



Minnehaha United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation
We Seek. We Serve. We Celebrate.

Welcome Friends!

We welcome you to worship wherever you may be in your faith's journey. We strive to live in the way of Jesus Christ, sharing God's love on a daily basis regardless of race, sexual orientation or faith history.

We livestream our worship services, and you may end up in view of the camera at any point in the service.

Worship Personnel

Rev. Becky Sechrist, *Pastor*;
Rev. Jean Elliott, *Director of Children, Youth, & Their Families*;
Anders Nelson, *Organist*;
Tim Siefkes, *Band Leader*;
Cindy Bergstrom, *Choir Director*;
Nicholas Sabah & John Davis, *Communion Stewards*

Minnehaha United Methodist Church acknowledges that we gather on the traditional, ancestral, and contemporary land of Dakota People.

Attendance

We are delighted you are here! We invite you to "sign the welcome pad" electronically.

If you point your camera phone at the QR code, it will take you to a Google form where you can enter your information.



Offering

For our offering, you can also give electronically through the PayPal account online, or by using this QR Code (which takes you to our PayPal account).



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April 5, 2026 11:00 a.m.

* Please rise in body or spirit

Children in Worship

We always welcome children in worship! We assume that they may make noise, wiggle, and even run around. If you would like childcare during worship, we do have care for children ages 0-4 upstairs in the 2nd floor nursery. The worship service is live-streamed into the nursery. In addition, we have activity bags for children at the back of the sanctuary. Rocking chairs are also available for nursing or rocking at the back of the sanctuary and in the nursery.

Gathering Music

Now The Green Blade Riseth

trad. French carol, lyrics John Macleod Campbell Crum (Public Domain)

Welcome

*Call to Worship

(adapted from Flames of the Spirit, ed. Ruth C. Duck)

Leader: Christ is risen!
People: Christ is risen indeed!
Leader: God is alive
People: New birth is given.
Leader: Hope is alive
People: A new age is dawning.
Leader: Joy is alive
People: Redemption is here.
Leader: Love is alive
People: Death cannot harm us.
Leader: We are alive
People: New life is within us.
Leader: The Church is alive
People: God's Spirit is within us.
All: We worship the God of life, the God of creation, the God of revelation, the God of resurrection!

Opening Song

Woke Up This Morning

African-American traditional

Children's Message

Rev. Jean Elliott

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Morning Prayer

(adapted from Black Liturgies by Cole Arthur Riley)

God who rose, resurrect us. We've belonged to communities, workplaces, and spiritual spaces that have demanded our death far more than they ever advocated for our life. They ask us to "die to self," the ambiguity of that command like grabbing a

knife by its blade. No longer will we mirror the hands of neglect that the world uses daily. Let joy find us today. Remind us that any spirituality which is always death, never resurrection, is a farce. What liberation we taste today, may we crave in full as we refuse to wander back to the chains that once held us. May joy find us. Not a joy absent of story or sorrow, but a joy whose allegiance is to memory. A joy that is not quick to forget the agony of Good Friday or dismiss the doubt of Silent Saturday. May we remember and rise to meet hope nonetheless, knowing our liberation is whispering up at us from its empty grave. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

inclusive

Our Creator, God in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kin-dom[✕] 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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kin-dom and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.

[✕]*Kin-dom represents a hope for God's realm where we are all in community with one another.*

Scripture Lesson

John 20:1-18

Sermon

"Early in the Morning"

Rev. Becky Sechrist

Offering of Gifts and Tithes

One of the pieces of music we are singing today is an African-American Spiritual. We pay no royalties for this music because its authorship has been lost to the history of racism. In lieu of a licensing fee, we invite you to make a contribution to our Spirituals Royalties Fund. For more information on this year's recipient, look in the announcements section.

Offertory

Julie Darlington, Kitty Campbell, vocals

Shine

©1993 Ed Roland; Round Hill Lyrics, Sugarfuzz Music (BMI)

*Prayer of Dedication

O God, we come with our offerings in response to your love. With the new life in Christ, we give ourselves in service to others. With the energy bestowed by the Spirit, we seek to inflame all your people with a zeal for your way. Receive the work we do, and the gifts we bring, that they may become a blessing in your sight. Amen.

