



# FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 26, 2026  
11:00 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 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.

## GATHERING

Chiming the Trinity

✠ Welcome, Greeting One Another

Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles  
*Associate Pastor*

Attendance Registration, Announcements

Voluntary | *Pomp and Circumstance March No.1* – Edward Elgar

Seoyoung Lee, *Organist*

✠ Call to Worship

Easter people, we gather to worship and to listen, to learn the sound, the feel, the cadence of the Shepherd's voice.

**We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.**

We gather to worship and to discern, to learn how to recognize our Shepherd's voice amidst the chaos and noise of our lives.

**We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.**

We gather to worship and to find shelter, to learn to trust our Shepherd's voice to guide us to safety and provide for us in all things.

**We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.**

Come, let us worship as we listen for the voice of Jesus who guides us, protects us, provides for us, and draws us together in community.

**We come to worship as the family of Christ, a flock seeking and following our Shepherd's voice. Amen.**

## PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

✠ Hymn 304 | *Easter People, Raise Your Voices* – REGENT SQUARE

✠ Affirmation of Faith | *The Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

✠ Response 70 | *Glory Be to the Father* – MEINEKE

Anthem | *I Know That My Redeemer Liveth* – G.F. Handel

Cheryl Greene, *Soloist*, Seoyoung Lee, *Pianist*

Ministry Moment | *Christian Beginnings*

Receiving God's Tithe and Our Offering

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Offertory | *Easter Introit from Messiah* – arr. SJMP

Chancel Choir  
Seoyoung Lee, *Organist*



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.



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

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise  
God, all crea-tures here be - low: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
lu - ia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise  
Je - sus Christ, whose power up - lifts! Praise the Spi - rit, Ho - ly  
Spi - rit! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## WORD & RESPONSE

Hymn | *Where Children Belong* – RITCHIE

This, this is where chil-dren be-long, wel-comed as part of the  
wor - ship - ping throng. Wa - ter, God's Word, bread and  
cup, prayer, and song: This is where chil-dren be - long.

✠ Scripture | John 14:1-14

Rev. Terry Tippens, *Senior Pastor*

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going.” <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you know me, you will know<sup>[d]</sup> my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

New Revised  
Standard Version,  
Updated Edition

<sup>8</sup>Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup>Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon | *Jesus is Preparing Our Home*

Hymn 536 | Precious Name – PRECIOUS NAME

Prayers of the People

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.**

Invitation to Christian Discipleship & Church Membership

# SENDING

☒ Hymn 318 | *Christ Is Alive* – TRURO

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:*  
John Smith  
James Dykes

*Audio/Visual Team:*  
Daniel Lee  
Lynn Ometer  
Bryan Johnson

*Usher Captains:*  
David Burleson  
Charlie Doerlich

*Flower Team:*  
Pam Logan

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

• • •

## CHANCEL FLOWERS

are given today to the glory of God

In memory of Bernard Robertson and Dirk DuToit  
with love from Sharon Robertson, Natalie and Jacques DuToit.

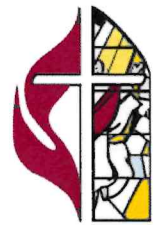
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# The Sunday Supplement



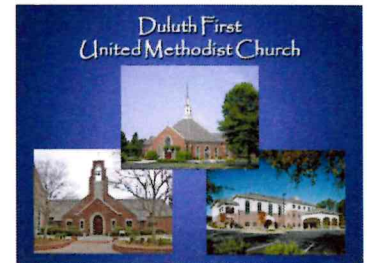
APRIL 26, 2026

## 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).

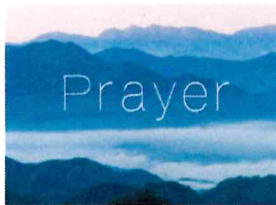
To join Duluth First United Methodist Church, please come forward as we sing the song that follows the Invitation to Church Membership.

