

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 4, 2026
11:00 A.M.

✠ 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.



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.



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

ENTRANCE

Chiming the Trinity

✠ Welcome, Greeting One Another Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles, *Liturgist*

Attendance Registration, Announcements

Voluntary | *Sweet By and By* - J. P. Webster Pat & Larry Burden,
Tim & Diane Near, Debbie & Dennis Patterson, Will Mason, *Musicians*

✠ Call to Worship

From north and south, from east and west, we come:
people called to the Table where simple grace nourishes us.
From down the street to across the globe, in grand cathedrals and
quiet house churches, we gather.

**God's people are called to community, where we live and serve
one another.**

From every class, every race, every status, and every nation, we are
bound together in the Spirit.

**As God's people we seek to increase our faith, to offer peace to a
shattered world, to feast together at one table of love, for we are
one body in Christ. Amen.**

PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

✠ Hymn 400 | *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* – NETTLETON

✠ 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.

✠ 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.

Ministry Moment | *Aldersgate Homes*

Receiving God's Tithe & Our Offering

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Offertory | *We Are One* – Laura Farnell

Chancel Choir;
Susan Johnson, *Pianist*

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

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

WORD & RESPONSE

First Reading | First Corinthians 12:12-13

Bill McLees - *Haitian-Creole*,

James Lee - *Korean*; Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles - *English*

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.



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.



New Revised
Standard Version,
Updated Edition

¹ Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ² Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge, ³ but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴ Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵ Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords— ⁶ yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷ It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸ “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat and no better off if we do. ⁹ But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰ For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹ So by your knowledge the weak brother or sister for whom Christ died is destroyed. ¹² But when you thus sin against brothers and sisters and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.

¹³ Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never again eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon | *Love > Knowledge*

Musical Offering | *For Everyone Born* – Brian Mann

(Congregation is invited to join in on the refrain found on the insert.)

✠ 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 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.

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:

Gus Wolfe
Caroline Atkinson

Audio/Visual Team:

Mark Wettlaufer
Lynne Ometer
Lee Castleberry

Usher Captains:

David Burleson
Charlie Doerlich

Communion Servers:

Susan Baker
Donna Clark
Ann Fleming
Jan Jones
Linda Loose
Herb Ricks
Ramona Ricks
Ardie Sudduth
Barbara Whitlock

Invitation to Christian Discipleship & Church Membership

SENDING

✠ Hymn 548 | *In Christ There Is No East or West* – McKEE

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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DULUTH FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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YouTube: [DuluthFirstUMCWorship](https://www.youtube.com/DuluthFirstUMCWorship)

Facebook: [DuluthFirstUMC](https://www.facebook.com/DuluthFirstUMC) • Instagram: [duluthfirstumc](https://www.instagram.com/duluthfirstumc)



Musical Offering | *For Everyone Born* – Brian Mann

(Congregation is invited to join in on the refrain below.)

Refrain



and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and



joy, com-pas - sion and peace: yes,



God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,



jus-tice and joy!



The Sunday Supplement



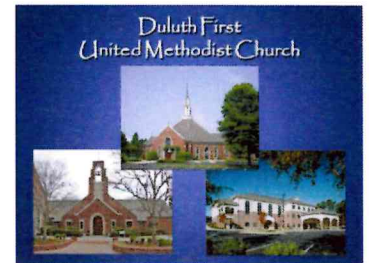
OCTOBER 4, 2026

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.

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 • Ann Fleming
- Lawrence Gibbs • Shamain Hallett • Linton Jones
- Judy Lutz • tia Lynn • Marilyn Scheiwe
- Jim Waid • Christy Wolfe



OVERWHELMED AND STRUGGLING?

There's Stephen Ministry.

Request a Stephen Minister to help you
find hope and healing.

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.



This Morning's Communion Offering: Aldersgate Homes

Any gifts left on the altar rail or communion table will go toward this morning's communion offering for **Aldersgate Homes**.



Aldersgate Homes, a related agency of the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church, is an organization in North Georgia dedicated to serving the disabilities community through advocacy, learning opportunities, retreats and recreation. Through their many ministries, they work with churches and individuals to help support those with disabilities and to create a community where people of all abilities are welcome. **Aldersgate** also operates **Camp Collinswood**, a universally accessible recreational and retreat facility on beautiful

Lake Oconee, which accommodates persons of all abilities. For additional information, please visit their website at www.aldersgatehomes.org.

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



Missions Ministry Fundraiser - Cinnamon Rolls: Today!

The **Missions Ministry** is having a delicious fundraiser **today 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!**



"Blessing of the Animals" Service: This Afternoon!

Bring your pets for our **"Blessing of the Animals"** service this afternoon 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.



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 October is:

- **Sunday, October 4th:** **Sunday Night Gathering** at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, October 11th:** **Sunday Night Gathering** at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, October 18th:** Packing Thanksgiving boxes for the Hands of Christ Duluth Co-op at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- **Sunday, October 25th:** **Trunk or Treat** from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the front of the church.