Announcements

*Sending Song

You Give Us Hope This Easter Day

Tune: Traditional melody ("Though I May Speak")
Text: Copyright © 2013 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

Benediction

Traveling Music

Judi Bartlett, *vocals*

Peace in Our Hearts

©2020 Eliza Gilkyson; Gilkysongs (BMI)

2026's Recipient of Donations to MUMC's Spirituals Royalties Fund – Walker | West Music Academy

About MUMC's Spirituals Royalties Fund: We are aware that we pay royalties regularly for a wide variety of our music, but not for the spirituals we sing. While considered in the public domain, we are well aware that writers and composers of spirituals never had their names tied to their music, and that the communities originally fed by spirituals were denied a humane existence in our society. We cannot change or make up for the past, but we do want to be part of a future that forges a more equitable place for everyone. As a step toward that future, we collect special donations throughout the year for a Spirituals Royalties Fund that uplifts BIPOC voices. Past recipients we have supported through this fund: Capri Theater in Minneapolis (2022), Walker | West Music Academy in St. Paul (2023), Known MPLS (2024) and Vocal Essence WITNESS (2025).

Walker | West Music Academy: Walker | West Music Academy, located in the Rondo neighborhood of Saint Paul, is thought to be the oldest community music school founded by African Americans. It is a music learning community rooted in the African American cultural experience, where people of all ages and backgrounds gather to explore, perform, and grow through music." Rev. Carl Walker and Grant West started Walker | West Music Academy in 1988 answering the call to serve their community by bringing the healing power of music to their neighbors."

WELCOME TO ALL VISITING THIS EASTER SUNDAY!

We're so glad you're here. If you're seeking a church that feels like "home", we hope you'll consider Minnehaha United Methodist Church. We are a thriving multi-generational, multi-cultural congregation. Our Christian faith drives us to take action in our neighborhood through local missions, activism, and sharing the unconditional love of God with our neighbors. We work to make good things happen in our wider community.

We think you will find ours a community that has a lot to offer:

- A place where **everyone is welcome**;
- Faith development in a **positive, non-judgmental** way;
- **Meaningful worship** with varied music .
- A **dynamic children's program** and a strong, multi-faceted program for teens, with support for parents;
- Numerous opportunities for **service to others**;
- The opportunity for close, **life-long friendships**.

To find out more, visit our website (www.minnehaha.org) or contact our pastor, *Becky Sechrist* (becky@minnehaha.org). Thank you for your visit. We hope you'll come back soon. Our worship services are normally at 9:30 on Sundays, and we alternate our music styles between our band and the choir and organ. In the summer, we worship outside in our side lawn – our first worship service outside will be on May 24 at 10:00 a.m.



OUR EASTER GARDEN IS GIVEN TODAY BY:

Jenny Ammerman and Kristin Southworth in celebration of life.

Richard Chantry in memory of Darlene Chantry and Cheryllynne Chantry.

Marshall & Margaret Cook in memory of our parents.

John & Riley Davis in memory of Wanda Riley, Amina Shivani, and Dean Davis.

Wanda Driver in celebration of family.

Bob & Diane Enge in memory of our parents.

Sarah Hicks in celebration of family, especially grandchildren.

Arlo & Susan Johnson in celebration of grandchildren and greats.

Charlene & Craig Johnson in memory of family.

Charlene & Craig Johnson in celebration of being grandparents to Vivy.

Jen Johnson in memory of Joyce Johnson.

Peter & Sue Johnson in memory of those over the rainbow bridge.

Dan Nelson in memory of Brian Nelson.

Kristen Nelson in memory of Tammy Mott.

Pat Roth in memory of Joan Ellison.

Pat Roth in memory of Bob & Barb Ellison.

In Our Prayers

New in our prayers:

- **Discharged to Transitional Care:** Margaret Rawson, Barb Spleiss

Holding in prayer:

- **Hospitalized:** Barb Spleiss
- **Transitional Care:** Bev Young
- **Receiving treatment for cancer:** Jim Duncan (*Linda Duncan's husband*), Judy Durfey, George Gallagher, Barb Spleiss
- **Home Hospice:** Bonnie Graham



We are looking for Scripture Readers

Children, Teens & Adults are encouraged & welcome to sign up!

