

## Order of Worship for August 3, 2025

🎵 Gathering Music

Call to Worship

🎵 Opening Music

Welcome

Story for All Ages

🎵 Special Music

Scripture Reading:  
Psalm 145; Matthew 6:25-34

Message: Trust

🎵 Music

Blessing of Animals

🎵 Music

Prayer

🎵 Music

Blessing



**Devotionals for our SUMMER DAYS  
sermon series are available!**



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**Office Hours**  
Monday -Thursday  
8:00am - 2pm

# Welcome

We are  
**LOVE**  
**FIRST**

## We are glad you are here!

### OUR STATEMENT OF INCLUSION:

As people who follow Jesus by putting love first, we celebrate the diversity of God's creation. We honor and affirm the sacred worth of persons of every age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental capacity, education, economic means, marital status, and faith story.

### OUR MISSION:

The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

The further mission of First United Methodist Church is to create and build inclusive Christian community through INVITING, FORMING and SENDING faithful, active disciples of Jesus Christ.

**Each Sunday there is a fellowship time with coffee,  
lemonade and treats after worship.  
Turn left as you leave the sanctuary!**





# New with us?

*We hope the following information will be helpful to you!*

**Accessibility:** Portable amplification/listening devices are available in the lefthand (southeast) back corner of the Sanctuary at the Sound Booth. The entire building is on one level, and all areas are accessible. If you have accessibility needs, we want to make sure you feel welcome and safe! Please contact [fumc@fumcscr.org](mailto:fumc@fumcscr.org) and one of our staff members will work with you.

**Communion:** In the United Methodist Church, Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday each month at an open table. This means that everyone who wants to come and receive communion is welcome to do so. You do not have to be a member of the church or a United Methodist. All are welcome to receive God's grace through the bread and juice. If you are unable to come forward to receive the elements, please inform an usher. Home visitation Communion is available.

**Single-stall Restrooms:** Are available through the double doors at the end of the hall on either side of the hallway in the Education Wing.

**Offering:** During this time we encourage everyone, member and guest, to return their Connect Card with as much contact information and prayer requests filled in as you are comfortable with providing. Members may also take this time to give of their tithes and offerings if they haven't taken advantage of online options.

*Learn more at [www.lovefirstumc.org](http://www.lovefirstumc.org)*

## Children & Youth

Nursery for ages 6 weeks - 5 years: available Sunday mornings until 11:30am



# LOVE FIRST

## SAVE THE DATE!

FOR LOVE FIRST'S

## ECO CAMP

FOR EXPLORERS OF ALL AGES!

**EVENINGS of Aug 11, 12 & 13**



REGISTER TODAY!

# Get Involved:

*Please feel welcome to join in any opportunity you see!*

**Sunset Labyrinth Worship**  
**Tuesday, August 19th at 8:00pm**  
*Weather plan is to move inside to the library.*

**Caregivers Support Group**  
**1st & 3rd Wednesdays each month at 7pm via Zoom**  
Join us for a twice-monthly virtual support group to reduce isolation, normalize hardships & affirm those of us who care for elderly, ill, or loved ones with extra needs. Our group is facilitated by experienced caregivers. New participants must pre-register at: [caregivers@fumcscr.org](mailto:caregivers@fumcscr.org)

**Big Questions, No Answers**  
**2nd Monday at 10am in church library**  
Big Questions consists of a group of adults who share and discuss hard things in a spirit of trust and mutual respect.

**August's topic:** Why did God grant us free will?

**The Well**  
**2nd and 4th Mondays at 5:30pm at church**  
This group meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. Join them for a time of community sharing and reading of *The Upside Down Kingdom* by Chris Castaldo..

**Bible 365 Fridays at 10am - 8/8 Acts 7**  
Meets via Zoom to discuss the week's readings. It The group is participating in the Dakotas-MN Area study of Luke-Acts for 2025. Contact the church office for the Zoom link and materials.

**Conversations on Grief**  
**2nd Sunday each month after worship**  
This informal discussion group **now meets in the Ed Wing (first classroom on the right)** to share stories of grief in all its many forms.

YOUTH GROUP TRIP TO

# VALLEY FAIR

MON, AUG 25

**SPECIAL RATE!**  
\$30 PER PERSON

INVITED: Youth entering 6th grade through graduating seniors

RSVP & Pay Amanda by August 11th!



**August 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**our worship focus will be SING!**

Turn in your hymn or song requests by August 10<sup>th</sup> on a Connect Card or online at [lovefirstumc.org/hymn](http://lovefirstumc.org/hymn)

# LOVE FIRST

United Methodist Church of the St Cloud Region

## VISIONING TEAM

Share your own ideas and hopes.

Offer feedback and help discern next priorities.

Hear about what visions and themes have emerged so far.

