



6th Sunday After Pentecost July 5, 2026

Join Us on Zoom!



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Meeting ID: 839 2872 7469 Password: 890967



1. Call **1-312-626-6799**.
2. When prompted, enter **839 2872 7469 #**.
3. When prompted to enter your participant ID, just press **#**.



GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

GATHERING WORDS

“Dear Mr. Whitman”
by Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer

***HYMN 591**

“This Is My Song”

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 11:16–19, 25–30

Psalm 145:8–14

TIME WITH CHILDREN

SERMON

“Unburdening America”

***HYMN**

“Come to Me, O Weary Traveler” (song sheet)

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Now as our prayer time begins (or anytime in the service) you are invited to tie a ribbon to our prayer tree in the back of the sanctuary. Through this simple act, we can bring our deepest fears, hopes, joys, griefs, and longings, to God, in the safety and support of community.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

A commonly used form is printed here. You are welcome to use any version meaningful to you.

Our God, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

Amen.

OFFERING INVITATION

We invite your financial gifts to support our ministries within and beyond First Church. July’s special offering supports ISAIAH; please make checks out to First Church with “ISAIAH” in the memo line. See “Get Connected” to learn about giving online or by text.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“My Lagan Love”

Words: Seosamh MacCathmhaoil; Music arr. by Hamilton Harty

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

“Glory To God, Whose Goodness Shines”
(next page)

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Holy Wisdom, Liberating Christ, we will take up your yoke to learn from you. We will cultivate community that relieves burdens and enacts mutual care. Amen.

GATHERING AT THE TABLE

COMMUNION PRAYER

Leader: God is with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to God.**

Leader: Let us give God thanks and praise.

All: **This is a good and joyful thing to do.**

RETELLING THE STORY

SONG

“God Bless to Us Our Bread” (song sheet)

*SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

You are invited to come and make a large circle around the communion table for the sharing of communion. If you prefer to remain seated, an usher will come and offer you the bread and cup.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN 581

“Lead Us from Death to Life”

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Please join us for coffee and ice cream on the bridge following the postlude (see below).



1 Glo - ry to God, whose good-ness shines on me, and to the
2 World with-out end, ... with-out end. A-men. World with-out



Son, whose grace has par-doned me, and to the Spir-it,
end, ... with-out end. A - men. World with-out end, ...



whose love has set me free. As it was in the be-gin-ning,
... with-out end. A - men. As it was in the be-gin-ning,



is now, and ev - er shall be. A - men.
is now, and ev - er shall be. A - men.

Thanks to those who are taking part in worship today.

Valet..... Mary Jean Korsmo
Usher..... Sally Wingert
Reader..... Kate Buis
Special Music..... Rachel Awaijane
Tech Support..... Tim Danz, Maggie George
Coffee Hour..... Sally Wingert

After Worship Today

Coffee Hour & Democracy in Action Bridge Brigade. We'll have coffee and ice cream treats today on the pedestrian bridge over I-35W. Grab a protest sign (and a chair if that would be helpful) and join us to embody hope and resist authoritarianism.

Democracy Support Group. Come share all the feelings, plan for the future, mourn what we've lost, celebrate wins for democracy and, most importantly, be in community. All are welcome; we meet monthly on the first Sunday around 11:30 a.m. in the library and on Zoom (same link as worship). Feel free to also participate in the Bridge Brigade.

Coming Up

July Worship Schedule. First Church and University Baptist Church are continuing their tradition of worshipping together this July. Worship takes place at First Church today and on July 12, and at UBC on July 19 and 26.

Summer Cookout and Potluck on July 12. After our joint worship service at First Church on July 12, we'll gather with folks from University Baptist Church for a cookout and potluck. We need lots of help—with set up and clean up, providing salads (loosely interpreted) for side dishes, as well as a gas grill to borrow ([contact Pastor Jane](#) if you have one to lend). [Sign Up to Help](#) (scroll down to July 12) or [Sign Up to Bring a Dish](#)

Public Discipleship Series Starts August 27. We're preparing to join other churches in our neighborhood to embark on a "Public Discipleship Path" this fall, preparing ourselves to take bold, prophetic public action in our communities to build relationships and to protect and maintain a just democracy for all. There will be three sessions followed by the public actions we decide to take together as a group and as congregations, and a final gathering to debrief and talk about what comes next.

