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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 & CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Our nursery is open 15 minutes before worship for children newborn–4 years old. After the Passing of the Peace, children ages 5 through 5th grade may meet at the round table in the narthex for Children's Church.

PRAYER REQUESTS

The Pastor is always glad to share prayer requests during the worship service. Share a request in the comments 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.

Children's Church Ministry Leader
Choirmaster & Handbell Director
Church Secretary
Custodian
Director of Spiritual Formation
Financial Secretary
Nursery Coordinators Andrew Lisak, Annika Nikoi, & Gretchen Schiek
Organist & Pianist
Pastor
Treasurer

Melinda Yingling
Jane Wester
Reese Stariha
Mariah Weiss
Laura Foote
Cathy Hecht
Alexander Sandor
Rev. Brett M. Foote
Dawn Long

Cover Art: Great Lakes Elementary School harvesting potatoes—photo provided by Eric Schlacks



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Pastor: 717-247-4433

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www.facebook.com/UnitedPresbyterianChurch

Online Worship

**Seventh Sunday In Eastertide &
Garden Kick-Off Sunday**

May 17th, 2026

10:00 AM



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

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** For the Fruit of All Creation #36

*PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

One: God of the Earth, we praise You for all the ways in which You are tending the soil of our lives and planting seeds of hope in our hearts.

All: God, despite the struggles surrounding us, You call us to keep tending the gardens of our lives.

One: Forgive us, Holy God.

All: Forgive us for those times when we want to give up and stop being faithful.

One: May we show up each and every day in every way we are called for You.

All: Despite the overabundance or lack of rain, the squirrels, the deer, or other harmful conditions...You continue to promise a harvest for us.

One: Holy One, we know there are more than animals in the garden we struggle against.

All: Keep us faithful as we wrestle against the powers of this world: Addiction, hunger, thirst, deceit, violence, envy, greed, and strife.

One: In Christ's name through the power of the Holy Spirit we pray...

All: Amen!

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends — there are seasons in life when the soil of our hearts feels dry and void of life, when the weight of suffering feels heavy and the fruits of our harvest seem far off. Yet God says:

All: "Cast all your anxiety on him, because God cares for you."

One: The same God who tends every garden, who brings life from breaking and death in dormant seeds, has not forgotten you. Even in your trials, God is at work.

All: God's care for us cannot be overstated. No matter the burdens we carry or the ways we have fallen short, the Gardener of our lives is more than faithful.

One: Because of Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection — the ground of our being has been broken open, and new life has been given hope.

All: We are forgiven! Rooted in grace, sustained by mercy, we live. In the name of the Holy Trinity we pray, Amen.

BELL CHOIR Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

*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!"**

Children are invited to gather by the round table in the narthex for Children's Church.

***RESPONSE** All Things Bright and Beautiful (vs 1 & 4)

#20

CHANCEL CHOIR Halle, Halle, Halle

(We invite any former choir members to come up and sing with us, and all in the congregation to join us in the chorus)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Ella

Old Testament

Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35

Sermon

United's Garden: Squirrels, Rain, and Faithfulness

Rev. Brett M. Foote

New Testament

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

*HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

#14

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP & MISSION

Jill Harnstrom

OFFERING

OFFERTORY— BELL CHOIR

Be Thou My Vision

*PRAYER OVER OFFERING

One: Let us bless these gifts.

All: God of the garden, thank You for the gospel. We give thanks for the good news that helps us to be faithful in the midst of the challenges we face in our lives. We give thanks for these gifts that allow us to love and serve our Superior community in some incredible ways. May we always reach out to our neighbors, wherever they are, wherever they are from, with care and Your peace. Help us to give of our time, talents, and treasures as we serve the Superior community. We give You thanks for Your "Yes" to all humanity, all of these gifts and what they mean for the kingdom of God. Send Your Spirit so we can connect with, serve, and care for this congregation, Superior community, and world. Amen.

TIME OF PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

You Shall Go Out with Joy (2x)

#80

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY 5/17

8:45 AM Chancel & Bell Choir
8:45 AM Spiritual Formation
11:00 AM Community Garden Potluck
2:00 PM VBS Music Meeting
4:00 PM Dungeons & Dragons

MONDAY 5/18

2:30 PM Piano Lessons
4:59 PM GMNC Meeting
6:01 PM Mission Committee

TUESDAY 5/19

10:00 AM Pickleball
1:00 PM AA Meeting
5:36 PM Personnel Committee

WEDNESDAY 5/20

10:00 AM Crafters Group
12:00 PM Staff Meeting
2:00 PM CSA Pick-up
4:00 PM Piano Lessons
5:15 PM Session Meeting
6:40 PM Volleyball @ Aces

THURSDAY 5/21

10:00 AM Pickleball
4:00 PM Piano Lessons

FRIDAY 5/22

SATURDAY 5/23

Birthdays This Week

5/17—Irene Eskelson
5/19—Trent Anderson
5/20—Pam McGraw
5/22—Dorothy Burriss

DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN DONATE ONLINE?

