

January 26, 2025  
Third Sunday after Epiphany



*Love Stamp* © Corita Kent, from Wikiart.org

**To join worship this morning via zoom app, click this link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2IKdz09>

(if you are asked for a password, it is: 890967). **To dial in by phone** call 1 312 626 6799. When prompted, enter 839 2872 7469#. Next, you will be prompted to enter your participant ID or to push #; **simply push # again.**

**Music will be displayed on the screen during the service.**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Gathering Words:** “The Way It Is” by William Stafford

**Prayer of Confession and Renewal**

**Hymn 43:** “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

**Scripture:** Luke 4:21–30, 1 Corinthians 13:1–13

**Time with Children**

**Anthem:** “Hamba Nathitrad,” South African

**Sermon:** “The Thread” by Jane McBride

**Hymn:** “Listening People”

**Prayers of the People**

Please share your prayer requests in the chat and we will pray with you.

**Lord’s Prayer**

A commonly used form is printed below. You are welcome to use the version most 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 for ever. Amen.**

**Offering**

We invite your financial gifts to support our ministries within and beyond First Church. February’s special offering is directed to MN Foodshare/CES Food Shelf. Give electronically at our website: [www.firstchurchmn.org](http://www.firstchurchmn.org); click on the “Support Us” link. You can also give by texting 612-255-4109: “\$(amount) Special” (for the monthly offering) or “\$(amount) General Fund. If you give by check, please make it out to First Church with “CES” in the memo line.

**Offertory:** “If Ye Love Me,” Thomas Tallis

**Offertory Response:** “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines”

## Prayer of Dedication

## Communion

Communion Prayer

Retelling the Story

Sharing the Bread and Cup

## Announcements

Hymn 436: “God of Grace and God of Glory”

## Benediction

## Postlude

Thanks to those who serve in the following roles today:

Valet: Mary Jean Korsmo

Usher: Don Brasted-Maki

Communion Preparation: Cynthia Hendricks

Reader: Jean Anderson

Tech Support: Maggie George, Greg Hubinger,

Flowers: Lisa and Greg Hubinger, in celebration of their wedding anniversary

Coffee Hour: Potluck Meal coordinated by Cynthia Hendricks

## Coming up this week

### Sunday, Feb. 2

9:30a: Coffee hour

10a: Worship / (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2IKdz09>

11:15a: Coffee hour (hybrid—stay on Zoom call)

11:30a: Election Support Group

1p: *Survivors* play

### Monday, Feb. 3

9:30a: SE Playgroup

### Tuesday, Feb. 4

Noon: Bible Study (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82579587370?pwd=aURmUHRaSU55aFlXK241NVNvTWVMZz09>

**Wednesday, Feb. 5**

10a: Crafting Group

7p: Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, Feb. 6**

9:30a: SE Playgroup

**Saturday, Feb. 8**

2p: Wild Church (meet at Peace Sculpture on Nicollet Island)

**Sunday, Feb. 9**

9:30a: Coffee hour

10a: Worship / (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

11:15a: Coffee hour (hybrid—stay on Zoom call)

11:30a: Family Gathering

12:30p: Hospitality & Engagement Team (Zoom)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82579587370?pwd=aURmUHRaSU55aFlXK241NVNvTWVMZz09>

3p: Ecclesiastical Council for Schanan Harris

**Potluck meal and *Survivors* play today at 1p.** Join us for a meal in the Gathering Hall and then come to the Sanctuary for a production of *Survivors*. The 50-minute performance will be followed by a time of conversation.

**A memorial service for Clyde Steckel** will be held at First Church on Saturday Feb. 15 at 1p. We are looking for folks to help with the reception after the service. We're expecting a large crowd, so please consider volunteering. Contact Jane [jmcbride@firstchurchmn.org](mailto:jmcbride@firstchurchmn.org) or Sarah Tittle: [office@firstchurchmn.org](mailto:office@firstchurchmn.org) if you can help.

**Post-election Election Support Group today after worship.** There is much to process and lots of work to do in the aftermath of the 2024 election. Come and join our group to share all the feelings, to plan for the future, and, most importantly, to be in community. All are welcome in the parlor or on Zoom. This month's topic: What are we called to do? Contact Sarah Almén ([s\\_almén@hotmail.com](mailto:s_almén@hotmail.com) or 512-809-9788) with questions.

**Mardi Gras Mini-Golf, Friday, Feb. 28.** Sign up now to help out at this super fun annual event, featuring Brad's world-famous mini-golf course, homemade donuts and live music.

**Lenten Devotional 2025** This year's collaborative Lenten Devotional will center around the question "How do you pray?" Everyone (including children!) is invited to contribute a response to this question. Responses do not need to be lengthy (think just a paragraph or social-media-post, not book-chapter) or profoundly theological (though they can be). It is okay to simply write, "I don't pray," and then explain a bit about why. In addition to your contribution, if you are willing, please submit a photo of yourself. This will help all of us learn who you are and build community connections in line with our Epiphany theme of hospitality. Contributions should be emailed to Sarah Almén ([s\\_almen@hotmail.com](mailto:s_almen@hotmail.com)) no later than February 20 so we have time to prepare the Devotional for distribution on Ash Wednesday, March 5. If you have questions, reach out to any member of the Faith Force (Jean Anderson, Sarah Almén, Kim Cooper, Don Brasted-Maki, Mary Jean Korsmo, Brad Schuman, or Pastor Jane) and we'll be happy to help.

**Ecclesiastical Council for Schanan Harris, Feb. 9 at 3p.** You are invited to join in supporting Schanan in this important step on her ordination journey. Members from UCC churches in the Minnesota Conference will be present to hear a short presentation from Schanan about her ministry, ask questions, and then vote on whether she should be approved for ordination. Light refreshments will be served afterward.