

"Working Together with All to Connect to God's Love"

First United Methodist Church of Horseheads

February 2, 2025

Greetings and Announcements

As the service begins, please use the white prayer cards on the pew-back in front of you if you want something read aloud from the pulpit. During our first hymn, the Ushers will collect cards to be read aloud.

Prelude: Deck My Soul with Gladness Johannes Brahms

***Call to Worship**

Leader: We come to church, expecting God to meet us here.

People: Sometimes what feels familiar grows stale. We stop noticing the power of our prayers. We hear but don't listen to the Word. We sing without letting the music seep into our hearts. Yet, God is still here, moving and working among us.

Leader: We come to this service of worship, expecting God to meet us here.

People: We may meet God in a familiar voice speaking a hard word, in a song we love that pierces our hearts, in a prayer that we receive in a new way. Because God is here, moving and working among us.

Leader: We come to this holy sanctuary, expecting God to meet us here.

People: Let us worship, ready to embrace God's Word already at work among us, even when we are challenged to recognize God in the familiar and unfamiliar alike.

Leader: We come to worship, expecting God to meet us here. Thanks be to God! Amen.

***Hymn** Gather Us In FWS Book: pg. 2236

***Unison Prayer**

God, you share with us words of hope, words of Good News. But sometimes, we are unable to hear them because the source is too familiar. You call us to share the Good News with those around us. But sometimes we are unable to share, because the people know us too well.

You encourage us to send messengers to other places where they will be heard better. But we can be jealous, wanting the Good News to be for us, not them. In the multitude of ways, we can and have subverted your message of freedom and healing, in all the ways we have kept the Jubilee year from happening, we have left the path of true wisdom and call upon your Grace to lead us back on track.

Silent Prayer

***Words of Assurance:** This is the time of God's favor, God's grace continues to proclaim release to the captives, Good News to the poor and freedom to the oppressed.

We live as loved, forgiven, and free people through the grace of God! Hallelujah! Amen.

Joys and concerns

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Gift of Music Jesu, Son of God Most Holy Mark Wilson

Young Disciples Time

Scripture: Jeremiah 1:4-10 (OT) pg. 698

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks Be to God.

***Hymn** Oh Young and Fearless Prophet pg. 444

Scripture: Luke 4:14-23 (NT) pg. 61

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks Be to God.

Sermon Hometown Prophet

Communion p. 23

We offer an Open Table to all who are willing to be open to Christ! Our Offering will be received in the plate as you come forward for communion. Gluten Free bread is available on the table by the napkins.

***Hymn** Lord Speak to me pg. 463

***Benediction**

Postlude Menuet Gothique Leon Boellmann

(Please feel free to stay and enjoy the Postlude.)

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jeff McDowell

Pastor's Email: pastorjeffmcd@yahoo.com

Music Director: David Peckham

Secretary: Sandy Crane

Church Phone: (607) 739-1943

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Web site: www.hhsumc.org

Liturgist: Bob Solsky

Greeters: Mike & Maureen Nicolo

Ushers: Chad Miller; Bob Hauptman; Wayne Myers; Charlie Ellis

Production Team: Larry Crandell, Bob Aiello, Bob & Jamie Olcott

Production Team email: production@horseheadsumc.org

See us live on Facebook & You Tube, Sundays at 9:30am

Check us out anytime on our Web site, You Tube or Facebook

Facebook: Horseheads United Methodist Church

You Tube: Hh 1st United Methodist Church



Sermon Theme

There are two "J" names in today's bible readings: Jeremiah, and Jesus. The stories are related, as both men were called prophets while having their message rejected. When you stand up for God you run the risk of being unpopular. Jeremiah thought he was too young to be listened to by grownups. Jesus was praised reading scriptures at church, then nearly thrown off a cliff when he said those old God-promises pointed to HIM! To speak for God is a daunting task, but these themes are consistently found in Jesus' ministry: social equity, human dignity, spiritual vision, emotional freedom and dynamic hope. These themes are echoed throughout the Bible and give us a template for our work as Christ's church today. Where are we strong? Where are we weak? Will we allow God's prophets to speak to us again?

Announcements February 2, 2025

Welcome to Worship today! If you are visiting today with us, please stop by the visitor's table just outside the sanctuary. There is a gift bag there for you!

Flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God
and in memory of Thomas Brewer from Beth Brewer

Sunday School: 10:45am, Grades k-8 Fellowship Hall, Sr. High-Class Rm 18, Adult Sunday School, Large Conference Room

February Church Committee/Event Schedule

Choir Practice each Saturday at 3pm

***Women's ministry Bible Study each Wednesday at 10am, WR

**Prayer Group each Monday, 10 am, WR

Feb. 3rd, 10:00am, Prayer Group, WR

6:00pm, Border Buddies, SCR

Feb. 4th, 5:00pm, Faith Builders, SCR

Feb. 6th, 6:30pm, Outreach Committee, LCR

Feb. 9th, Scout Sunday

Feb. 11th, 7:00 pm, Trustee Meeting, Rm. 11

***Feb. 12th, 5:30pm, Dish to pass meal and a movie

Feb.17th, 9:00am, Quilting Ministry, FH
Feb.18th, 1:00pm, Worship Committee, SCR
Feb.19th, Noon, United Women of Faith, LCR
2:00pm, Missions Committee, LCR
5:30pm, Stephen Ministry, Rm. 12
6:30pm, Staff Parish, LCR
Feb.23rd, Soup to Go, Kitchen (Italian Wedding soup/Stuffed Pepper soup)
Feb. 25th, 7pm, Stewardship, Rm. 11 Note: *This meeting is canceled.*
Feb. 26th, 6:30pm, Church Council Meeting, LCR (Note new time change)
Feb.29th, 5:30pm, Stephen Ministry, Rm. 12

****February 3rd:** Pastor McDowell is hosting an in-person prayer group Mondays at 10:00 a.m. in our Wesley Room. We will list the requests which have come in through the previous week and lift them up to God together. Each meeting will end on or before 10:50 a.m.

******Dish to Pass Dinner (Weather Permitting):** February 12th at 5:30pm, we will be having a dish to pass meal and a movie in the Fellowship Hall. Faith Builders will provide a dessert and beverages.

Karren's Clothing Cupboard sign-up sheet for February is in the entranceway.

Food Pantry Needs for February-April. Pineapple, instant potatoes, corn bread and cream corn.

Thank You from the Church Staff,

We, the paid staff at this church, extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generous Christmas gift to each of us. We are deeply appreciative of your kindness and support.

We cherish the opportunity to work here, serving the Lord together. It is a blessing to be part of such a wonderful community. Thank you for your generosity and for making this a place where we can thrive in our ministries.

With sincere thanks,

Pastor Jeff McDowell, Organist David Peckham, Custodian Jamie Olcott
Nursery Worker Sarah Woodard, Office Administrator Sandy Crane, and
Parish Visitor Cindy Ellis.

EXERCISING, GAMES, AND A NEW WOMEN'S MINISTRY WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY:

- Every Wednesday at 10 am. 20-minute stretching exercises for seniors in the Wesley room.
- Every Friday 12pm-2pm Game time in the large conference room. Euchre and board games available. Bring a friend, bring a snack to share and or bring your favorite game. Coffee and tea are provided.

***New Women's ministry weekly Bible study has begun. in the Wesley room. Encouraging One Another is the theme. *There is still time to join us. We have three books left!*

For all of the above, contact Louise at 607-739-1954

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