At United Presbyterian Church, we offer many opportunities to give of yourself to glorify God.

From signing up to volunteer to donating financially, if you'd like to support the mission and vision of the church, you can do so at the following link:

<https://www.upc-superior.com/donate>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPC JOB OPENINGS

Do you love working with children and helping them grow in faith? UPC is hiring 2 Nursery Coordinators and 1 Children's Church Ministry Leader to support our youngest members.

- Nursery Coordinator — \$16.32/hour
- Children's Church Ministry Leader — \$18.00/hour

If you're interested, please send your resume to Ephraim Nikoi at ephraimnikoi@gmail.com and Jonathan Asp at aspjonathan@gmail.com

COMMUNITY GARDEN KICK-OFF POTLUCK TODAY

Please join us after today's service for a salad-and-dessert potluck in celebration of start of the 2026 UPC Community Garden season! The Community Garden Team thanks all those who've contributed to the potluck.

RUMMAGE SALE

Mark your calendar! Friday, May 29, from 3–6 PM, and Saturday, May 30, from 8 AM–Noon, are the dates of this year's rummage sale. As you spring clean, save your stuff for the rummage sale. Please don't bring items to the church until the week of the sale.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Pentecost is next Sunday, May 24. Pentecost is the time in the Church calendar where we celebrate the birthday of the church universal and the coming of the Holy Spirit! Please join us in wearing red in recognition of this.

GHANA TRIP PRESENTATION

Join us on May 27 at 5:30 to learn more about the recent trip to Ghana taken by church and community members. We will share our favorite stories and highlight the ways in which our partnerships between UPC, Great Lakes Elementary (and other Superior schools), and Flodan International Academy grew through this visit. We will also share additional information about future trips.

UPC VOLLEYBALL

UPC volleyball is back on Wednesday nights at Aces on 29th in Superior. The team went 5-1 last Wednesday. Next week's game is at 6:40 PM on court 2, if you want to cheer on the Burnin' Beets!

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 next dinner in June. 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! Contact Laura at 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! Children's Church takes place during the Sunday service. Contact Laura at 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.
- Vacation Bible School—We are hosting a free vacation bible school June 22-26 for kids going into K-5th grade. It goes from 4:45-7:00p. See the flyer in the narthex for more details. Contact Laura at laura.foote@upc-superior.com with any questions.

WAYS TO LEARN, GROW, & GET INVOLVED

- Pickleball—Every Tuesday & Thursday at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall at UPC. All are welcome!
- Sand Volleyball—Every Wednesday night at Aces in Superior. See the bulletin or church calendar for game times. Contact the office or Cathy Hecht at 863-944-5003 with any questions.
- Men's Breakfast—First Saturday of each month at 9:00 AM at Superior Family Restaurant. June 6 is the next breakfast. Questions? Contact Tom Lisak at 218-348-5390.
- Women's Breakfast—First Saturday of each month at 9:00 AM at Superior Waffles. June 6 is the next breakfast. Contact Dorothy Burriss at 817-715-0968 with any questions.
- 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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

68:1 Let God rise up; let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee before him. **2** As smoke is driven away, so drive them away; as wax melts before the fire, let the wicked perish before God. **3** But let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; let them be jubilant with joy. **4** Sing to God; sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds—his name is the Lord—be exultant before him. **5** Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. **6** God gives the desolate a home to live in; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious live in a parched land. **7** O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness, *Selah* **8** the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel. **9** Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad; you restored your heritage when it languished; **10** your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy. **32** Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord, *Selah* **33** O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens; listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice. **34** Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel and whose power is in the skies. **35** Awesome is God in his sanctuary, the God of Israel; he gives power and strength to his people.

NEW TESTAMENT

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

4:12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. **13** But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. **14** If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. **5:6** Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. **7** Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. **8** Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. **9** Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. **10** And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. **11** To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

For the Fruit of All Creation 36

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For the gifts to ev - ery na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will be done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de -
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con -

sleep - ing, fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 spair - ing, in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will be done.
 found us, most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

20 All Things Bright and Beautiful

Refrain

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,

all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all. *Fine*

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
 2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
 4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

God made their glow - ing col - ors; God made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky:
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well. *to Refrain*

For the Beauty of the Earth 14

1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the glo-ry of the skies,
 2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de-light,
 4 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
 5 For thy-self, best gift di-vine to the world so free-ly given;

for the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies:
 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
 for the mys-tic har-mo-ny link-ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild:
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Refrain

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

You Shall Go Out with Joy 80

The Trees of the Field

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
 the moun-tains and the hills will break forth be-
 fore you; there'll be shouts of joy, and all the
 trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands.
 And all the trees of the field will clap their hands;
 the trees of the field will clap their hands;
 the trees of the field will clap their hands
 while you go out with joy.

**Clap hands.*