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

- Sara Adams • Kathy Anderson • Jack Brannon • David Cook • Lorraine Day • Ann Fleming
- Rosemary Hall • John Hammons • Luke Livingston • Pam Logan • Dottie Moor
- Scott Parrish's mother, Kathleen • Ethel Sales • Jeff Schulz • Bill Swisher • Sharon Swisher • Dale VanPelt
- Betty Bluster & family in the death of her brother-in-law.
- Beth Hollstein & family in the death of her uncle.
- Deb Jackson & family in the death of her uncle.
- Tim Near & family in the death of his mother.
- The family of Mary Jo Southerland in her death.
- Joyce Upchurch & family in the death of her brother.



### **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).*



## Recognizing Our Graduates of 2026:

### Today, April 26<sup>th</sup>, Is the Final Day to Submit Photos and Information

If you have a student (or if you are the student) who is a member of Duluth First UMC and is graduating from high school, trade school, college, or graduate school, please send a picture of your student by e-mail to Ken Willi, Director of Communications, at [kwilli@duluthumc.org](mailto:kwilli@duluthumc.org) AND Rev. Min Lee, Director of Youth Ministries, at [mlee@duluthumc.org](mailto:mlee@duluthumc.org). Please put **Graduate Recognition 2026** in the subject field of your e-mail.

#### **Please be sure to include:**

- the graduate's name;
- the name of the school they are graduating from;
- their next step plans (i.e. college, military, trade school, graduate school, job).



**All pictures and information need to be received by the end of today, Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. PLEASE NOTE:** Youth-led Worship and Graduate Recognition Sunday in all three services is scheduled for Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Youth Ministry Sunday Night Gatherings for April

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.

The **Sunday Night Gathering** schedule for April is:

- **Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>:** Kickball Night with Level Creek UMC Youth Group, from 5:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Please meet at the following address for this event - 5160 Gladstone Parkway, Suwanee, 30024.



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.

# SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

## Entering the Church Buildings on Weekdays

To ensure a safe environment for our Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten students and staff, everyone is asked to use either of the Atrium entrances or the back entrance of the Sheldon Family Life Center from the rear parking lot, when coming to the church during school hours. Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten meets Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This will help maintain a safe and focused environment for our students.

We appreciate your cooperation in supporting our Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten weekday ministry at Duluth First UMC.

## Register Now for This Summer's Vacation Bible School: June 22<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>

Mark your calendars and save the date for "Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God" Vacation Bible School. Registration is underway for the 2026 Vacation Bible School, being held Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> through Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, at Duluth First United



Methodist Church. Vacation Bible School, held from 9 a.m. to noon each day, is for kids going into pre-Kindergarten (age 4 as of September 1<sup>st</sup>) through rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders. The cost is \$30 per child with a maximum of \$70 per family. Each day participants will participate in Bible story time, sing songs, play games, make crafts, and eat snacks.

In addition to registering participants, we are also registering adult and youth volunteers. We especially need shepherds, who are adult volunteers in charge of a group of 6-10 kids. Shepherds do not need to prepare anything in advance. They lead their group to the various activities where other volunteers are in charge. If you would like to help but are only available one or two days that week, you can put your

available dates on your registration. We often need substitute shepherds. Also, the Childcare Corner is available for the children of volunteers if you have a child who is not old enough to be a participant.

**Everyone who registers by May 24<sup>th</sup> is guaranteed a VBS t-shirt and copy of the music.** All Vacation Bible School participant registration forms, as well as volunteer forms, are available online at the church's website – [duluthumc.org](http://duluthumc.org), by scanning the QR code located to the right with your smartphone or tablet, or by going to [vbspro.events/p/42cb8a](https://vbspro.events/p/42cb8a).

For more information, please contact Leslie Yokeley, Director of Children's Ministries, by e-mail at [lyokeley@duluthumc.org](mailto:lyokeley@duluthumc.org), or call 770-476-3776, ext. 138.



