You Belong Here

***Please stand if you are able**
UMH is **U**nited **M**ethodist **H**ymnal (red book)
TFWS is **T**he **F**aith **W**e **S**ing (black book)

Welcome to Worship

Hospitality Mission Statement: *(unison)*

All: Welcome to First United Methodist Church of Gouverneur. We celebrate the diversity of God's people and believe everyone deserves love and acceptance. All are welcome here, regardless of background, beliefs, or perspective. Together, we seek to create a safe and nurturing community guided by the light of Christ as we worship, learn, and grow.

***Prelude and Announcements**
Blessed are the Peacemakers Tom Birchwood
Happy are people who make peace,
because they will be called God's children.
Matt 6:9 (CEB)

***Call to Worship** (responsive*)*
Worship Leader: Jesus calls us to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind.
Congregation: We come ready to worship and offer our lives to God.
WL: Jesus calls us to love our neighbors as ourselves.
C: We come ready to welcome, care, and serve.
WL: God's love is given freely and generously.
C: May our lives become a blessing to others.
All: We will meet Jesus, follow Jesus, and serve Jesus. Amen.

Celebrating Joys, Blessings, and God Sightings

Opening Prayer (in unison)

***Opening Hymn UMH 92** *For the Beauty of the Earth*

Today's Word and Prayer

Scripture Thessalonians 2:1–8 NRSVue

Young Disciples Message and Prayer

***Hymn of Preparation (on screen)** *I am a Child of God* - Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

***Gospel Lesson** Matthew 22:34–46

Message *Love Is the Heart of Stewardship*

Musical Response UMH 549 v. 1
Where Charity and Love Prevail

Prayer Offerings

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Stewardship Moment Nick Ormasen

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Anthem

***The Doxology UMH 587** *Bless Thou the Gifts*

***Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving**
Gracious God, We offer these gifts in gratitude for your love. Bless them and use them to care for our neighbors, strengthen our church's ministry, and share the hope of Christ. May our whole lives reflect your love. Amen.

***Sending Forth in Mission**

***Sending Forth Hymn (on screen)**
God Whose Love is Always Stronger - Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

***Benediction**

***Postlude** Blessed Jesus, at Your Word J.S. Bach/J. R. Ahle/Lyndell Leatherman
Blessed Jesus, at your word we have gathered all to hear you.
Let our hearts and souls be stirred now
to seek and love and fear you.
By your gospel pure and holy, teach us, Lord, to love you solely.

United Methodist Vision Statement

The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ, who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/IMPORTANT NOTES:

Welcome! We're so glad you are here worshiping 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 church Facebook page: www.facebook.com/1stUMCGouv/

Bible Study- Wednesdays at 10am
RIP IT- Free exercise group. Check FB group or contact Amber Ormasen for updates.

-Monday, Oct. 26th - Book/Bible Study 6:30-8pm **at the library**.The Return of the Prodigal Son by Henri Nouwen.
- Sat. Oct. 31, 10am-12pm - Annual Charge Conference at FUMC
- Sun. Nov. 1 - All Saints Sunday- Submit names by 10/27
-Sat., Nov. 7 - Craft Show 10am-3pm - If you can donate soup, contact Martha B. or Connie L. If you can donate Bake Sale items, contact Pat.

Read ahead for next week: 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1–12

Bishop: Rev. Héctor A. Burgos
District Superintendent: Rev. Yohang Chun
Pastor Kevin R. Kitto email: pastorkevinrkitto@gmail.
call/text 315-771-1653
Pastor Office hours: T-Th, 10am-1pm Day of Rest: Monday
Admin. Asst: Bridgette LaPierre FirstUMCGouverneur@gmail.com
Office hours: Mon.-Fri. 9am-1pm Office phone: (315) 287-2440
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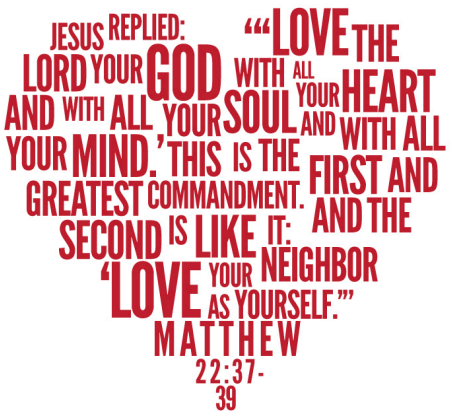

First United Methodist Church of Gouverneur

Mission: "Meet Jesus, Follow Jesus, Serve Jesus"

Worship Pastor: Pastor Kevin R. Kitto

Lector: Peter Parrish
Organist: Glenda Schuessler

Sermon Series: Blessed to Be a Blessing
Service Title: Faithful Love: "Love God, Love Your Neighbor"
Theme: Stewardship begins with love. We offer our lives to God by loving our neighbors with sincerity, tenderness, and care.

October 25, 2026
11am