

# May grace meet you here . . .

## WELCOME

Prelude *Shall We Gather at the River*  
Setting: Michael Burkhardt

Greeting and Welcome

Passing of the Peace

+Call to Worship

Come, O Mystery, and enliven our spirits.

**Come, O Flame, and kindle our hearts.**

Come, O Creator, and make all things new again.

**Come, O Morning, and rise within us today.**

+Hymn *Morning Has Broken* UMH #145

Children's Message Jane Dagher

Unison Prayer

**Jesus says, "Follow me," and we are not always sure where that leads. We gather as seekers and wanderers, as people who long to be whole, as people who trust—sometimes boldly, sometimes barely—that your presence meets us along the way. Shape us into your people. Renew what is broken. Awaken what is possible. And lead us, O God, in the Way of life. Amen.**

Choir Anthem *Shall We Gather at the River*  
Lowry, arr. Coates

Prayers

## THE WORD

Scripture Psalm 1:1-6, Acts 9:1-2, John 14:1-6

+Hymn *The Servant Song* #2222

Message *The Way of Jesus: Explorers Wanted*

## THANKSGIVING

Offertory

Offertory Music

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Setting: Michael Burkhardt

Offertory Liturgy

**The Way of Jesus is not a destination we purchase, but a life we practice. We bring our gifts—not because God needs them, but because the world does. May what we offer—our resources, our compassion, our courage—become part of God's unfolding Way in this place and beyond. Amen.**

Holy Communion

*Invitation*

Come to this table—not because you have it all figured out, but because you are willing to follow. This is not a table of certainty, but a table of grace. Here, all who seek mercy, justice, and peace are welcome. Come, for all things are ready.

*Words of Institution*

*Invocation*

**Come, Holy Spirit. Open our eyes to Christ's presence in these ordinary gifts and in our ordinary lives. Make them for us the living Christ among us—and make us, in turn, the body of Christ for the world.**

Communion Music *Ubi caritas*

*The love of Christ has gathered us together into one.*

Prayer after Communion

**For the wholeness you offer through broken bread and shared cup, we give you thanks. For the community restored among us, we give you thanks. Send us now into the world—not as spectators, but as participants in your Way—to practice justice, embody mercy, and walk with courage, guided by your Spirit. Amen.**

+Hymn *Here I Am, Lord*

UMH #593

## BLESSING

Postlude *Awake, Thou Wintry Earth*

Setting: J.S. Bach

*Fling off, fling off thy sadness, ye vernal flowers laugh forth your ancient gladness. A new and lovely tale throughout the land is sped. It floats o'er hill and dale, to tell that death is dead!*

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*"The Way is an exploration, not a destination."*

Donna Dempewolf, Pastor

Tracy Goodwin, Reader

Joanne Rodland, Organist

Deborah Rae Miller, Adult Choir Director

David Miller, Piano

## 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](mailto: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  
Kristen Twitchell, Interim Youth Director  
Izel Thoele, Youth & Children's Intern  
Jane Dagher, Youth & Children's Intern  
Ruth Kruse, Parish Nurse  
For more information visit our website at [www.northfieldumc.org](http://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  
9:40 am – Children's Church  
10:30 am – Coffee in Fellowship Hall  
10:30 am – Adult Faith Formation

### Wednesdays

3:30 – 5:30 pm, (K-5<sup>th</sup>) Fun, Faith & Food Snack  
5:30-6:15 pm – Community Meal  
6:15 pm – Adult Choir  
6:30 pm – Handbell Choir  
6:30 pm – Youth Fellowship  
**Final Super Wednesday, May 6**

### Upcoming Events

**United Women in Faith**, Monday, May 4, 10:00 am, room #120  
**Women's Bible Study**, Tuesday, May 5, 9:00 am, room #120  
**Mission Sewing**, Wednesday, May 6, 9:00, room #120  
**Men's Breakfast**, Friday, May 8, 8:00 am, Fellowship Hall

**Please note:** At one end of each pew is a black covered Friendship Pew Pad. Please sign it and pass along your pew for others to sign.

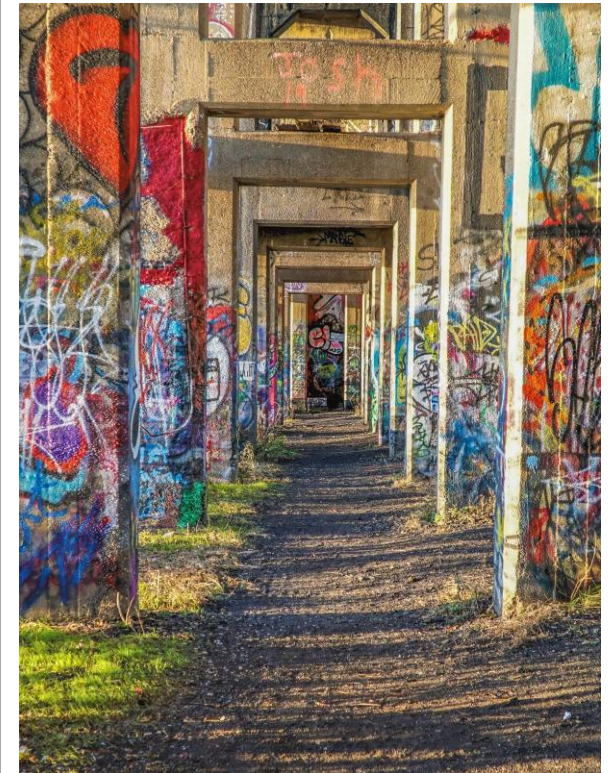
### Community Art Exhibit

You're invited to bring your creativity to NUMC this June. We welcome a wide range of artistic expressions—painting, drawing, stained glass, mosaics, quilting, and more. Artwork may be dropped off in the church office any time after May 20 and will be displayed throughout the month. Come share what brings you joy—and help fill our space with beauty, imagination, and inspiration.

Worship.  
Devotion.



Compassion.  
Justice.



## The Way of Jesus: Explorers Wanted

May 3, 2026  
9:30 am

Northfield United Methodist Church

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Northfield, MN 55057

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Email: [info@northfieldumc.org](mailto:info@northfieldumc.org)  
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