

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026
11:00 A.M.

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



ENTRANCE



For information about the ministries, mission, and activities of Duluth First UMC, please visit 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. Please see an usher or greeter for assistance.

Chiming the Trinity

✠ Welcome, Greeting One Another

Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles,
Associate Pastor

Attendance Registration, Announcements

Voluntary | *Light of a Clear Blue Morning* – arr. Wailin' Jennys

Clare & Kristin Shappert, Cheryl Greene, Judy Greene,
Eva Mayfield, Diane Near, Katie Jones, Verena Anders, *Vocalists*

✠ Call to Worship

How good it is when we gather in unity and love.

How beautiful is this body of Christ.

How good it is when we gather in mercy and grace.

How beautiful is the love we have come to share.

✠ Hymn 568 | *Christ for the World We Sing* – ITALIAN HYMN

✠ Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, Declaration of Forgiveness

God is our refuge and our strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore let us confess our sin.

Holy One, help us be still and know that you are God. Too often we move at such a hectic pace that we neglect our relationship with you. Our lives become full of distractions that are nothing but shifting sand. Restore and strengthen us, O God, to rebuild our lives on the foundation of your Word, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Friends, hear the promise of our faith: God hears us when we cry for help and shows us steadfast love. Therefore let your hearts take courage, for God is faithful to us and has redeemed us.

✠ Affirmation of Faith | *A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada*

We are not alone; we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

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

THANKSGIVING

Ministry Moment | *Trunk or Treat*

Receiving God's Tithe & Our Offering

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Offertory | *Show Us How to Love* – Mark Miller

Chancel Choir;

Stephen McLemore, *Soloist*; Susan Johnson, *Pianist*

✠ 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!



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 with your mobile device.



PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

Hymn | Where Children Belong - RITCHIE



Children's Message

Jackie Grube

✠ Scripture | Matthew 25:31-46

Rev. Terry Tippens, *Senior Pastor*

New Revised
Standard Version,
Updated Edition

³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' ⁴¹ Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

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

Sermon | *"As You Did it to the Least of These..."*

Hymn | *As a Fire Is Meant for Burning* (see insert)

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.

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

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

ALSO SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Acolyte & Cross Bearer:
Jasmine Gordon
Sarah Johnson

Audio/Visual Team:
Mark Wettlaufer
Lynne Ometter
Lee Castleberry

Usher Captains:
David Burleson
Charlie Doerlich

Flower Team:
James Dykes
Susan Johnson

Invitation to Christian Discipleship & Church Membership

SENDING FORTH

✠ Hymn 181 | *Ye Servants of God* – HANOVER

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 honor Michael Fuino for his birthday
from his wife, children, and grandchildren. You are loved so much!

• • •

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DULUTH FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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YouTube: DuluthFirstUMCWorship

Facebook: DuluthFirstUMC • Instagram: duluthfirstumc



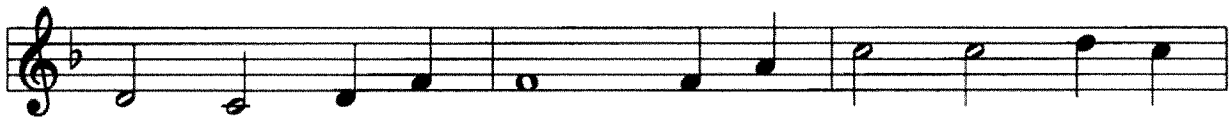
As a Fire Is Meant for Burning



1. As a fire is meant for burn - ing with a bright and warm-ing
2. We are learn - ers; we are teach - ers; we are pil - grims on the
3. As a green bud in the spring-time is a sign of life re -



flame, so the church is meant for mis - sion, giv - ing
 way. We are seek - ers; we are giv - ers; we are
 newed, so may we be signs of one - ness 'mid earth's



glo - ry to God's name. Not to preach our creeds or
 ves - sels made of clay. By our gen - tle, lov - ing
 peo - ples, man - y hues. As a rain - bow lights the



cus - toms, but to build a bridge of care, we join
 ac - tions we would show that Christ is light. In a
 heav - ens when a storm is past and gone, may our



hands a - cross the na - tions, find - ing neigh - bors ev - ery - where.
 hum - ble, lis - tening Spir - it we would live to God's de - light.
 lives re - flect the ra - diance of God's new and glo - rious dawn.

WORDS: Ruth Duck
 MUSIC: From *The Sacred Harp*, 1844
 Words © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.

