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### HELPFUL TO KNOW

If you'd like to join virtually, please connect with the following link:  
<http://upc-superior.com/youtube>  
 (If you are here in person we offer hearing assistance devices-see technology desk.)

### NURSERY

Our nursery is open 15 minutes before the service begins for children who are newborn through 4 years old.

### CHILDREN'S CHURCH

After the Passing the Peace portion of our service, children ages 5 through 5th grade are invited to meet by the round table in the narthex for Children's Church. However, today there will be no Children's Church due to the Breakfast Potluck.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

The Pastor is always glad to share prayer requests during the worship service. Share a request in the comment section. Additionally, the Prayer Chain may be activated by calling Dorothy Burriss 817-715-0968 (macb.dlb@sbcglobal.net) or Dean Hecht at 715-919-1325.

### RIDE SHARE

Need a ride? Please check the bulletin board by the fire extinguisher in the narthex.

**Choirmaster & Handbell Director**

**Church Secretary**

**Custodian**

**Director of Spiritual Formation**

**Financial Secretary**

**Interim Treasurer**

**Nursery Coordinators** Andrew Lisak, Gretchen Schiek, & Melinda Yingling

**Organist & Pianist**

**Pastor**

Jane Wester

Reese Stariha

Mariah Weiss

Laura Foote

Cathy Hecht

Dawn Long

Alexander Sandor

Rev. Brett M. Foote

**Cover Art:** UPC Christmas Caroling—Photo provided by Cheri Tesarek



A CONGREGATION OF THE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)



**UNITED  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF SUPERIOR, WI**



**229 North 28th Street East**

**Superior, WI 54880**

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[www.facebook.com/UnitedPresbyterianChurch](https://www.facebook.com/UnitedPresbyterianChurch)

**Online Worship**

**First Sunday In Christmastide**

**December 28th, 2025**

**10:00 AM**

If you're joining us online, please light a candle to remind yourself of the presence of God.

\* Please rise in body or spirit.

If the text is bolded, everyone is invited to say the words in unison.

## PRELUDE

Alex Sandor

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP & INTROIT    Go, Tell It on the Mountain                      #136

### \*PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

One: Emmanuel, God with us, scripture tells us that You were a refugee, but we love to forget that information.

**All: We love to forget every act of violence and every shooting that takes place. We love to forget how many people go hungry, or how many students do not have access to good education.**

One: We love to forget the injustices in our world that feel too big for us to face.

**All: But you are a God who refuses to forget.**

One: So today we pray: make it impossible for us to overlook the stories of those in need.

**All: Make it impossible for us to sweep injustice under the rug. Open our eyes along with our hearts, so that the anger we feel around injustice might fuel a fire for action.**

One: With hope for a better tomorrow we pray,

**All: Amen.**

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Church family, even when we fail to do justice, even when we fail to love kindness, even when we allow fear to override action, freezing us in place, God still loves us. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

**All: On our best days and on our worst days, we belong to God. We are invited into community. We are held in God's grace. We are forgiven. And we are sent to serve.**

One: Thanks be to God for a love like that.

**All: Amen.**

### \*PASSING THE PEACE

You are invited to bless those around you with the words, "The peace of Christ be with you." In response, you may say, "And also with you!" (share a request in the comments section)

\*RESPONSE    I've Got Peace Like a River    #623

## CHANCEL CHOIR

## WE BLESS THE MEAL & FILL OUR PLATES

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

The Congregation

Old Testament  
New Testament

Isaiah 63:7-9  
Matthew 2:1-23

## REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

- When you hear the story of the Holy Family fleeing political persecution, how does it make you feel? Does it make you think of any current or historical events?

- We often skip the story of Herod's persecution and the Holy Family fleeing to Egypt. Why do you think that is? What do we lose if we don't read and know about this text?

- There is so much suffering in the world. What is one organization, non-profit, or grassroots movement that inspires you?

- Where and how do you see our congregation making a difference in the world? Where can we grow in this next year and the years to come?

