

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1100 EAST SUPERIOR STREET, DULUTH, MN

January 19, 2025

11:00 a.m.

THE REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. SUNDAY  
BELOVED COMMUNITY SUNDAY

*You are invited to light a candle in prayer on the Tree of Life during the service.  
The candle-lighter is hanging on the wall; you may need to take a candle out to light it.*

*Please pass the Friendship Notebook along your row and greet those around you that you may not know.*

*We welcome children in worship. There is a family room across from the right front sanctuary doors  
and a few steps to the left a staffed nursery for any who wish to use them.*

*Hearing assist receivers are available at the ushers' station.*

GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

LITANY

We remember the conviction of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. that “freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed..”

**God of freedom, give courage and determination to those who are oppressed.**

We remember Dr. King’s warning that there are those “. . . more devoted to 'order' than to justice; who prefer a negative peace which is the absence of tension to a positive peace which is the presence of justice.”

**God of justice, help those who work for peace in our world  
to not be afraid of the tension that comes in working for justice.**

We remember Dr. King’s insight that “injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly.”

**God of all, allow us to see nothing in isolation, but know ourselves  
bound to one another and to all people under heaven.**

We remember Dr. King’s lament that “the contemporary church is often a weak, ineffectual voice with an uncertain sound. It is so often the arch-supporter of the status quo. Far from being disturbed by the presence of the church, the power structure of the average community is consoled by the church’s silent and often vocal sanction of things as they are.”

**God of courage, we pray that neither this congregation nor any church may be silent in the face of  
wrong, but that we may be disturbers of the status quo when that is your call to us.**

We remember Dr. King’s hope that “dark clouds of racial prejudice will soon pass away and the deep fog of misunderstanding will be lifted from our fear-drenched communities and in some not-too-distant tomorrow the radiant stars of love and [kinship] will shine over our great nation with all their scintillating beauty.”

**In faith, we commend ourselves and our work for justice, to your goodness,  
gracious and Holy God. Amen.**

*Modified from the RCA by Duke University Chapel, Martin Luther King, Jr Service 2017. Modified by Pastor Loufman 2025*

*The assembly stands.*

GATHERING HYMN *Proof of Your Love*

If I sing but don't have love, I waste my breath with ev - 'ry song I bring  
 7 an emp-ty voice, a hol - low noise. If I speak with a sil-ver tongue, con vince  
 10 a crowd but don't have love, I leave a bit ter taste with ev - 'ry word I say  
 13 **Chorus** so, let my life be the proof the proof of Your love. Let my love look like You  
 17 and what You're made of: how You lived, how You died. Love is sac - ri - fice. So,  
 20 let my life be the proof the proof of Your love.  
 25 If I give to a need - y soul but don't  
 27 have love, then who is poor. It seems all the pov-er-ty is found in me. So,  
 to chorus

**APOSTOLIC GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Holy One, we give thanks for the gift of your holy word. May the Spirit who called out these ancient writings continue to call us out today that our lives may reflect the mission of Jesus, our crucified and risen Christ, who brings good news to the poor and lets the oppressed go free. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*The assembly is seated.*

**WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

**FIRST READING Psalm 19** (*read responsively*)

- <sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God,  
**and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.**
- <sup>2</sup>One day tells its tale to another,  
**and one night imparts knowledge to another.**
- <sup>3</sup>Although they have no words or language,  
**and their voices are not heard,**
- <sup>4</sup>their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,  
**where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**
- <sup>5</sup>It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
**it rejoices like a champion to run its course.**
- <sup>6</sup>It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again;  
**nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**
- <sup>7</sup>The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;  
**the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.**
- <sup>8</sup>The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;  
**the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**
- <sup>9</sup>The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;  
**the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.**
- <sup>10</sup>More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,  
**sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**
- <sup>11</sup>By them also is your servant enlightened,  
**and in keeping them there is great reward.**
- <sup>12</sup>Who can detect one's own offenses?  
**Cleanse me from my secret faults.**
- <sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;  
**then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.**
- <sup>14</sup>Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,  
**O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

Word of God.  
**Word of Life.**

**SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 12:1-11**

Word of God.  
**Word of Life.**

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

5

1. 2.

Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia. lu, al - le - lu - ia.