Annette Meier will send the scripture to you on Wednesday - if you don't hear from her, or you sign up later than Wednesday, please text/call her (612) 597-1778 or e-mail at salmeier@hotmail.com

Here is the link to the sign-up tool:



THIS WEEK AT MINNEHAHA

Sunday Apr 5, 2026 Easter

- 7a 7:00 Easter Sunrise Service (Sanctuary)
- 9a Easter Worship (Sanctuary)
- 10a Easter Egg Hunt (2nd & 3rd Floors)
- 11a Easter Worship (Sanctuary)
- 6p Rehearsal Mpls Choir Collective (Sanctuary)
- 7p SAA (306)

Monday Apr 6, 2026

- 1:30p Al-Anon (306)
- 6p Cub PPM
- 6:30p Troop Meeting (Fellowship Hall & Gym)

Tuesday Apr 7, 2026

- 9a Fun & Fitness Group (302/304)
- 10a Food Shelf (Fellowship Hall, Narthex)
- 11:30a Staff Meeting
- 4p Organ practice (Sanctuary)
- 5p Nominations (210)
- 6p Karate Group (Gym)
- 6:30p Worship and Music Committee (210)

Wednesday Apr 8, 2026

- 9:10a Men's Study of Scripture + Prophetic Consciousness (210)
- 5:30p Methodicals (Wesley Room & Sanctuary)
- 5:30p Wednesday Night Dinner (Fellowship Hall & Kitchen)
- 6p Wednesday Night Childcare (Gym, Nursery, Preschool rooms)
- 6:15p Chancel Choir (310)
- 6:15p Confirmation Class (302/304)
- 6:15p Spring Musical Rehearsal (208)

Thursday Apr 9, 2026

- 9a Food Shelf Board (306)
- 9a Fun & Fitness Group (302/304)
- 9:30a Minnehaha Playgroup (202/204)
- 6p Karate Group (Gym)
- 6:30p Project Healthy Bones (Fellowship Hall & Kitchen)

Friday Apr 10, 2026

- 10a Al-Anon (306)
- 4p Organ practice (Sanctuary)
- 6:30p RCA (306)
- 7p Taizé (Sanctuary)

Saturday Apr 11, 2026

- 9a M. Mazvydas Lithuanian Heritage School (Narthex, 206, 208, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310)
- 11a Karate Group (Gym)
- 2:30p Court of Honor (Sanctuary and Narthex)

Sunday Apr 12, 2026

- 9:30a Worship with Organ (Sanctuary)
- 10:45a Adult Faith Formation (310)
- 10:45a Project Healthy Bones (Fellowship Hall & Kitchen)
- 10:45a Sunday School (Classrooms)
- 10:45a Young Families Storytime (Nursery)
- 11:30a Children's Council (210)
- 1p Curry Memorial reception (Fellowship Hall & Kitchen)
- 4p Youth Group (302/304)
- 6p Rehearsal Mpls Choir Collective (Sanctuary)
- 7p SAA (306)

MINNEHAHA
Youth
Group
Sundays
4:00-5:30 PM

NOTES:
April 5: No Youth Group
April 19: Skateville after fundraiser lunch (1-3pm)

STONE SOUP
 by Sally K. Albrecht
 &
 Jay Althouse

"Give them something to eat." Jesus

A Mini-Musical about unexpected company

Wednesday Rehearsals
6:15-7:15 pm in Room 208

April - 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th
 May - 6th & 13th (Dress Rehearsal)

Dinner served from 5:30-6:15 pm
 Sunday School Music Time - 10:45-11:00 am

Questions? Contact:

Rev. Chris Wehrman, Director dragonflize@gmail.com
 Rev. Jean Elliott, education@minnehaha.org

It's Here - the 2025
MINNEHAHA
YOUTH
PLANT SALE

Order your plants at gertensfundraising.com starting March 1.
 Sale ends April 6. (Store ID 412)

Pick-up at church on Wednesday, May 13 from 5:30-7:00 pm

Proceeds go to the high school mission trip's "Dresser Build" with Bridging

FINAL CALL

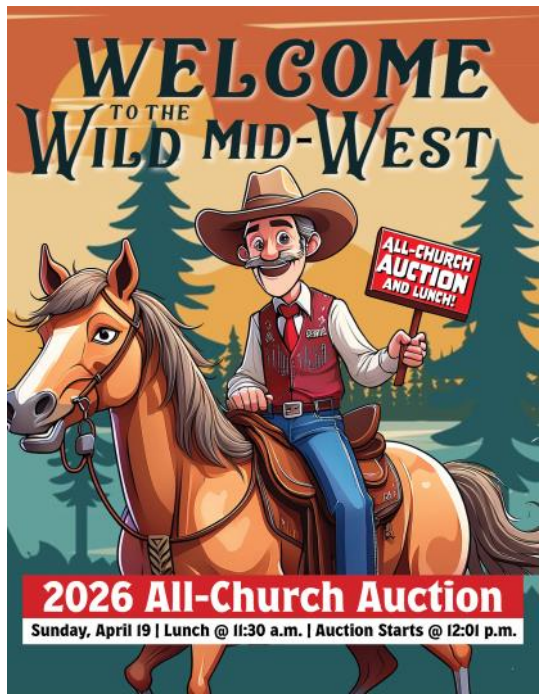
Our youth are again selling beautiful plants from Gertens! The online sale ends on April 6. Place your order at gertensfundraising.com and use Store ID 412.