- The scripture of the Holy Family fleeing to Egypt is a story that stirs up compassion for refugees. When it comes to the work of justice, compassion, and peace, what other causes or movements are you invested in?

- The theme for this morning is, "Let fear fire a fuel for justice." How can we move from fear to action? How do we not let fear stop us in our tracks?

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

## IS JUSTICE REALLY WORTH IT? & LETTING OUR LIGHT SHINE

### OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

Alex Sandor

\*RESPONSE    Good Christian Friends, Rejoice    #132

### \*PRAYER OVER OFFERING

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER (Here's our suggested version, but feel free to pray the version you are most familiar with.)

**All: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN    My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout    #100

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*POSTLUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SHOE DRIVE

Funds2org will not come and pick up over the holidays, thus giving us another few weeks to collect. To date, we are at 1700 pairs of shoes! Collection boxes are located inside Pilgrim, Zion, UPC, Our Saviors and Concordia churches, and also inside Trends Salon in the Blaine business center. Boxes are also located outside the main doors at Pilgrim so after hours drop offs can be done 24/7.

### NEWS YEAR'S EVE & NEW YEAR'S PARTY

Join us New Year's Eve & New Year's Day for some fun at the Lisak's home located at 4519 East Pleasant View Rd, Superior, WI. There will be sliding, ice fishing, ice skating, a bonfire, indoor games, food, and more! The festivities will start at 7:00 PM New Year's Eve and 1:00 PM on New Year's Day. Bring a dish to share and an item for the dice game. Contact Beth Lisak at 715-817-4861 with any questions.

## SCRIPTURE READING

### OLD TESTAMENT

#### **Isaiah 63:7-9**

**63:7** I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. **8** For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not act deceitfully," and he became their savior **9** in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

## SCRIPTURE READING

### NEW TESTAMENT

#### **Matthew 2:1-23**

**2:1** In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, **2** asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." **3** When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, **4** and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. **5** They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet: **6** 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.' " **7** Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. **8** Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." **9** When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. **10** When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. **11** On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. **12** And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road. **13** Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." **14** Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt **15** and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." **16** When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. **17** Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: **18** "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more." **19** When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, **20** "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." **21** Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. **22** But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. **23** There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazarene."

### WAYS TO SERVE

There are plenty of ways to get involved here at United!

*\*Sign-up sheets are in the narthex.*

- Coffee Hour\*—Make coffee and bring treats for everyone.
- Liturgist\*—Being a liturgist is a great opportunity to get involved by leading the church in our scripture readings and our call to worship.
- Crafters Group—Every Wednesday at 10:00 AM in the crafting room inside the Fellowship Hall. Contact the office to learn more.
- Community Dinner—Volunteer for our Community Dinner the third Sunday in October, February, June, and August. To learn more, contact the office or Dawn Long at 218-590-9376.
- Nursery—Come spend time with our babies and toddlers in the nursery during the Sunday service! You will serve with a Nursery Coordinator once or twice a month (your choice). Contact Laura at [laura.foote@upc-superior.com](mailto:laura.foote@upc-superior.com) to learn more or sign up. *A background check is required.*
- Children's Church—Come support our young ones as they grow in their faith during Children's Church! This takes place during the Sunday service. You can volunteer once or twice a month (your choice). Contact Laura at [laura.foote@upc-superior.com](mailto:laura.foote@upc-superior.com) to learn more or sign up. *A background check is required.*
- Technology/AV Desk—Volunteer to run the AV on a rotating, weekly, or monthly basis. Training will be provided! Questions? Contact Mac Burriss 304-890-2375.
- Hotdish Initiative—We're looking for volunteers to help distribute meals to individuals and families in need. If you're looking to help out or learn more, contact Jane Wester at 218-591-7633.