## LISTENING SESSION

AUGUST 24<sup>TH</sup> AFTER WORSHIP



**PRAYER VIGIL FOR  
OUR ST. CLOUD IMMIGRANT  
COMMUNITY AUG. 15<sup>TH</sup>**



August 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM, Grace United Methodist Church  
2615 Clearwater Road, St Cloud, MN

mygracechurch@gmail.com

Are you interested in helping me to plan a series of social & theological discussion topics for Sunday mornings for the coming year? Are you intellectually curious and or worried about the world we live in? Are there certain issues you wish to learn more about? If so, please contact me at [kbiesjaede@hotmail.com](mailto:kbiesjaede@hotmail.com). My goal is to offer something starting in October. Thanks, Kathy Bies-Jaede

**Love First  
Source  
Qoffee Break**

**SPLASHY ALL-AGES FUN WITH  
GRILLING AND BRICK OVEN PIZZA!  
BRING A SWIMSUIT AND TOWEL  
TO PLAY WITH WATER OR JUST CHILL  
WITH AWESOME QUEER FOLKS AND  
THEIR FRIENDS. VEGAN/GLUTEN-FREE  
FOOD WILL BE AVAILABLE.**

**BIG SPLASH  
BBQ POTLUCK!**




**AUGUST 26TH, 5:30PM  
1107 PINE CONE RD S,  
SARTELL, MN 56377**

**RSVP TO VAS WITH YOUR POTLUCK  
ITEM AND DIETARY RESTRICTIONS.  
PLEASE INCLUDE INGREDIENTS LIST.  
(320) 492 0475 - TEXT PREFERRED  
QSOURCE@FUMGSGR.ORG**

**Love First  
Source  
Qoffee Break**

Join us on August 24th, 2025 at First United Methodist Church, after church service during fellowship hour (around 10:30am). 2SLGBTQIA+ community, events calendar, social time, coloring pages and family-friendly relaxation. We will have sign-up sheets for opportunities to volunteer during St Cloud Pride.

Handouts available for allyship-building education.



**CON COMM \***  
COMING . . . with CHOICES

October-December OR  
January-March  
Daytime OR Evening

Every Other Week for  
Six 2-Hour Sessions  
including  
Two 1:1 Spiritual Direction Sessions

**Stay tuned . . .**

**\*A Contemplative Community for  
Spiritual Transformation**

This unique experience is designed to guide individuals on a path of self-discovery and spiritual deepening through a variety of contemplative practices. Participants will have the opportunity to explore various prayers and other meditative practices that foster a deeper connection with self, body, and the divine.

🎵 **Gathering Music** “God Will Take Care of You”  
arr. by Dennis Alexander © 1994 by Alfred Publishing Co. Used with permission under OneLicense #A-704234. All rights reserved.

**Call to Worship**  
... “How many mysteries have you seen in your lifetime?  
How many nets pulled full over the boat’s side, each silver body  
Ready or not falling into  
Submission? How many roses in early summer  
Uncurling above the pale sands then  
Falling back into unfathomable  
Willingness?  
And what can you say?  
**Glory**

To the rose and the leaf, to the seed, to the silver fish.  
Glory to time and the wild fields,  
And to joy. And to grief’s shock and torpor, its near swoon.

And what can you say?  
**Glory**

So it’s not hard to understand  
Where God’s body is, it is  
Everywhere and everything; shore and the vast  
Fields of water, the accidental and the intended  
Over here, over there. And I bow down  
to participate and attentive...

And what can you say?  
**Glory!**

—by Mary Oliver from her poem,  
“On Thy Wondrous Works will I Meditate”





## 🎵 **Opening Music** Let All Things Now Living

Text: Katherine K. Davis © 1939, 1966, E.C. Schirmer Music Co. Used with permission under OneLicense #A-704234. All rights reserved. Tune: THE ASH GROVE, Traditional Welsh melody © public domain.

*Please rise (in body or spirit) as we sing together.*

**Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,  
Who fashioned and made us,  
Protected and stayed us,  
Who guides us and leads to the end of our days.  
God’s banners fly o’er us; God’s light goes before us,  
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,  
As forward we travel from light into light.**

**The law God enforces, the stars in their courses  
And sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
The hills and the mountains,  
The rivers and fountains,  
The deeps of the oceans proclaim the Divine.  
We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing;  
With glad adoration a song let us raise,  
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:  
To God in the highest hosanna and praise!**

**Welcome**

**Story for All Ages**



## **Blessing**

“On Thy Wondrous Works I Will Meditate (Psalm 145)” stanzas 8  
- Mary Oliver

Every morning I want to kneel down on the golden  
cloth of the sand and say  
some kind of musical thanks for  
the world that is happening again—another day—  
from the shawl of wind coming out of the  
west to the firm green

flesh of the melon lately sliced open and  
eaten, its chill and ample body  
flavored with mercy. I want  
to be worthy—of what? Glory? Yes, unimaginable glory.  
O Lord of melons, of mercy, though I am  
not ready, nor worthy, I am climbing toward you.





