ Welcome, Greeting One Another

Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles
Associate Pastor

Attendance Registration, Announcements

Voluntary | *Ash Grove with Bach's Italian Concerto* – Arr. Jeremy Yowell

Seoyoung Lee, *Organist*

✠ 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
United Methodist Church,
please visit duluthumc.org.



Children of all ages are
welcome in worship.

Children's activity sheets
& crayons are available at
the main entrance to the
sanctuary 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.
Please see an usher or greeter
for assistance.

✠ Call to Worship

Children of God, when fears press in on every side, we can proclaim with
confidence:

God is our light and salvation! Whom shall we fear?

When our problems overwhelm us and we feel pressed in on every side, we
can declare with confidence:

God is the stronghold of our lives! Of whom shall we be afraid?

No matter the troubles we face, we seek after God and to live in the house
of God forever.

God shelters and protects us in the day of trouble.

Come, let us worship God with joy, for God is our light and salvation!

We come to worship as bearers of the Light. Thanks be to God! Amen.

PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

✠ Hymn 158 | *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* – SPANISH HYMN

✠ Invitation, Confession, Assurance of Pardon

Hymnal, pg. 12

Anthem | *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* – Arr. Roland Martin

Members of the Chancel Choir
Seoyoung Lee, *Organist*

Ministry Moment | *Homeless Offering*

Receiving God's Tithe and Our Offering

Prayer of Thanksgiving



Your giving is the sole support of the ministries of Duluth First UMC.

For online giving, go to duluthumc.org/online-giving, or scan the QR code.



✠ Doxology 94 | *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* – LASST UNS ERFREUEN



WORD & RESPONSE

✠ Scripture | John 1:29-42

Rev. Terry Tippens
Senior Pastor

New Revised
Standard Version,
Updated Edition

The next day John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"³⁰ This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'³¹ I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel."³² And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him."³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples,³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!"³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?"³⁹ He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It

was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). ⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon | *Invite. God Will Do the Rest*

Hymn 521 | *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* - SOJOURNER

✠ The Great Thanksgiving

Hymnal, pgs. 17-18

✠ The Lord's Prayer

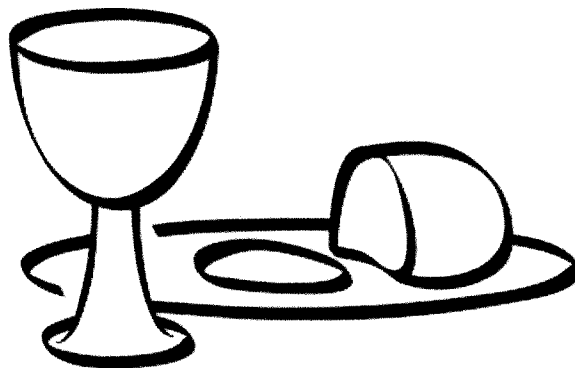
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the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

✠ Breaking the Bread, Receiving the Bread & Cup

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

Acolyte & Cross Bearer:

Grace Saxelby
Emily Anne Klayman

Audio/Visual Team:

Daniel Lee
Frank Loose
Lee Castleberry

Usher Captains:

David Burleson
Charlie Doerlich

Communion Servers:

Herb Ricks
Cynthia Peterson
Ardie Sudduth
Carol Page
Frank Loose
Linda Loose
Sherry Ferguson
Ramona Ricks
Barbara Whitlock

Flower Team:

Pamela Logan

SENDING

✠ Hymn 152 | *I Sing the Almighty Power of God* – FOREST GREEN

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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Chancel Flowers

are given today by Dennis and Debbie Patterson
in loving memory of their son, Scott.

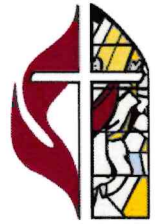
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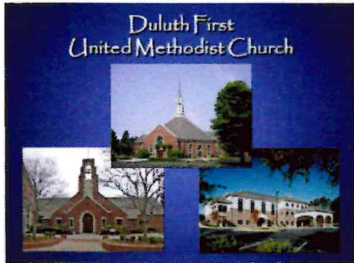
The Sunday Supplement



FEBRUARY 1, 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.



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, or call 770-476-3776, ext. 128.