### WAYS TO LEARN, GROW, & GET INVOLVED

- Pickleball—Every Tuesday & Thursday at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall at UPC. All are welcome!
- Volleyball—Every Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall at UPC.
- Men's Breakfast—First Saturday of each month at 9:00 AM at Superior Family Restaurant. Questions? Contact Tom Lisak at 218-348-5390.
- Presbyterian Women—Meet the first Wednesday of every month (except January, February, and July) at 9:30 AM. December and June meetings are lunches at 12:30 PM. To learn more, contact Bonnie Wallin at 715-392-7029.

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

#### SUNDAY 12/28

8:45 AM Chancel Choir  
10:00 AM Breakfast Potluck Worship  
6:00 PM Volleyball

#### TUESDAY 12/30

10:00 AM Pickleball  
1:00 PM AA Meeting

#### THURSDAY 1/1

Office Closed—Happy New Year  
12:00 PM New Year's Day Party

#### SATURDAY 1/3

9:00 AM Men's Breakfast

#### MONDAY 12/29

UPBeat Deadline  
2:30 PM Piano Lessons

#### WEDNESDAY 12/31

7:00 PM New Year's Eve Party

#### FRIDAY 1/2

#### Birthdays This Week

12/28—Tom Lisak  
12/28—Teri Quinn  
12/29—Creede McClellan  
12/29—Christy Willmore  
1/1—Elizabeth Schlacks lafrate  
1/1—Sara Maas  
1/3—Emily Lanigan  
1/3—Dominic Okash

# 136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev-ery-where;

go, tell it on the moun-tain that Je-sus Christ is born!

*Fine*

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si-lent flocks by night,  
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a-bove the earth  
3 Down in a low-ly man-ger the hum-ble Christ was born,

be-hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho-ly light.  
rang out the an-gel cho-rus that hailed our Sav-ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal-va-tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

*to Refrain*

# 623 I've Got Peace like a River

1 I've got peace like a riv-er; I've got peace like a  
2 I've got joy like a foun-tain; I've got joy like a  
3 I've got love like an o-cean; I've got love like an

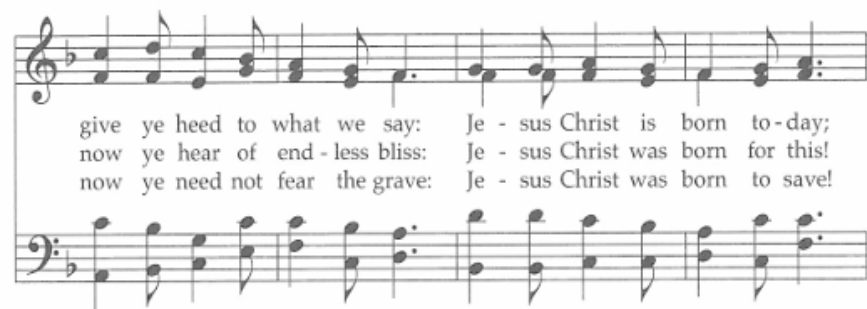
riv-er; I've got peace like a riv-er, in my  
foun-tain; I've got joy like a foun-tain, in my  
o-cean; I've got love like an o-cean, in my

soul. I've got riv-er, in my soul.  
soul. I've got foun-tain, in my soul.  
soul. I've got o-cean, in my soul.

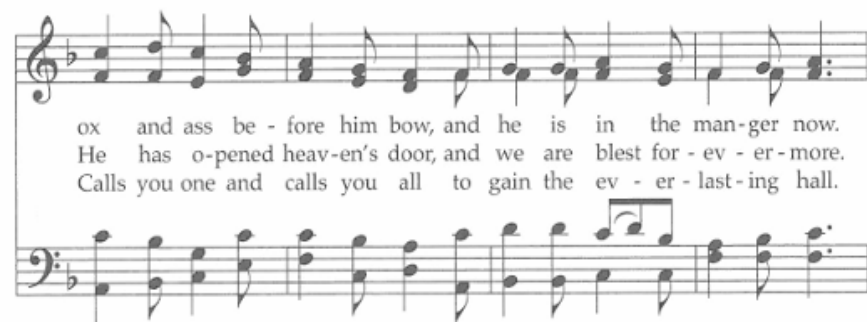
# 132 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