🎵 **Music** “O God Your Creatures Fill the Earth”

TUNE: ELLACOMBE © public domain. Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette © 2011 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*Please rise (in body or spirit) as we sing together.*

**O God, your creatures fill the earth with wonder and delight,  
And every living thing has worth and beauty in your sight.  
So playful dolphins dance and swim; your sheep bow down and graze.**

**Your songbirds share a morning hymn to offer you their praise.**

**You made the pets we welcome in- they're wondrous blessings,  
too.**

**With paws and whiskers, wings and fins, they offer praise to  
you.**

**O Lord, you call us to embrace these creatures in our care.  
May we show kindness, love and grace to all pets everywhere.**

**You made the creatures on each farm; you know the things they  
need.**

**May they grow healthy, safe from harm, and safe from human  
greed.**

**Just as a shepherd loves the sheep, you know their joy, their  
pain.**

**Lord, bless the animals we keep; may all farms be humane.**

**Your creatures live in every land; they fill the sky and sea.**

**O Lord, you give us your command to love them tenderly.**

**We're called to have dominion here--to care for them always.**

**By loving creatures you hold dear, we offer you our praise.**

🎵 **Special Music**

**God the Great I AM**

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Two by Two Ministries and Spirit & Song®, a  
division of OCP. Used with permission under  
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*Maker of the heavens,  
God the Great I AM!  
Mountains and the valleys,  
God the Great I AM!  
Rivers and the oceans,  
God the Great I AM!  
All creation sings your praise,  
God the Great I AM!  
Sing glory! Sing glory!*

*You are the Lord of Light,  
the one we glorify!  
You are our God the Great I AM.  
You are the servant king,  
the Lord of everything!  
You are our God the Great I AM.*

*You lift the poor and lowly,  
God the Great I AM!  
You shelter all the homeless,  
God the Great I AM!  
You welcome every stranger,  
God the Great I AM!  
Compassion is the heart of you,  
God the Great I AM!  
Sing glory! Sing glory!*

*You are the Lord of Light,  
the one we glorify!  
You are our God the Great I AM.  
You are the servant king,  
the Lord of everything!  
You are our God the Great I AM.*

*There is none like you! Lord, we  
love you.  
There is none like you! Lord, we  
love you.*

*Have mercy on your people,  
God the Great I AM!  
Oh, teach us how to love you,  
God the Great I AM!  
Send us into the darkness,  
God the Great I AM!  
And with your Spirit light this  
world,  
God the Great I AM!  
Sing glory! Sing glory!*

*You are the Lord of Light,  
the one we glorify!  
You are our God the Great I AM.  
You are the servant king,  
the Lord of everything!  
You are our God the Great I AM.  
You are our God the Great I AM.  
You are our God the Great I AM.*



Scripture Reading

“On Thy Wondrous Works I Will Meditate (Psalm 145)” stanzas 6 & 7  
- Mary Oliver

I would be good—oh, I would be upright and good.  
To what purpose? To be shining not  
sinful, not wringing out of the hours  
petulance, heaviness, ashes. To what purpose?  
Hope of heaven? Not that. But to enter  
the other kingdom: grace, and imagination,  
  
and the multiple sympathies: to be as a leaf, a rose,  
a dolphin, a wave rising  
slowly then briskly out of the darkness to touch  
the limpid air, to be God’s mind’s  
servant, loving with the body’s sweet mouth—its kisses, its words—  
everything.

I know a man of such  
mildness and kindness it is trying to  
change my life. He does not  
preach, teach, but simply is. It is  
astonishing, for he is Christ’s ambassador  
truly, by rule and act. But, more,

he is kind with the sort of kindness that shines  
out, but is resolute, not fooled. He has  
eaten the dark hours and could also, I think,  
soldier for God, riding out  
under the storm clouds, against the world’s pride and unkindness,  
with both unassailable sweetness, and tempering word.