BEACH SPRING
 87.87 D



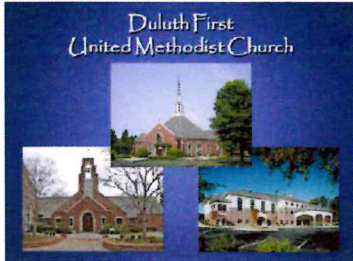
The Sunday Supplement



SEPTEMBER 20, 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



- Jean Adkins • Marty Bush • Madeline Ellis
- Ann Fleming • Sheryl Fowler • Lawrence Gibbs
- Shamain Hallett • Carol Hitchcock • Judy Lutz
- Polly Sanders • Marilyn Scheiwe • Jim Waid

- Jennifer Taylor & family in the death of her mother.
- Mike Stansbury & family in the death of his mother.



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.*



Wednesday Night Dinner in Hinton Hall: September 23rd

Join us for a time of food and fellowship around the table with family and friends at our Wednesday Night Dinners from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. in Hinton Hall, located on the 2nd floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center. Chef Kenny Lewis, our Food Ministry Manager, along with our very talented and dedicated Dinner Belles and Beaus volunteers, prepare excellent meals at very reasonable prices.



The menu for September 23rd is country fried steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, creamed corn, collard greens, biscuits, and dessert. For the kids – hamburgers and French fries.

Dinners are served from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in Hinton Hall, 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 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. Please note - menus are subject to change. Please visit the church's website - duluthumc.org - to view upcoming menus.

Youth Ministry Sunday Night Gatherings

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.

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

- **Sunday, September 20th: Sunday Night Gathering** at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, September 27th: Sunday Night Gathering** at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank").



If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Min Lee, Director of Youth Ministries, by e-mail at mlee@duluthmc.org, or call 770-476-3776, ext. 119.

Library Book Club to Discuss "Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine": Monday, September 21st

The **Library Book Club** will meet on Monday, September 21st, at 10:00 a.m. in room F145 (located on the 1st floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center) to discuss the month's book choice, **Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine** by Gail Honeyman.

Meet Eleanor Oliphant: She struggles with appropriate social skills and tends to say exactly what she's thinking. Nothing is missing in her carefully timetabled life of avoiding social interactions, where weekends are punctuated by frozen pizza and phone chats with Mummy.

But everything changes when Eleanor meets Raymond, the bumbling and deeply unhygienic IT guy from her office. When she and Raymond together save Sammy, an elderly gentleman who has fallen on the sidewalk, the three become the kinds of friends who rescue one another from the lives of isolation they have each been living. And it is Raymond's big heart that will ultimately help Eleanor find the way to repair her own profoundly damaged one.

43rd Annual Duluth Fall Festival: September 26th & 27th

Mark your calendars and save the dates for the **43rd Annual Duluth Fall Festival** being held Saturday, September 26th, and Sunday, September 27th. Duluth First United Methodist Church and its congregation take an active roll in the **Fall Festival** each year.



The **Fall Festival** kicks off on Saturday, September 26th, with a parade through downtown beginning at 10 a.m.

On Sunday, September 27th, the **Duluth 5K Donut Dash** race, a qualifier for the Peachtree Road Race, starts at 8 a.m. The race attracts both the serious competitive racer and the occasional runner/walker, and provides an opportunity for participants of all ages to help this year's race beneficiary, **Wellroot**

Family Services, supporting their vision of a world where every child is raised in a loving, compassionate, and nurturing home. For additional information about **Wellroot Family Services**, please visit their website at www.wellroot.org. To sign up for the **Duluth Donut Dash**, please go to www.duluthdonutdash5k.org.

Join us for **Worship on the Town Green** on Sunday, September 27th, with a community worship service beginning at 10 a.m. at the Duluth Town Green. Duluth First United Methodist Church's Rev. David Burchett will be leading the morning's worship service, with the church's Contemporary Worship Praise Team leading the worship music.



PLEASE NOTE:

- On September 27th, our Contemporary Worship Service will take place at Duluth Town Green for the **Duluth Fall Festival's Worship on the Town Green** with Rev. David Burchett preaching.
- The 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship services and **WILL MEET** in the Sanctuary with Rev. C. Kay Fuino preaching.
- Sunday school classes for children and youth will not be held on September 27th.

For additional information about the **Duluth Fall Festival**, please visit duluthfallfestival.org.

Wednesday Night Food Drives

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.

Items needed during the month of September are:

- September 23rd: tuna fish;
- September 30th: cans of mixed veggies.

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!