Join us on
 Sunday, April 12
 at 10:45 am

for
Young Families Storytime

2nd floor
 Nursery

- Listen to a Story
- Sing a Song
- Playtime



Church Service Auction & Social Gathering Fundraiser

Last year we expanded our **Church Service Auction** with the addition of **Magnificent Minnehaha Meet-Ups!** Join us on **April 19th** for a day of fun, food, fellowship, and support for our church.

What is the Service Auction?

The Service Auction allows church members to donate their time, talents, and skills, which are then auctioned off to the highest bidder. Services raise money for the church, and all winning bids go directly to support our mission. We need your **service donations**—examples include:

Home-cooked meals, cookies, or smoked meats

Babysitting or pet-sitting

Handyman or yard work

Sports tickets or cabin/vacation property usage

Music lessons or art tutoring

What is a Magnificent Minnehaha Meet-Up (Social Gathering)?

A **Magnificent Minnehaha Meet-Up** is a casual gathering of 5-25 people where attendees connect and have fun. We need **hosts** to plan and host these events, which will also raise funds for the church. Examples include:

Hosted or potluck dinner parties

Game nights, movie nights, or BBQs

Outdoor activities like hikes, bike tours, or ice fishing trips

Crafting or cooking workshops

Meet-up hosts will plan the event, set attendance limits, and cover the cost. Registration fees for each meet-up will go directly to the church.

Your participation, whether bidding on services or hosting a gathering, helps support our church community. **Please mark your calendars**, and we look forward to seeing you on April 19th!

For questions or to donate a service or host a meet-up, contact Jed Retherford at 612-419-1255 or Jeff Sandager at 651-402-8468. Thank you for your support!





Taizé Service With all that is going on around us, it is important to slow down and make sure we are feeding our souls and listening for God periodically. Take an opportunity for renewal through prayer, song, and silence at our monthly Taizé services. Join us on April 10 at 7:00 p.m. or any second Friday of the month. In addition, we livestream our services, so you can catch Taizé from your home (or wherever you are) in real time, or anytime you want.

Caring Visits Are you interested in visiting some of our homebound members? We are looking for a dozen or so people who would be willing to “adopt” one of our members who cannot make it out to worship services and visit with them once a month. If you are interested or want more information, talk to Annette Meier or Becky Sechrist.

Young Adult Gathering The Young Adults (roughly aged 19-35) will be gathering on the third Sunday of each month for brunch at Berry Sweet Kitchen at 10:45. Join in on April 19.



Newcomer Classes We'll be holding an introduction and orientation class for anyone new to Minnehaha or interested in joining on Wednesday, April 15. Please join us during the Wednesday night dinner at 5:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall (dinner is at 5:30). Your meal is on us, and we'll have a table set aside for the class. Just to give us an idea of numbers, please RSVP to becky@minnehaha.org.

Our next class will be on Sunday, May 3 at 10:45 during the Sunday School time.

Project Healthy Bones

DETAILS & TOPICS:

- April 9: Feed Your Bones
 - 6:30 - 8 pm in Fellowship Hall
- April 12: Develop Strong Bones
 - 10:45 - 11:30 am in the Sanctuary
- April 26: Don't Break a Bone
 - 10:45-11:30 am in the Sanctuary
- April 30: Move Your Bones
 - 6:30- 8 pm in Fellowship Hall

LOCATION:

Minnehaha United Methodist Church
3701 East 50th St
Minneapolis, MN 55417

Bone Health is an important topic for men and women of all ages !
This series of classes will give attendees new or confirmed knowledge on how bones grow, how what we eat can help or harm bone cells, and how bones respond to the purposeful stress of exercise. Each of the four sessions is a separate topic, people are welcome to attend one or all four. There is no cost. People who attend 2 or more sessions will be entered into a drawing for a 60 minute individualized assessment of strength, mobility, flexibility, and balance.

Instructor - Sharon Kimble is a physical therapist who specializes in caring for older adults. She has an interest in community health and fall prevention. She is a faculty member in the University of Minnesota Division of Physical Therapy and a clinician in a large local healthcare provider