**GOSPEL Luke 4:14-21**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Dianne O. Loufman

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *Give Us Your Heart*

Your eyes are on the low - ly though oth - ers look a - way.  
 6  
 Your feet run to the bro - ken. Your hands are quick to save.  
 11  
 Make us like You Lord. You walk with the for - got - ten and  
 17  
 of - fer them a home. A - dop - ting the un - want - ed and  
 21  
 call - ing them Your own. Make us like You Lord. O give  
 27  
 us Your heart. O give us Your heart. Let the light of heav - en shine  
 32  
 as we step in - to the dark. O give us Your heart. O give  
 37  
 us Your heart. All to see Your king - dom come and death de - part.  
 41  
 O give us Your heart. O give us Your heart.

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Hear us, O God. or Bless we the Lord,  
 Your mercy is great. Thanks be to God.

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
 And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace. All are then seated for the offering.*

**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

## OFFERING

You are invited to use our digital offering plate. Text “**fleduluth**” to 73256. You’ll be sent a text with a link to give. Click on the link and enter your giving information. Thank you for supporting God’s mission through FLC.

## OFFERTORY MUSIC

*The assembly stands.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together:

**God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,  
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.**

**Bless what we offer to your service:  
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.**

**Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,  
now and always.**

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We pray together the prayer Jesus taught to help illumine our path:

**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 and ever. Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

*We practice Eucharistic hospitality; all are welcome. Receive the bread and dip it into the wine (red)  
or grape juice (white). Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The joy of the Lord is our strength.

Come, eat this meal of gladness.

## COMMUNION HYMN *We Are Hungry*

**We are hungry we are hungry  
We are hungry, oh Lord**

**Our daily bread our living water  
We can't survive without You Lord  
Our daily bread our living water  
We're reaching out for something more**

**Come and feed us come and feed us  
Come and feed us, oh Lord**

**Our daily bread our living water  
We can't survive without You Lord  
Our daily bread our living water  
We're reaching out for something more**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray together:

**Nourishing God,  
at this table you have refreshed us  
with holy gifts of food and drink.  
Strengthen us for service,  
and send us out to embody your good news  
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.  
In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.**

**SENDING**

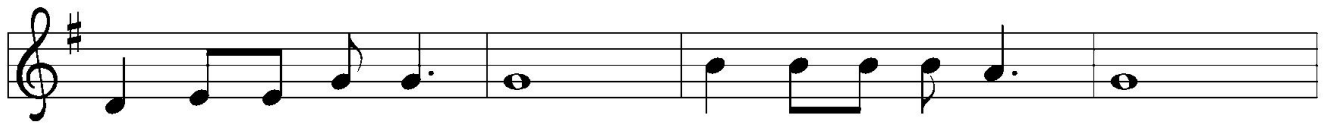
*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

**OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE**

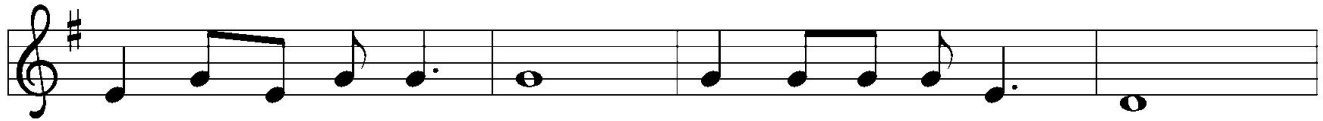
**BLESSING**

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing. Amen.*

**SENDING HYMN *This Little Light of Mine***



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live in hope.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**Ministers** All People of First Lutheran Church  
**Pastor** The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman  
**Program Staff** Karen Sande, Director of Music



Michael Fuchs, Director of Choral Activities  
Bryan Gatten, Director of Contemporary Worship  
**Assisting Minister** Steve Cvek  
**Reader** Ashlee Martz  
**Musicians** The Rising Sound  
**Audio/Video Team** Eric Gatten, Shania Krause, Sam Weston

**Acknowledgements** *Evangelical Lutheran Worship, With One Voice* and *All Creation Sings* texts and hymns ©2024 Augsburg Fortress. Prayers for the Healing of the Nations, text: Susan Briehl ©2009, music: John D. Becker ©1987. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS009917, One License #A-729428, CCLI License #1816436, CCS WorshipCast Streaming License #13132.

First Lutheran Church, dedicated to the mission of Jesus Christ, welcomes you into this community of faith, where we share life in its entirety, with all its joys and sorrows. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are offered God's love, grace, and forgiveness, regardless of religious tradition, age, gender identity, race, education, economic status, sexual orientation, family structure, mental or physical abilities, or where they might be on their faith journey. We acknowledge the indigenous culture of this land. We are committed to the work of racial justice. We extend a special welcome in Christ's love.

**faithlovecommunity**  
First Lutheran Church

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