

**FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**March 30, 2025~9:30 A.M.**

*Welcome to Faith United Methodist Church. It is our heart and desire to **engage** the community of Waseca with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, **equip** those who respond to be the next generation of disciples of Jesus Christ and **empower** them to go into the world as partners with God for the healing of the world.*

PRELUDE

GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

When we struggle to live as you teach us, and we fail to answer your call...

**God, your steadfast loves surrounds us.**

When the truth clogs up in our throat, and we fear what will happen if we speak and if we keep silent...

**God, your steadfast love surrounds us.**

When we open our hearts and let the truth of our sorrows, our sin, our joys, and our doubts flow freely...

**God, your steadfast love surrounds us.**

When our stubborn hearts encounter the grace that teaches and guides us into a life of trust and joyful obedience...

**God, your steadfast love surrounds us today and every day. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

HYMN.....“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”.....UMH #138, vs. 1-4

UNISON PRAYER

**Loving God, it was said of the Prodigal Son that he “came to himself.” Help us to wake up to ourselves, and to You. Set us free from the illusion of trying to be perfect so that we might be more fully human. Help us not to chase after an imaginary life, and to find satisfaction in our real lives. And turn us away from our self-rejection so that we might notice Your arms open in welcome. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.**

PASSING THE PEACE *Let us pass the peace of Christ to one another.*

ANTHEM..... “With All My Heart” .....Faith Choir

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER.....Unison

**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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY.....UMH #95

OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Unison

**We bring you only what is yours, faithful God, that you might use this offering and the giver for the building up of your kingdom and the glory of your name. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING.....Karen Ferch

**Psalm 32**

Blessed is the one  
whose transgressions are forgiven,  
whose sins are covered.  
Blessed is the one  
whose sin the LORD does not count against them  
and in whose spirit is no deceit.

When I kept silent,  
my bones wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.  
For day and night  
your hand was heavy on me;

my strength was sapped  
as in the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you  
and did not cover up my iniquity.  
I said, "I will confess  
my transgressions to the LORD."  
And you forgave  
the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let all the faithful pray to you  
while you may be found;  
surely the rising of the mighty waters  
will not reach them.  
You are my hiding place;  
you will protect me from trouble  
and surround me with songs of deliverance.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;  
I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.  
Do not be like the horse or the mule,  
which have no understanding  
but must be controlled by bit and bridle  
or they will not come to you.  
Many are the woes of the wicked,  
but the LORD's unfailing love  
surrounds the one who trusts in him.

Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous;  
sing, all you who are upright in heart!

### **Luke 15:1-3, 11-32**

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Then Jesus told them this parable:

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

“Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

“The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

“But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

“Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

“The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

“‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”

**THIS IS THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD!**

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

HYMN.....“What Wondrous Love Is This” .....UMH #292

MESSAGE.....“Steadfast Love” .....Rev. Dong Hun Shin

A PRAYER FOR OUR CHURCH

**Come Holy Spirit, fill our voices with praise, so that all we speak will glorify you.  
Come Holy Spirit, give us such faith that we will go wherever you ask us to go.  
Come Holy Spirit, help us to be a friend like Jesus.  
Come Holy Spirit, warm our hearts, so that as we love our community, they see you.  
In the name of Jesus, our Redeemer, we pray. Amen.**

HYMN.....“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” .....UMH #384

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE

**REMEMBER OUR CHURCH FAMILIES IN YOUR PRAYERS...**

Remember our church members & friends who are less mobile and are unable to join us as often as they would like, including:

**Colony Court:** Margaret Dahnert

**Lakeshore Inn:** Peggy Deno, Sandy Voshell, Lucille Youngberg

**Latham Place:** Joe Tollefson, Wally Ruedy

**Prayer Requests for Sunday:** Sue Baldini, Tim Dahnert, Ron Dahnert, Gail Sauer, Kathy Dahnert Johnson, Margaret Dahnert, Les Wells, April Lupas, Dennis Dahnert, Sherry Scholljegerdes, Anna Born, Barb Klampe, Sandy Voshell, Lori Schneidewind, Stuart Kuyper, Bob Larson, the Ukraine, the Middle East, government officials, health care workers, first responders, those who battle cancer, chronic illness and pain.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please be sure to sign the red attendance pads at the ends of the pews.

We are still looking for volunteers to serve on the Worship Team. This team would meet periodically with Pastor Dong to assist him in exploring ideas to enhance our worship services and share ideas for special worship services. If you have some ideas and would like to be part of this team, please contact the church office or let a Leadership Team member know.

Newsletter folding will be this Wednesday, April 2 at 1:00pm in the Hansel & Gretel Room. If you are available to help, the folding group always welcomes some extra hands.

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The Waseca Community Easter Dinner will be hosted by St. Paul Lutheran Church, 314 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, on Sunday, April 20 from 11:30am to 1:00pm. Dine in, drive thru and delivery will be offered. Sign up by Monday, April 14 by calling St. Paul Lutheran church at 835-2647 or the Waseca Senior Center at 835-4552.

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<b>THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...</b>	
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03/30/2025 (Sun.)	9:30am – Worship Service 10:30am – Fellowship
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04/02/2025 (Wed.)	1:00pm – Newsletter Folding (Hansel & Gretel Room) 7:00pm – Choir Practice (*LV Room)
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04/06/2025 (Sun.)	9:30am – Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:30am – Fellowship
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\*Lakeview Room   \*\*Fellowship Hall

**Administrative Assistant Hours this Week:**

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:30am to 1:00pm

**Rev. Dong Hun Shin Office Hours this Week:**

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00am o 12:30pm

**Rev. Dong Hun Shin Contact Info.:**

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