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. 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.

Wednesday Night Dinner in Hinton Hall: October 7th

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 October 7th is **Chicken Parmesan, spaghetti noodles, Italian green beans, roasted zucchini and squash, garlic bread, and dessert. For the kids - spaghetti and meat sauce.** 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.

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 October are:

- October 7th: peanut butter and jelly;
- October 14th: boxes of spaghetti and pasta;
- October 21st: canned fruit;
- October 28th: canned peas.



Please leave your donated food items on the **Food Drive** table 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!

Youth Fall Retreat is November 6th - 8th; Register by Sunday, October 11th

We are excited to participate in **The Rooted Retreat** (North Georgia UMC Conference Retreat) hosted by the Glisson Camp and Retreat Center, from Friday, November 6th through Sunday, November 8th, for our youth fall retreat! It will be an incredible weekend with powerful worship experiences, dedicated youth group time, fun activities, and food and lodging at Glisson Camp and Retreat Center. We are looking forward to a meaningful and fun fall retreat together.

Information for the Rooted Fall Retreat is:

- **Dates:** Friday, November 6th - Sunday, November 8th;
- **Location:** Glisson Camp and Retreat Center (690 Camp Glisson Rd., Dahlonega, GA 30533)
- **Cost: \$195 per student** (You can pay in cash, check, or online). We want every student to be able to attend—scholarships are available if needed.
- **Registration Deadline: Sunday, October 11th.**
- **Camp Glisson Website: <https://glisson.org>.**



To register, please scan the QR code located to the right with your smartphone or tablet. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Min Lee, Director of Youth Ministries, by e-mail at mlee@duluthumc.org.

Library Book Club to Discuss “The Frozen River” by Ariel Lawhon”: Monday, October 19th

The **Library Book Club** will meet on Monday, October 19th, 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, **The Frozen River** by Ariel Lawhon.

The Frozen River is a gripping historical mystery based on the real-life diary entries of Martha Ballard, an 18th-century midwife who found herself at the center of a murder trial. Maine, 1789: When the Kennebec River freezes, entombing a man in the ice, Martha Ballard is summoned to examine the body and determine cause of death. As a midwife and healer, she is privy to much of what goes on behind closed doors in Hallowell. Her diary is a record of every birth and death, crime and debacle that unfolds in the close-knit community.

Clever, layered, and subversive, Ariel Lawhon's newest offering introduces an unsung heroine who refused to accept anything less than justice at a time when women were considered best seen and not heard. **The Frozen River** is a thrilling, tense, and tender story about a remarkable woman who left an unparalleled legacy yet remains nearly forgotten to this day.

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 front of the church. 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.

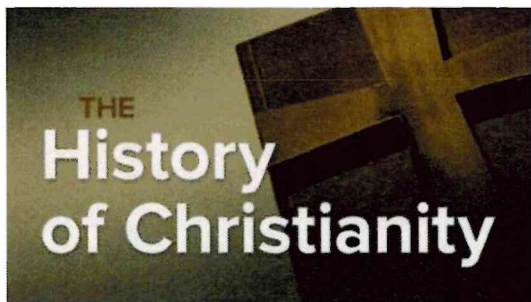
Candy donations (bags of individually wrapped candies) are needed for **Trunk or Treat**. Drop off any candy starting Thursday, October 1st, in the **Trunk or Treat** bins located around the church. You can help us be sure we have enough to share with our community!

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



"The History of Christianity" Class Begins October 20th and 21st

A new adult class, **The History of Christianity from the Reign of Theodosius to the Dawn of the Reformation**, will be held on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday evenings beginning October 20th, and October 21st. You are invited to attend whichever day



works best for your schedule. The class will last 22 weeks, concluding near the end of March. Each class session will last 1.5 hours and will include a 30-minute lecture by Dr. Luke Timothy Johnson, Professor Emeritus at Candler School of Theology, Emory University, followed by one hour of discussion.

Some of the lectures include Expansion Beyond the Roman Empire, the Rise of Islam, the East-West Split, The Crusades, the Great Plague, and many others. Participants will encounter a thorough grounding in the development of Christianity for its first 1,500 years.

The Tuesday morning class will begin at 10 a.m. in room F153 and the Wednesday evening class will begin at 5:45 p.m. in room F145. Both rooms are located on the 1st floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center. Pete Fleming, our church historian, will lead the class. No books are required, although Pete will introduce a comprehensive bibliography throughout the series, and he will also provide articles from various authors on related subjects from time to time.

People wishing to participate in the **The History of Christianity** class should contact Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles by e-mail at arawles@duluthumc.org, or Pete Fleming by e-mail at lfleming3832@att.net.



Duluth First United Methodist Church



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