#### **Order of Worship**

#### Welcome

# **Opening Song**

The River Is Here

#### Children's Message Jody Peterson

Following the children's message children preschool through 3rd grade are invited to attend Sunday School in the education wing. Children will return to worship before the end of the service.

# United Women in Faith Minute Piroska Lueck

#### Prayers of the People

Scan QR code to submit your prayers to display on screen during worship



Invitation to Give Hold On

# Scripture

Ecclesiastes 3:1, 7-8

# Message

"To Tell the Truth: Everything Happens for a Reason?" Rev. Pamela Ngunjiri

# **Sharing the Peace of Christ**

## Holy Communion & Candlelighting

All are welcome to receive communion, which is served with bread and nonalcoholic grape juice. Gluten free also available.

Light the Fire

**Prayer of Gratitude** 

Closing Song
God of Wonders

Connections & Next Steps

# Blessing

#### **Congregational Prayers**

- For an end to the violence in Gaza
- For United Women in Faith and its leaders, mission and ministry
- For The Minnesota Council of Churches
- Gratitude for storytellers, artists and creators in our community

Welcome to Christ UMC. We are glad you are here!

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Rev. Pamela R. Ngunjiri (Go jeri), MTS, MSW, grew up in a military family and is a transplant to Minnesota.

She is currently completing her doctoral dissertation, focusing on

white supremacy and its entanglement with the Christian Church, at Bethel Seminary. Previously, Rev. Ngunjiri received Master of Theological Studies and Master of Social Work degrees.

She is currently employed as a Co-Director of Racial Justice at the Minnesota Council of Churches. Previously, she has worked as a Social Worker in child protection, in the chemical dependency field, as a Family Support Services Manager, and as an Adjunct Associate Professor of Social Work at Bethel University.

Rev. Ngunjiri is an ordained Itinerant Elder in the AME Church, and she is the Senior Pastor at St. James AME Church, St. Paul, MN. She likes to garden and has 2 children, 6 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren and a great-grand dog named Ava.



<u>Children in Worship</u> Children are always welcome in worship. Activity packs are available at both ECC entrances. A nursery play space with a live stream of the worship service is open throughout the morning and is adjacent to the church office.

Lent Read Lent begins on Feb. 14th. We'll be using the book "Forgiveness: A Lenten Study" by Marjorie J. Thompson as our guide for the season. Small group opportunities for discussion & reflection will begin in February. Books are available for \$10 in the office.

How Civil Wars Start and How to Stop Them Join Reverend Gary Lueck in searching for answers on how to stop civil wars with the book, "How Civil Wars Start: And How to Stop Them" by Barbara F. Walter. Sessions will be Sundays, January 28 & February 4, 4:30 – 6:00pm, in-person in Room 145 & on Zoom. Meeting ID: 895 8801 1310. Passcode: stopwars.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner Please join us for pancakes, community, and a chance to help our Appalachia Service Project team travel and serve in Kentucky in July 2024. Our Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner is February 13 from 5-7pm in Wesley Hall. The meal includes pancakes & toppings, sausage, milk and juice. A freewill offering of \$10 per person is recommended. For more info, please contact Pastor Amanda.

CUMC New Members Class February 25 & March 3 12:00-2:00pm Would you like to know more about CUMC or explore what it means to be a member? Join Pastors Jenny & Kirkland for our next New Members Class. RSVP to the church office. Lunch and childcare provided.

Annual Meeting Feb. 4, 2024 We invite you to our annual church conference meeting, which will be on Sunday, February 4 following our two worship services. The theme this year is "All You Need Is Love." The meeting begins with a community potluck meal and we will begin our annual meeting work at 12:30pm. Childcare provided. Contact Pastors Jenny or Kirkland for more info.

<u>2023 Giving Statements</u> In the coming weeks we will be mailing out 2023 Giving Statements. If you have an immediate need or question, <u>contact</u> Jack Jefferson at the church office at 507-289-4019.









### CHECK IN & CONNECT WITH US!

Thanks for worshipping with us! Scan the QR code and let us know you're here!





# 11am Arise Worship January 28, 2024



We seek to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

Pastor Jenny <u>pastorjenny@cumethodist.com</u>
Pastor Kirkland <u>pastorkirkland@cumethodist.com</u>
Pastor Amanda <u>pastoramanda@cumethodist.com</u>

Call the church office: (507) 289-4019 or email us: email@cumethodist.com

With open hearts, open minds and open doors, we welcome people of all races, nationalities, theologies and abilities. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. We offer a safe and compassionate place to reconcile faith, identity, hope, understanding and mutual respect.

We welcome you and name the sacred power of the Wahpeton people on whose land we stand