Prayer Concerns



- Kathy Anderson • Tracy Balkcom • Jack Brannon • Larry Bunten • Lorraine Day
 - Ann Fleming • Sue French • Jeff Greene • Jeanine Gullett • Rosemary Hall
 - Shamain Hallett • John Hammons • Dick Hartlett • Carol Hitchcock • Carol Johnson
 - Linton Jones • Stephanie Minschwaner • Dottie Moor • Cheryl Otto • Jewell Parsons
 - Charlie Pierce • Ethel Sales • Charlotte Schlubach • Dale VanPelt • Amy Worthington
- Shirley Guy & family in the death of her brother.
 - Shirley Knox & family in the death of her cousin.
 - Lucie Lee & family in the death of her aunts (her father's sisters).
 - The family of Henry Pettus in his death.



WE ARE A STEPHEN MINISTRY CONGREGATION.

Duluth First UMC Stephen Ministers provide confidential, one-to-one emotional care and support to those in our church and community who are hurting.

Contact Rev. Dr. C. Kay Fuino by e-mail at ckfuino@duluthumc.org or call Stephen Leader Ann Fleming at 678-644-9108 for more information.



This Morning's Communion Offering: Homeless Offering

Any gifts left on the altar rail or communion table will go toward this morning's communion offering, the **Homeless Offering** through the **North Georgia Conference** of the United Methodist Church. The **Housing and Homeless Council** distributes all **Homeless Offering** gifts as grants to churches and ministries that provide services and housing to poor and homeless persons through our Conference. The communion offering is in addition to your regular giving to the Church.

Learn More about Duluth First United Methodist Church at Information Station:

Sunday Mornings - Today and February 8th

Are you new to Duluth First UMC as a guest or new member? Have you wondered about the United Methodist Church and our church's history? Are you looking for groups to get involved in? Join us for **Information Station** on Sunday mornings, today and February 8th, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Conference Room, located on the 3rd floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center. We will drink coffee, talk about the church, and discuss ways you can get involved!

For additional information or to RSVP, please contact Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles, Associate Pastor, by e-mail at arawles@duluthumc.org.

Youth Ministry Sunday Night Gatherings for February

Students in the 6th through 12th 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 1st 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.

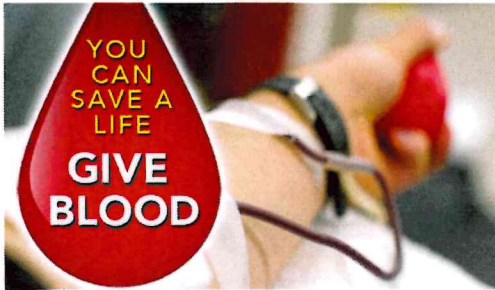
Our schedule for the month of February is:

- **Sunday, February 1st:** Sunday Night Gathering at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, February 8th:** Super Bowl Party at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, February 15th:** Sunday Night Gathering at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, February 22nd:** 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, or call 770-476-3776, ext. 119.



Donate Blood at Duluth First UMC on Wednesday, February 4th



Every 2 seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. All blood types are needed now to help save lives. Spring into action and give patients a fighting chance by donating blood.

An American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held at Duluth First UMC from 3 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, February 4th, in the Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall. Please consider donating blood as winter weather across the country is causing a decline in donations. With more severe weather predicted, blood donors (especially type O) are needed to give to prevent a shortage. Patients need your help now! **To schedule a blood donation appointment:**

- Visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code **dufmc**;
- Call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767);
- Contact Tracy Brinker by e-mail at tbrinker@duluthumc.org, or call 770-476-3776, ext. 112.
- Last, but not least, be a "walk-in" on Blood Drive Day.

Wednesday Night Dinner in Hinton Hall: February 4th

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, February 4th, is Chicken Alfredo, penne pasta, broccoli, zucchini, garlic breadsticks, and dessert. For the kids – the same.** 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, and 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: February 4th

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 February 4th we ask you to bring macaroni and cheese.** 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.



Register Now for the Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten 2026-2027 School Year

Registration for **Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten's** 2026-2027 school year is open and spots will go fast! We are an award-winning program that nurtures students learning in a loving, Christian environment. If you are interested in registering your little one or you would like to set up a tour, please contact Pat Szathmary by e-mail at pszathmary@duluthmc.org or call 770-497-1743.

Celebrating Black History Month

February is **Black History Month**, a time to celebrate the unique contributions of African Americans to the American history. Whatever your heritage or background, black history is part of everyone's history.



**BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH**

The General Commission on Religion and Race has compiled 29 suggestions to help United Methodists celebrate **Black History Month** during this year. Some ways to celebrate may include educating yourself on black history or the various African American Methodist movements. You might also support local

African American businesses/charities or participate in local advocacy. You can also explore black literature, film and music that convey the unique voices and experiences of the culture.

Please scan the QR code located to the right with your smart phone or tablet to learn more about how you can participate in **Black History Month**.



Human Trafficking Is a Serious Issue: Please Wear Blue Next Sunday, February 8th

Human trafficking is a serious problem worldwide. Often, we think it is not here in the United States, but trafficking is in all 50 states and right here in our own community. Human trafficking comes in many forms. It can be coerced labor such as hotel workers, farm workers or restaurant workers, as well as sexual exploitation. It can affect persons at any age. Sometimes sexual exploitation occurs with a family member or a known trusted person.

STOP
Human Trafficking

If you suspect something, the best idea is to call the hotline to get advice about what to do. Do not confront the people directly as that could put the victim at risk. The hotline phone number is 888-373-7888.

The State of Georgia has passed many laws that make sexual trafficking more difficult for the traffickers, and releasing the victim from prostitution charges, plus helping the victims to rehabilitate.

Many organizations in our community are working to put an end to human trafficking, and to help rescue victims. For example, **Street Grace** works to protect children and youth from sexual exploitation and **Wellspring Living's** mission is transforming lives of those at risk or victimized by sexual exploitation.

Anytime there is a big event, whether it be sport related, concerts or conventions, human trafficking increases. It's time to put a **STOP** to human trafficking. So, when you join us for our worship services next Sunday, February 8th, which is also **Super Bowl Sunday**, the **United Women in Faith** are asking you to please wear something **BLUE** which is the international color of **Human Trafficking Awareness**.

United Women in Faith Are Raising Funds to Help Put an End to Human Trafficking: Sunday, February 8th

On Sunday, February 8th, the **United Women in Faith** will be selling chocolate candies and goodies just in time for Valentine's Day. All the proceeds will go to **Street Grace**, an organization that **fight**s human trafficking. Founded in 2008, **Street Grace** been chasing one ambitious vision - **ending the sexual exploitation of children**. Thanks to the help of their generous partners and supporters, they are making serious progress.

Street Grace works on four areas to make changes:

- **PREVENTION** to help all of us recognize and stop exploitation before it starts;
- **PROTECTION** to make survival sustainable;
- **PURSUIT** to help law enforcement identify predators, protect victims and prevent future crimes;
- **POLICY** which makes safety the standard, shapes laws, training and systems that protect children long before a crisis begins.

So won't you say **YES** because change begins with you! Come to the Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 8th, buy chocolates, and help put an end to human trafficking! Brooke Ruffin from **Street Grace** will be in the Fellowship Hall to answer any questions. For additional information about **Street Grace**, please visit their website at www.streetgrace.org.

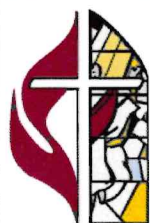
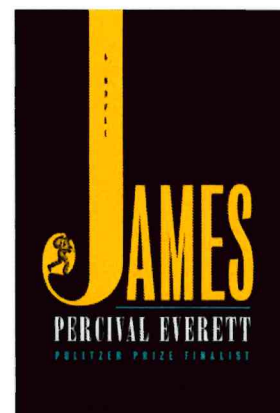
Library Book Club to Discuss "James" by Percival Everett:

Monday, February 9th

The Library Book Club will meet on Monday, February 9th, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in room F145 (located on the 1st floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center) to discuss the book **James** by Percival Everett with a discussion led by Amy Burk. **James**, a brilliant, action-packed reimagining of **Adventures of Huckleberry Finn**, both harrowing and darkly humorous, is told from the enslaved Jim's point of view.

When Jim overhears that he is about to be sold to a man in New Orleans, separated from his wife and daughter forever, he runs away until he can formulate a plan. Meanwhile, Huck has faked his own death to escape his violent father. As all readers of American literature know, thus begins the dangerous and transcendent journey by raft down the Mississippi River toward the elusive and unreliable promise of the Free States and beyond.

Brimming with the electrifying humor and lacerating observations that have made author Percival Everett a literary icon, this brilliant and tender novel radically illuminates Jim's agency, intelligence, and compassion as never before.



Duluth First United Methodist Church



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Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten
Office Phone: 770-497-1743