



CONTACT

PHONE

605.886.4427

OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Thurs: 8am-12pm & 1pm-4:30pm

WEBSITE

www.watertownfirst.church

OUR MISSION

To make new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

OUR VALUES

CONNECT.GROW.SERVE.

We **CONNECT** with God through Worship.

We **GROW** with friends spiritually in grow groups.

We **SERVE** God by making a difference in our community and world.

An accessible restroom with changing table is located at the back of the sanctuary.

Hearing assistance devices are available at the **Welcome Center**.

Nursery is available during the 9:30am service. Activity bags are available at the **FIRSTKIDS** table.

Senior Pastor - Rev. Sara McManus

seniorpastor@watertownfirst.church

Associate Pastor - Rev. Kim Hastings

assocpastor@watertownfirst.church

Associate of Youth Ministries - Rev. Amy Atkins

youth@watertownfirst.church

Office Manager - Pearl Geffre

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Youth Ministry Coordinator - April Noem

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Children's Minister - Lori Jurgens

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Weekend Children's Leader - Bobbie Jenner

bobbie@watertownfirst.church

Media and Graphic Design - Dean Gorseth

media@watertownfirst.church

Custodian - Beth Schutt

Music & Chancel Choir Director - Blair Titze

Bell Choir Director - Marilyn Spurrell

Organists - Blair Titze & Lesa Dahl

Contemp. Worship Coordinator - Lea Ann Alwin

Band Leader - Dave Alwin

Wedding Coordinator - Kathy Mielitz

Welcome to
First United
Methodist Church

Saturday February 28, 2026 • 5:00 pm

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME

*OPENING SONGS

My Jesus
Reckless Love

ANNOUNCEMENTS / PRAYER TIME

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Join in singing “*Clap My Hands*”.

MESSAGE

God Moves Past All Obstacles

Luke 13: 31-35

Rev. Sara McManus

HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to participate in Holy Communion.

*Offering plates will be available at the front of the church for your gifts.
If you cannot come up for communion, please let an usher know and we
will share it with you in the pew*

REFLECTION SONG

Hope Has A Name

CLOSING SONG

Raise A Hallelujah

*BLESSING

Thank You For Worshiping With Us Today!

**The congregation is invited to stand as they are able.*

ALL CHURCH PACKING NIGHT!

- **Join us on Monday March 16th at 6:00 pm**
- Come to the PACH Warehouse (on the South side of the Watertown Mall behind Dunhams). Start at the SE corner of the mall, go west along the south side of the building—The PACH warehouse is located inside the double doors with the PACH logo on it.
- Packing begins at 6:00 pm sharp.
- Anyone age **12 or older** is welcome to participate. The PACH organization asks that we do not bring children younger than 12 to the packing event.
- They would like a group of 16-20 volunteers for this event
- Please call the church office to let us know if you'd like to participate.



Mission of the Month for March = PACH

- Donations can be made by the following:
 - ◇ Make checks out to First UMC and note PACH in the memo
 - ◇ Cash donations welcome.
 - ◇ Visit www.watertownfirst.church/giving—select Mission of the Month—Note PACH in the comments
- **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

Easter Worship Schedule

March 28—Palm Saturday—5 pm • **March 29—Palm Sunday—9:30 am**
April 2—Maundy Thursday—6 pm • **April 3—Good Friday—6 pm**
April 4—Easter Saturday—5 pm • **April 5—Easter Sunday—9:30 am**

New Here or Just Visiting? We'd love to connect with you and pray for you. Please fill out a Connect Card and place it in the offering plate. Also stop at the Welcome Center for a free gift from First Church.

CHURCH FINANCES: Thank you for your financial gifts to First Church. Your support is appreciated and helps in so many ways. You can give online: www.watertownfirst.church/giving Or use the QR code.



