

YOU  
BELONG  
here

**\*Please stand if you are able**  
UMH is United Methodist Hymnal (red book)  
TFWS is The Faith We Sing (black book)

## Welcome/Brief Announcements

### Call to Worship (*responsive*):

Leader: Praise the Lord! Happy are those who delight in the Lord!

**All: We come to this place, where generations before us have gathered.**

L: Here we remember the light of God that shines in our lives.

**A: Here we allow God's light to shine through us.**

L: Let us worship our radiant God.

**A: Praise the Lord! Happy are those who delight in the Lord!**

### Opening Prayer (*in unison*):

**All: Amazing God, you have gathered us from many places to come together and praise you this day. For this we are grateful! As we worship today, may our minds be opened to learn your wisdom. May our eyes be opened to places that need healing. May our hands be opened to do your good work. May our hearts be opened to your Holy Spirit, who gifts us and guides us. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.**

### \*Opening Hymn (on screen)

*Great I Am*  
by New Life Worship

## Joys & Concerns with Pastoral Prayer

### Tithes & Offerings with Offertory

*Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child*  
arr. Anna Laura Page  
. . . . *A long way from home . . .*

### \*The Doxology (on screen)

*Lord of All Good*

## Children's Time

## Choir Anthem

## Scripture

Isaiah 58:1-12

Hymn TFWS 2261

*Life-giving Bread*

## Message

*Social Holiness*

### Prayer of Confession (*in unison*):

**All: Merciful God, forgive us when we ignore you or your lessons for our lives. Forgive us for allowing oppression and discord to flourish. Forgive us for not feeding those who are hungry. Forgive us for not providing shelter to those who have no place to lay down at night. Forgive us for not repairing the broken places in our community. O Lord, forgive us and then help us do your work of bringing about justice and healing. Shine your light through us, so that all may come to know your abundant love. Amen.**

## Holy Communion

UMH pg. 13

Sing along as you come for Communion: *Holy Forever* by Chris Tomlin

### \*Hymn TFWS 2153

*I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

### \*Benediction/\*Postlude

*He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*  
arr. Eric Lewis

*He's got everybody here in his hands. . . .*  
*He's got the whole world in his hands.*

*Has God laid something on your heart?  
Write it down so you don't forget to take it into your week!*

*Tell someone you didn't come in with that you love them  
and that you're glad they're here!*

**Meet Jesus ~ Follow Jesus ~ Serve Jesus  
Love Boldly ~ Serve Joyfully ~ Lead Courageously**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS/IMPORTANT NOTES

**Welcome!** We're so glad you are here worshipping with us today! Children are *always* welcome to stay and participate in worship. The nursery is open and located in the corner of the fellowship hall. If this is your first time with us, please fill out a Welcome Card and place in the offering plate. We Livestream our services each Sunday. You can find these services on our church Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/1stUMCGouv/](http://www.facebook.com/1stUMCGouv/)

-**RIP IT**- Free exercise group. Check FB group for updates.

-**Bible Studies**- Wednesdays **10am** in Rm 103 (Acts), Thursdays at **7pm**.

-**"Promises in the Dark"**- book study **Mondays** at One More Chapter Book Store, **7-8:30 pm**. Please see Don for more information.

-**Ash Wednesday; Lent Begins- Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>**

-**"Ashes for Early Birds" 6:30-9am**, stop by Brown Chapel if you would like to receive ashes to start your day!

-Service at **7pm** in Brown Chapel.

**Read ahead for next Sunday:**

**2 Peter 1:16-21**



*The Offertory and Postlude are from our rich body of music from the African American spiritual tradition in recognition of Black History month.*

**Bishop: Rev. Héctor A. Burgos**

**District Superintendent: Rev. Yohang Chun**

**Pastor: Benjamin Lalka** [pastorbenlalka@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbenlalka@gmail.com)

**Pastor Office hours: Tues.-Fri. 9am-1pm Day of Rest: Mondays**

**Admin Asst.: Amy Franco** [FirstUMCGouverneur@gmail.com](mailto:FirstUMCGouverneur@gmail.com)

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**34 Grove St. Gouverneur, NY 13642**

**BE THE CHURCH**  
*Protect the environment.*  
**Care for the poor.**  
**FORGIVE OFTEN.**  
**REJECT RACISM.**  
*Fight for the powerless.*  
*Share earthly and spiritual resources.*  
**EMBRACE DIVERSITY.**  
**LOVE GOD.**  
**Enjoy this life.**

**First United Methodist Church  
of Gouverneur**

**Pastor Benjamin Lalka**

**Choir Director: Don Schuessler**

**Organist: Glenda Schuessler**

**February 8, 2026**

