

May grace meet you here . . .

WELCOME

Prelude *Poor Wayfaring Stranger*

Greeting and Welcome

Passing of the Peace

+Call to Worship

Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

Who is my neighbor? How can I help?

What do I have to learn?

Where is God in it all?

Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

So may we listen. May we learn. May we stay curious, and may we look for God.

This is our invitation to lean in. Let us worship our holy God.

+Hymn *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*

UMH #521

Prayers

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you have told us to love our neighbors as ourselves, but we get tripped up on logistics. We want to know: who is our neighbor? Do we have to love the stranger? Must we have compassion for our enemy? Forgive our human tendency to create exceptions in the face of love. Rewire our hearts so that we might see the face of a neighbor in every stranger we pass. With hope we pray, Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Family of faith,

When we set limits on love,

God loves extravagantly.

When we forget that we are neighbors,

God claims us as God's own.

When we judge, hold back, or harm,

God surrounds us with grace.

There is nothing we can do or leave undone that could separate us from the love of God.

This is the good news of the gospel. Thanks be to God!

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

THE WORD

Scripture Luke 10:25-37

Children's Message

Poem *Never Met a Stranger*

+Hymn *I Saw a Stranger* (lyrics on screen)

Message "Stranger & Neighbor"

THANKSGIVING

Offertory and Offertory Liturgy

God of boundless love and radical compassion, we offer our gifts, trusting that you will use them to heal, restore, and uplift. May they be a sign of our commitment to co-create a world where all are seen, valued, and embraced. Amen.

Blessing of the Ashes

Holy and Loving God, bless these ashes, a sign of our journey—from dust to dust, from grace to grace.

In this mark, remind us: We are yours, wholly and always. We are fragile, fleeting, finite, yet filled with your Spirit.

May these ashes lead us deeper into love, wider into justice, and ever closer to you. Amen.

Special Music *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

Imposition of the Ashes

Receive the sign of the cross on your forehead with these words. "From blessed dust you have come and to blessed dust you shall return."

+Hymn *Change My Heart, O God* TFWS #2152

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

+Benediction

Postlude *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*

—CCLI License No. 1093845 —OneLicense #A-708801

Pastor Donna Dempewolf
Charley Handlang, Reader
NUMC Band:

Kristen Twitchell, Vocals
Jeff Wood, Vocals and Trombone
Elaine Boda, Cello
Nick Weaver, Guitar
Tim Goodwin, Guitar
David Miller, Piano
Mike Legvold, Bass Guitar
Dave Drentlaw, Drums

If you are new here . . .

- ✧ We are so glad you joined us!
- ✧ **If you would benefit from a large print bulletin or a hearing assistance device, please ask an usher.**
- ✧ +Please stand as able when you see this symbol as we move through the order of worship.
- ✧ Words for congregational liturgy and song are listed in the bulletin or projected on the screen at the front of the sanctuary. Most hymns can be found in the hardcover *United Methodist Hymnal* (2-3 digit) or soft cover *The Faith We Sing* (4 digit) located in the pews. We also have Bibles for following along with Scripture.
- ✧ Check our website for more information.

For Parents

- ✧ Want to learn more about NUMC's ministry with children, youth, and families? Join our email list! info@northfieldumc.org
- ✧ Staffed nursery available for children during worship.

Northfield United Methodist Church Mission

We are companions in Christ, called, nurtured, and sent out for this purpose: to glorify God by acts of worship, devotion, compassion, and justice.

Donna Dempewolf, Pastor
Gregory Ennis, Children's Ministry
Kristen Twitchell, Interim Youth Director
Ruth Kruse, Parish Nurse
For more information visit our website at www.northfieldumc.org.
Miss a week?
Watch our worship service online on our website!

Jesus Christ calls us to offer welcome, hospitality and God's gracious love to all.

Upcoming Events

Sundays

9:30 am – Worship
10:00 am – Children's Church (5th grade and under)
10:30 am – Coffee in Fellowship Hall

Wednesdays

3:30-5:30 pm – KC3 (K-5th grade)
5:30-6:30 pm – Super Wednesday meal
6:15 pm – Adult Choir Rehearsal
6:30 pm – Handbell Choir Rehearsal
6:30-8:00 pm – Youth Fellowship (6th-12th grade)
No Super Wednesday March 26th (Spring break)

Upcoming Events

Coffee with the Pastor, Tuesday, March 11, 1:00-2:30 pm, Goodbye Blue Monday Coffeeshouse

Rule of Christ Training, Tuesday, March 11, 6:00-9:00 PM, Fellowship Hall

The Final Days: A Lenten Journey through the Gospels, each Sunday, March 9 - April 13, 10:45 am in the Reception Room

Everything [in] Between | Meeting God in the Midst of Extremes, Wednesday, March 12, 6:00 pm in the Reception Room or via Zoom

Dreams of the Bible: God's Forgotten Language, Tuesday, March 18th, 6:30 pm, in person in the Reception Room or via zoom

Girl Scout Cookie Sale!

Wednesday, March 12, 5:30-6:30 pm
Sunday, March 16 and 23, 10:30-11:00 am

Lenten Services

Wednesday, March 5, 6:30 pm – Ash Wednesday
Sunday, April 13, 9:30 am – Palm/Passion Sunday
Thursday, April 17, 6:30 pm – Maundy Thursday
Friday, April 18, 6:30 pm – Good Friday
Sunday, April 20, 9:30 am – Easter Sunday

Worship.
Devotion.



Compassion.
Justice.



Everything [In] Between Stranger & Neighbor

March 9, 2025
9:30 am

Northfield United Methodist Church

1401 S. Maple Street
Northfield, MN 55057

Phone: 507-645-5689
Email: info@northfieldumc.org
Website: www.northfieldumc.org