## **Snack Items Needed for Duluth High School and Coleman Middle School**

### **Teacher and Staff Appreciation: Through Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

If you would like to show your support and appreciation for the teachers and staff at Duluth High School and Coleman Middle School, we can use your help. We will be delivering large snack baskets for the staff lounges at both schools during Teacher Appreciation Week, beginning Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Your donations of snack items will help make this possible. **We need individually wrapped candies, breakfast bars, peanut butter crackers, etc.** Collection spots for your donations will be located in The Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall and on the 1st floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center **until Sunday afternoon, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. David Burchett, Assistant Pastor, by e-mail at [dburchett@duluthumc.org](mailto:dburchett@duluthumc.org).

**Thank you for your help to ensure our local teachers and school staff feel seen and appreciated!**

### **Atlanta Botanical Garden Trip: Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>**

Join **The RoadRunners** on **Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>**, for a flower-filled day with a guided tour at the **Atlanta Botanical Gardens** with lunch to follow. The group will leave the church's back parking lot at 9:00 a.m.

The cost is \$40 per person and includes entry into the gardens, tour, and transportation via a 15-person van (please see notes below). The cost of lunch will be on your own.

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

- **In order to attend you must be able to get in and out of a 15-passenger van and be healthy enough to travel several hours by car.**
- **We must have a minimum of 12 people to sign up in order to rent a van, otherwise travel will be via caravan.**

To register please scan the QR code located to the right with your smart phone or tablet, or contact Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles by e-mail at [arawles@duluthumc.org](mailto:arawles@duluthumc.org).

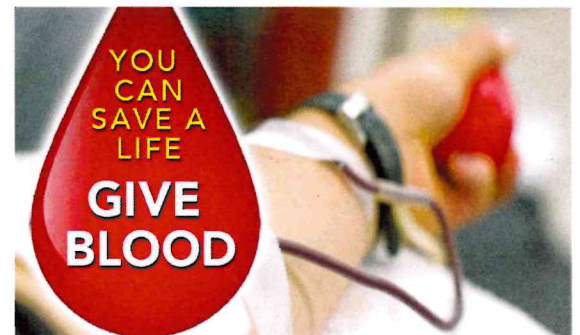


### **Donate Blood at Duluth First UMC: Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>**

The need for blood doesn't take a spring break! **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, May 13<sup>th</sup>, in the Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall.** Please consider donating blood as the Red Cross is experiencing the worst blood shortage in over a decade. To schedule an appointment:

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



## **Miracle Sunday: May 17<sup>th</sup>**

In 2025 The United Methodist Church launched a new vision statement - **“To love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously.”** As a result we, as United Methodists, are recommitting ourselves to supporting clergy and United Methodists around the world. John Wesley made education a core commitment of his Methodist movement going back to its earliest days. In 1748, just a decade after his heart-warming spiritual awakening, Wesley established the still-thriving Kingswood School to provide high-quality education to the children of coal miners, as well as adults.



**Love Boldly  
Serve Joyfully  
Lead Courageously**

*Uniting 30,000 congregations worldwide.*

So it makes sense that as the people called Methodist “spread scriptural holiness over the land,” they planted not only churches but also schools for all ages. Those campuses eventually came to include United Methodist seminaries and theological schools to educate clergy around the globe. But ensuring would-be pastors can pay for their education has long been a challenge — especially in Africa, the Philippines

and parts of Europe. While 71% of United Methodist clergy in the U.S. have a master’s degree or higher in theology, less than 5% of clergy in Africa, Europe and the Philippines can say the same.

That’s where **Miracle Sunday** comes in. The one-time offering is scheduled to take place in the denomination’s more than 30,000 congregations on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, the final Sunday of this year’s Easter season. The offering will raise funds for the **Endowment for Theological Education in Africa, Europe and the Philippines**. We will take this offering during all three worship services on May 17<sup>th</sup> and invite you to participate in this important mission of The United Methodist Church. This offering is in addition to your giving to the general fund.



# Duluth First United Methodist Church



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Website: [www.duluthumc.org](http://www.duluthumc.org)

Facebook: DuluthFirstUMC • Instagram: duluthfirstumc

## **Church Staff Directory**

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**Louise McDaniel Memorial  
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library@duluthumc.org

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