The three sessions are on Thursday evenings—August 27, September 3, and September 10—at University Lutheran Church of Hope (601 13th Ave SE). Childcare and dinner will be provided. We welcome volunteers—please [contact Randee Edmundson](#) to help!

Coming Up at First Church

Annual Minister Review Survey. The Personnel Committee invites you to share input for Pastor Jane's annual evaluation through a brief survey. Your feedback provides an opportunity for her to reflect and plan for the coming year. [Take the survey](#) by August 15.

Register for Camping Weekend! Our church camping weekend is August 28–30. We invite UBC friends to consider joining us too! [Sign Up Now](#)

Coming Up at UBC

Two Opportunities to Gather with Interim Pastor Cody Sanders. No agenda! Just an opportunity to get to know one another better. Come for as little or as long as you'd like to either or both.

Coffee Shop Office Hours: Wednesday, July 8, 9:00 –10:30 AM, at Five Watt Coffee (861 E Hennepin Ave. in Minneapolis)

Pub Office Hours: Thursday, July 16, 6:00–7:30 PM, at Urban Growler Brewing Company (2325 Endicott St. in Saint Paul)

Work Day—July 11, 9 AM–4 PM. If you can clean, haul, organize, paint, help in the kitchen—we need you! Snacks (and hopefully childcare) will be provided. If you have questions or ideas for projects, please [contact Jean Lubke. Register Now](#)

[More UBC Announcements—Click Here](#)

Get Connected

Weekly Email. You can [sign up to receive all the news](#) on Thursday afternoons, as well as other important updates.

Online & Text Giving. [Give Online](#) You can also give by texting 612-999-1236: text **\$10** to give \$10 to the general offering or **\$10 special** to give \$10 to the monthly special offering (you can text any amount).

Democracy in Action Signal Group. Join our Democracy In Action group on Signal if you would like to connect with others in the church about opportunities to show up to protest and resist. [Join Signal Group](#)

Regular Gatherings

Bible Study—Tuesday, July 7 (NOON—Zoom option)

Elder Gathering—Monday, July 13 (NOON on Zoom)

Evening Handcraft Group—Monday, July 20 (7:00 PM @ Kris Felbeck's Home)

Daytime Craft Group—not meeting in July—Wednesday, Aug. 5 (11:00 AM)

Family Gathering—not meeting in July—Sunday, August 9 (11:30 AM)

Spanish Conversation Group—not meeting in July—Saturday, August 22 (10:00 AM @ HarMar Mall Barnes & Noble (Roseville))

Indigenous Book Group—not meeting in summer—next date TBD

Wherever you are on life's journey, let us walk with you . . .

Pastor Jane's typical work week is Sunday through Thursday. Please call or email her to set up appointments as she is in and out of the office. She hopes you will contact her for support and prayer in times of illness, hospitalization, or crisis. If your need is urgent, you may call or text her cell phone at any time of the week.

To aid in worship, assistive listening devices and large-print bulletins are available from the ushers.

We welcome you to visit the remembrance area at any time during worship. At the back of the sanctuary there is table with journals that can be utilized to write or draw your remembrances in memory of a loved one. You can also light a candle on the columbarium.

Children are most welcome in worship at First Church. Families are invited to use the kids' corner in the front of the Sanctuary during worship. We are working to become an inclusive community that welcomes people of all abilities within all church spaces. If you have questions or comments about sharing our worship service with those of differing abilities, please speak to Jane McBride.

Valet parking is available every Sunday for those who find it difficult to navigate the walk from a parking spot to the church. Valets will meet you at the 8th Ave. entrance, assist you in getting inside and park your car for you (and get it for you after the service). If the valet sign is posted and you don't see a parker, please wait for them to return.

July's Special Offering supports ISALAH, a statewide multiracial group of faith communities, Black barbershops, childcare centers, and more fighting for racial and economic justice in Minnesota.

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First Congregational Church of Minnesota, UCC

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