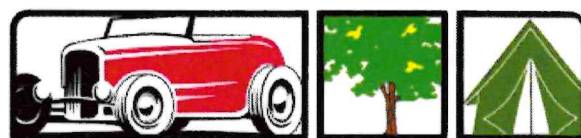


BSA Troop 419's 10th Annual "Cars for Campouts" Classic Car Show, Cruise In, and BBQ: **Saturday, October 3rd**

BSA Troop 419 will hold their **10th Annual "Cars for Campouts" Fundraiser Car Show, Cruise In, and BBQ** on Saturday, October 3rd, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the church's front parking lot. If you have a special vehicle (all years, makes, models) – muscle cars, classics, resto-mods, exotics, bikes, and one-offs – please bring it and participate.

Preregistration by October 2nd is \$20, and registration on the day of the show is \$25. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/carsforcampouts2026>. Sixty participant-judged awards will be presented. If you just want to see some cool vehicles, feel free to attend as admission for spectators is free.

Food and beverages will be available. Enjoy great food, hot dogs, pulled pork BBQ (available on-site or for take home), snacks and beverages.



CARS FOR CAMPOUTS

If you have any questions, please send an e-mail to carshow@bsatrop419.org, or call Mike Ringham at 770-815-4206. All proceeds from the event help make **BSA Troop 419's** program one of the best in the council, and with your support, will continue to do so.

Missions Ministry Fundraiser - Cinnamon Rolls: Sunday, October 4th

The **Missions Ministry** is having a delicious fundraiser on **Sunday, October 4th, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** in The Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall. We invite you to come help support Duluth First UMC in being the hands and feet of Christ in our community by stopping and enjoying some hot, delicious cinnamon rolls.

Cinnamon rolls will be \$5 each, and donations are always accepted. All proceeds will go toward supporting our local mission efforts which our general giving goes towards in the Duluth/Gwinnett County areas, such as the Hands of Christ Duluth Co-Op, the Duluth Care Team, Rainbow Village, Family Promise, and others. **Thank you for your support!**



Join Us for Our Annual Trunk or Treat: Sunday, October 25th

Bring your friends and family to our **Trunk or Treat** event on Sunday, October 25th, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the church's front parking lot. Come in costume, park your car, and pop the trunk! Volunteers are needed to host a trunk at **Trunk or Treat** as we welcome our community to Duluth First UMC for an afternoon of fun. We hope to have at least 35 trunks and YOU can be one! Decorate and/or have a game at your trunk for the opportunity to win the soon to be coveted Golden Pumpkin prize! **Set-up time begins at 3:30 p.m. and trick-or-treating begins at 4:00 p.m.**

Volunteers are also needed to help with set up, refill candy, run carnival games, and clean up. You sign can sign up to reserve a trunk space and/or to volunteer by scanning the QR code located to the right with your smart phone or tablet.

Candy donations (bags of individually wrapped candies) are needed for **Trunk or Treat**. Drop off any candy starting Thursday, October 1st, in the **Trunk or Treat** bins located around the church. You can help us be sure we have enough to share with our community!

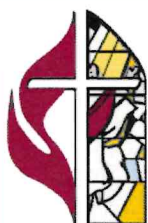
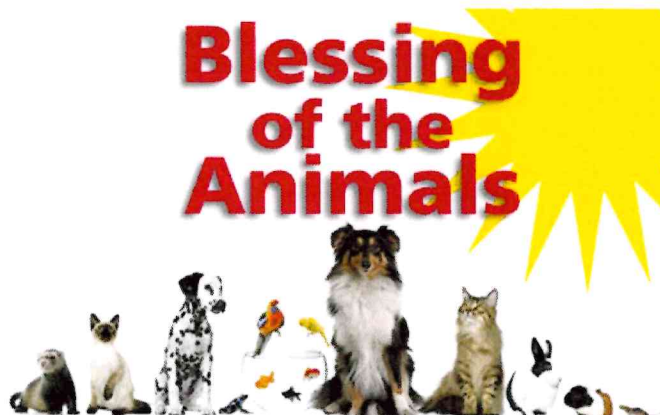
Please contact Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles by e-mail at arawles@duluthumc.org or call 770-476-3776, ext. 128, with any questions.



"Blessing of the Animals" Service: Sunday, October 4th

Bring your pets for our "Blessing of the Animals" service on Sunday, October 4th, at 3:00 p.m. on the Fellowship Terrace, located in front of the Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall. We will gather for a short service and offer a blessing for each animal individually. All friendly leashed, crated, or contained animals are welcome! Your pet not interested in being with other animals? Bring a photo or a special toy to have blessed!

In case of rain the service will be held under the rear portico entrance of the Sheldon Family Life Center. Please contact Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles by e-mail at arawles@duluthumc.org with any questions.



Duluth First United Methodist Church



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Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten

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