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Sunday, March 1

8:15 am Adult Sunday School Class—Church Lounge
9:30 am Blended Worship Service
Communion—Family Worship Weekend
10:45 pm Lenten Study—Church Lounge

Monday, March 2

1:00 pm Home Communion
1:15 pm Coffee, Cookies & Conversation—Church Lounge
5:30 pm Women of Grace—Church Lounge

Wednesday, March 4

9:15 am Embracing God Bible Study
12:05 pm Lenten Worship at Grace Lutheran Church—Pastor Janet Miller
4:15—5:10 pm Children’s Bell Choir Rehearsal
5:15 pm Community Meal—All are Welcome
5:30 pm Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal
6:00—6:30 pm Opening Worship—Fellowship Hall—All are Welcome
6:30—7:30 pm Children & Youth (K-12) Activities
6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
6:35 pm Lenten Study with Pastor Sara—Church Lounge

Thursday, March 5

10:00 am Women’s Bible Study—Fellowship Hall

Friday, March 6—Office Closed

Saturday, March 7

7:00 am Back Room Boys—Church Library
9:00 am Late Risers—Stones Café
3:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal
5:00 pm Contemporary Worship Service

Sunday, March 8

8:15 am Adult Sunday School Class—Church Lounge
9:30 am Blended Worship Service
10:45 pm Lenten Study—Church Lounge

For more information visit our web page at www.watertownfirst.church or call the church office at 605-886-4427

Lenten Community Services—“The Gifts of Lent”
Wednesdays at 12:05 pm • February 25—March 25
Worship—Grace Lutheran Church—202 2nd St SE
Followed by Lunch in their Fellowship Hall (Suggested \$5 per person)

February 25—Rev. Hank Roso
March 4—Pastor Janet Miller
March 11—Captain Dennis Jolly
March 18—Rev. Dustin Bartlett
March 25—Rev. Sara McManas

Free will offering collecting during these worship services will be presented to the Salvation Army for the “One Roof Program”.

6 week Lenten Study offered by the Dakotas Cabinet and led by Pastor Sara McManus
“To Be Made Well”
First United Methodist Church Lounge
Sundays at 10:45 am—Starting February 22
Wednesdays at 6:35 pm—Starting February 25

4 week Lenten Study led by Pastor Sandee Prouty-Cole
“Jesus’ Journey to Jerusalem”
First United Methodist Church Lounge
Tuesdays at 1:00 pm or 6:30 pm—Begins March 10

Sunday • March 1, 2026 • 9:30 am

GATHER AND PRAISE

Prelude

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Centering Thought:

What obstacles do you feel keep popping up in your life? And how does God's presence help us move past them?

Greeting

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

Leader: God is on the move

People: So are we

Leader: There will be obstacles

People: We must move past them

Leader: We aren't alone in this journey

All: God, we thank you for always being with us and for showing us how to move past obstacles. Strengthen us to move with grace and love. Amen.

* **Act of Praise** *God Whose Love Is Reigning o'er Us* UMH #100

LISTEN AND PRAY

1st Reading Genesis 15:1-2, 17-18

Announcements

Prayers of the People

Sunday • March 1, 2026 • 9:30 am

The Lord's Prayer

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.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Time for Young Disciples

Join in singing "*Clap My Hands*".

Song *Children of the Heavenly Father* UMH #141

HEAR AND REFLECT

Gospel Luke 13: 31-35

Sermon *God Moves Past All Obstacles* Rev. Sara McManus

Reflection Moment *The Care the Eagle Gives Her Young* UMH #118

Holy Communion: *All are welcome to participate in Holy Communion.*

Offering plates will be available at the front of the church for your gifts. If you cannot come up for communion, please let an usher know and we will share it with you in the pew.

* **Sending Song** *We Sing to You, O God (vs. 1-3)* TFWS #2001

* **Benediction**

Postlude

Thank You For Worshiping With Us Today!

* The congregation is invited to stand if they are able.

Worship Notes



God moves
past all obstacles

GROW

Daily Scripture

M: Romans 4 1-12
T: 1 Corinthians 10 1-13
W: Revelation 2 8-11
T: Luke 6 43-45
F: Psalm 105 1-42

Devotional Questions

1. What movement have you been avoiding or pushing away?
2. Where is God pushing you to grow confidence?
3. Who around us is dealing with road blocks they shouldn't have to?

Creative Response

Read the Upper
Room Devotion
from 2/24/26.
Available outside
church office or
via the QR code.



CONNECT

Luke 13: 31-35

One thing:

As obstacles appear, what will help you to continue God's work?

SERVE

Pray:

Pray for those facing obstacles in the path right now.

Do:

What is a road block you have been noticing lately? Think through how you can move past that obstacle.

Go:

Bryant City Carnival
Bryant Auditorium
March 7 - 2-5pm