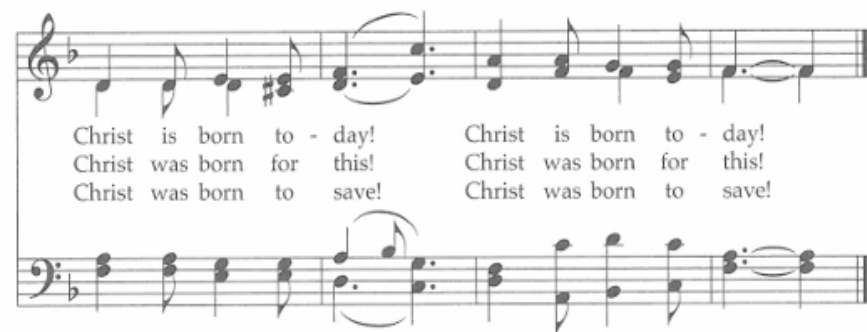
1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to-day;  
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!



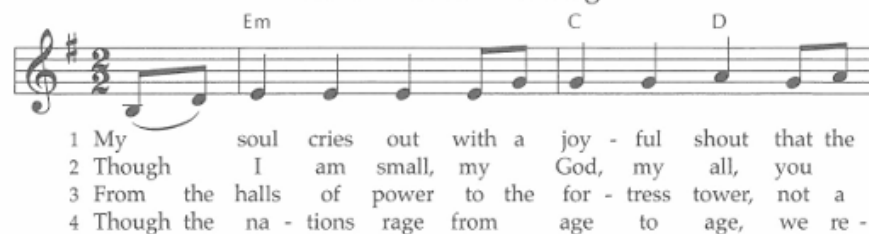
ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.  
 He has o-pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.  
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



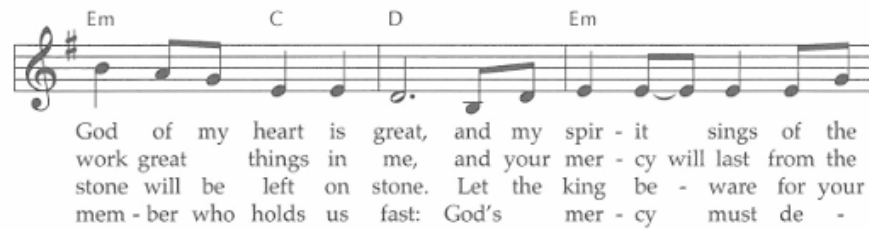
Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

# 100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

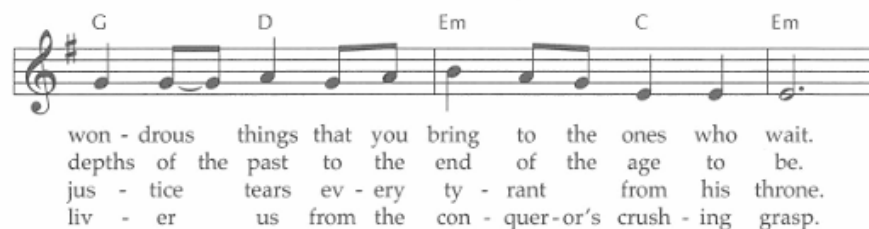
## Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you  
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



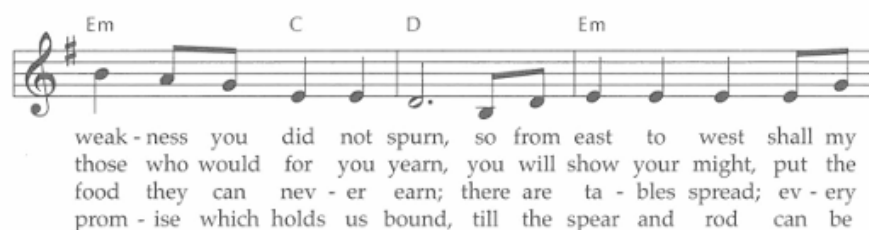
God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be