**All you works of God,  
ev'ry mountain, star and tree,  
bless the One who shapes your  
beauty,  
who has caused you all to be  
one great song of love and  
grace,  
ever ancient, ever new.  
Raise your voices,  
all you works of God!**

Solo:Wells and springs:  
**All: Bless your Maker!**  
Solo:Seas and rivers:  
**All: Chant your praise!**  
Solo:Whales in the deep:  
**All: Raise up your joyful song.**

**All you works of God,  
ev'ry mountain, star and tree,  
bless the One who shapes your  
beauty,  
who has caused you all to be  
one great song of love and  
grace,  
ever ancient, ever new.  
Raise your voices,  
all you works of God!**

Solo:Flying birds:  
**All: Bless your Maker!**  
Solo:Beasts and cattle:  
**All: Chant your praise!**  
Solo:Children at play:  
**All: Raise up your joyful song.**

**All you works of God,  
ev'ry mountain, star and tree,  
bless the One who shapes your  
beauty,  
who has caused you all to be  
one great song of love and  
grace,  
ever ancient, ever new.  
Raise your voices,  
all you works of God!**

Solo:All who live:  
**All: Bless your Maker!**  
Solo:Men and women:  
**All: Chant your praise!**  
Solo:Servants of God:  
**All: Raise up your joyful song.**

Prayer

*From SALT productions,  
Summer Days devotional*

**God of love, strengthen and  
widen our faith, our courage,  
our confidence, our trust in  
you. Let us shine with wonder  
and praise. Help us let go of  
our worries, inspired by the  
birds of the air, the fish of the  
sea, the flowers of the field, the  
grandeur of the wind and sky.  
Grant us the poise to boldly,  
humbly live as your children.  
Thank you for this glorious,  
wondrous world!  
In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.**



## **All You Works Of God**

Tune: © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc. Text:  
Daniel 3:57-88; adapt. by Marty Haugen; ©  
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**All you works of God,  
ev'ry mountain, star and tree,  
bless the One who shapes your  
beauty,  
who has caused you all to be  
one great song of love and  
grace,  
ever ancient, ever new.  
Raise your voices,  
all you works of God!**

Solo:Sun and moon:  
**All: Bless your Maker!**  
Solo:Stars of heaven:  
**All: Chant your praise!**  
Solo:Showers and dew:  
**All: Raise up your joyful song.**

**All you works of God,  
ev'ry mountain, star and tree,  
bless the One who shapes your  
beauty,  
who has caused you all to be  
one great song of love and  
grace,  
ever ancient, ever new.  
Raise your voices,  
all you works of God!**

Solo:Winds of God:  
**All: Bless your Maker!**  
Solo:Cold and winter:  
**All: Chant your praise!**

Solo:Snowstorms and ice:  
**All: Raise up your joyful song.**

**All you works of God,  
ev'ry mountain, star and tree,  
bless the One who shapes your  
beauty,  
who has caused you all to be  
one great song of love and  
grace,  
ever ancient, ever new.  
Raise your voices,  
all you works of God!**

Solo:Night and day:  
**All: Bless your Maker!**  
Solo:Light and darkness:  
**All: Chant your praise!**  
Solo:Lightnings and clouds:  
**All: Raise up your joyful song.**

**All you works of God,  
ev'ry mountain, star and tree,  
bless the One who shapes your  
beauty,  
who has caused you all to be  
one great song of love and  
grace,  
ever ancient, ever new.  
Raise your voices,  
all you works of God!**

Solo:All the earth:  
**All: Bless your Maker!**  
Solo:Hills and mountains:  
**All: Chant your praise!**  
Solo:Green things that grow:  
**All: Raise up your joyful song.**

**Scripture Reading** Reader: Joan S  
Matthew 6:25-34 NRSV

Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

For the Word of God in Scripture,  
For the Word of God among us,  
For the Word of God within us;  
**Thanks be to God!**

**Message** Summer Days: Trust - Jen & Rick Atteberry





🎵 **Music** Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus  
Text: Louisa M. R. Stead, 1882; Music: William J. Kirkpatrick, 1882 © public domain.

**'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,  
and to take him at his word;  
just to rest upon his promise,  
and to know, "Thus saith the Lord."**

**Refrain (repeated)  
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him!  
How I've proved him o'er and o'er!  
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!  
O for grace to trust him more!**

**Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus,  
just from sin and self to cease;  
just from Jesus simply taking  
life and rest, and joy and peace.**

**Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him!  
How I've proved him o'er and o'er!  
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!  
O for grace to trust him more!**

**I'm so glad I learned to trust thee,  
Precious Jesus, Savior, friend;  
And I know that thou art with me,  
Wilt be with me to the end.**

**Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him!  
How I've proved him o'er and o'er!  
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!  
O for grace to trust him more!**

**Blessing of Animals**



🎵 **Music During blessing of the Animals**  
God of Great and God of Small  
Text and Music © 1973 Carl Fischer, Inc.; TEXT: Natalie Sleeth, 1973; MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1973;  
arr. Beverly A. Howard, 2012. Used with permission under OneLicense #A-704234. All rights reserved.

**God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,  
God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things belong,  
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.**

**God of land and sky and sea, God of life and destiny,  
God of neverending power, yet beside me every hour,  
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.**

**God of silence, God of sound, God by whom the lost are found,  
God of day and darkest night God whose love turns wrong to  
right,  
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.**

**God of heaven and God of earth, God of death and God of birth,  
God of now and days before, God who reigns for evermore,  
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.**

