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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.

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.

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

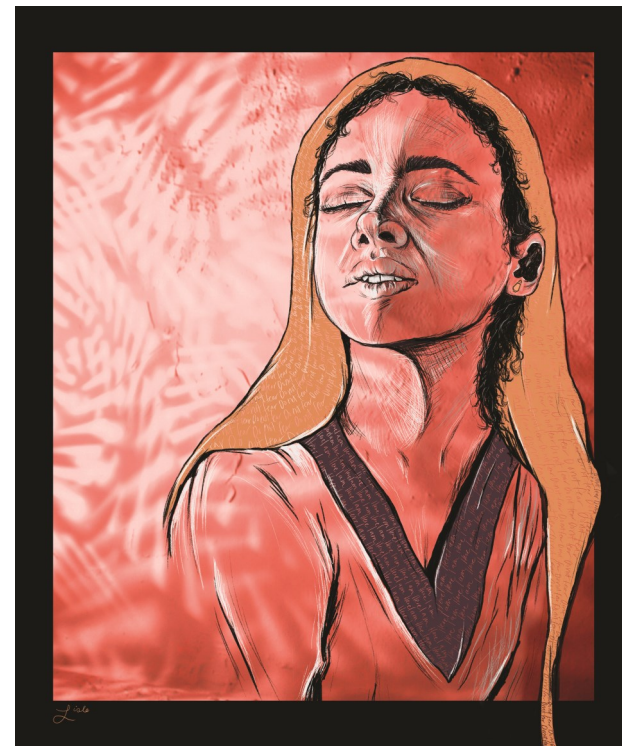
Alexander Sandor

Rev. Brett M. Foote

Cover Art: *Mary's Yes* by Lisle Gwynn Garrity, Inspired by Luke 1:26-39,
Photography with digital drawing.



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



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Superior, WI 54880

Office: 715-392-4751

Pastor: 717-247-4433

office@upc-superior.com

www.facebook.com/UnitedPresbyterianChurch

Online Worship

Gaudete Sunday & Third Sunday In Advent

December 14th, 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 Bell Choir We Three Kings

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING Teri & Lily Quinn, Jill Harnstrom, Kayla Carlson

*PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

One: Courageous God, you invite us to live into our call.

All: You invite us to act, to serve, and to trust in all You have done for us.

One: Instead of responding with a resounding "yes," we often hide our face.

All: We dig our heels in. We look for someone else to volunteer.

One: Spark courage in us, Holy One.

All: Remind us that every person is capable of making a difference.

Remind us that we are able to make a difference and that even when we're scared, we are not alone.

One: You invite us forward.

All: With baby steps we hope, we pray, in the name of the Holy Trinity, amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: United Family, no matter where your path has led you in the past, to-day it has led you here, today is a new day. So join me in declaring this good news:

All: We are known. We are forgiven! We are sent to serve. May we move forward in faith, always moving closer to God's call, knowing that it is Christ who forgives us. 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!" (you may pass the peace in the comments section)

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

*RESPONSE Go, Tell It on the Mountain #136

BELL CHOIR The First Noel, Carol of the Bells

SCRIPTURE READINGS Sue Olson

Old Testament Jeremiah 1:4-10

Sermon Do It Scared Rev. Brett M. Foote

New Testament Luke 1:26-39

*HYMN To a Maid Whose Name Was Mary #98

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

One: Let us confess our faith using the words of this modern confession...

All: We have seen the valley. We have seen a sky without stars. We have seen the longest night, and still we believe. We believe in a with-us God. We believe in the hope of tomorrow. We believe that good news is louder than fear. We believe this good news is for all people.

One: So even when our knees shake, even when our voice trembles, even when fear is all around us, we will hold onto that good news.

All: We will reach for each other. We will look for God in our midst. We will sing songs of joy. We will proclaim: Unto us, love is born. We have seen the longest night, and we have seen unimaginable love. So still, we believe. Amen.

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP & MISSION Serena Lamers McClellan

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Alex Sandor

*RESPONSE Angels We Have Heard on High (vs 1) #113

*PRAYER OVER OFFERING

One: Let us bless these gifts.

All: God of doing it afraid, may we always move forward into what You've called us to even if our legs are shaking and we are sweating. Transform us. May we always reach out to our neighbors, whoever they are, wherever they are from, with care. Help us to give of our time, talents, and treasures as we serve the Superior community. May we live Your expansive love. We give You thanks for 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. May we live Your "YES!" towards all people. 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 Love Has Come #110

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Liturgy by Rev. Anna Strickland | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org. Adapted by Rev. Brett M Foote

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 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 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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT

Jeremiah 1: 4-10

1:4 Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, **5** "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." **6** Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." **7** But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy,' for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. **8** Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord." **9** Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. **10** See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

NEW TESTAMENT

Luke 1: 26-39

1:26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, **27** to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. **28** And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." **29** But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. **30** The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. **31** And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. **32** He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. **33** He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." **34** Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" **35** The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. **36** And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. **37** For nothing will be impossible with God." **38** Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her. **39** In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country,

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM & CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Next Sunday, we will be having our annual intergenerational Christmas Program during the service. On December 24, we will have two services: the first is an interactive and intergenerational family service at 4:00 PM, and the second is a traditional service at 9:00 PM. Please note that child care will be provided at the 4:00 PM service, but not at the 9:00 PM service.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

We will be collecting our Christmas Joy Offering next Sunday, December 21st.

COOKIE SALE

Following the service next Sunday, December 21st, we will be having a cookie sale. Pick up some delicious homemade treats to enjoy or share with friends and family! All proceeds go towards Fellowship & Outreach activities.

2026 UPC COMMUNITY GARDEN FUNDRAISING: LAST CHANCE!

Fundraising for the 2026 UPC Community Garden continues until tomorrow, December 15, at 11 am. Help us raise money for seeds, dirt, supplies, and more through Seedmoney.org! This organization awards grants to nonprofit community garden projects like ours that use its platform for fundraising. Visit <https://donate.seedmoney.org/12547/united-presbyterian-church-community-garden> to make your donation, or stop by the table in the narthex after today's service for assistance in doing so.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY 12/14

8:45 AM Bell Choir
8:45 AM SF Committee
Coffee Hour
4:00 PM Dungeons & Dragons
6:00 PM Volleyball

TUESDAY 12/16

10:00 AM Pickleball
1:00 PM AA Meeting

THURSDAY 12/18

10:00 AM Pickleball
3:30 PM Piano Lessons

SATURDAY 12/20

MONDAY 12/15

2:30 PM Piano Lessons
6:01 PM Mission Committee

WEDNESDAY 12/17

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

FRIDAY 12/19

Birthdays This Week

12/15—Duane Aslyn
12/16—Sue Olson
12/17—Heidi Carswell
12/18—Alice Matthias
12/20—Cheri Danielson

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>

136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain ♩ = 7/8

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!

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.

98 To a Maid Whose Name Was Mary

Capo 3: (Em) (B7) (Em) (Am) (B) (Em)
Gm D7 Gm Cm D Gm

- 1 To a maid whose name was Mar - y, the an - gel Ga-briel came.
- 2 "For you are high - ly fa-vored by God the Lord of all,
- 3 But Mar-y was most trou-bled to hear the an-gel's word.
- 4 "Fear not, for God is with you, and you shall bear a child.
- 5 "How shall this be?" said Mar - y, "I am not yet a wife."
- 6 As Mar-y heard the an - gel, she won-dered at his words.

(Em) (B7) (Em) (G) (D) (G)
Gm D7 Gm B \flat F B \flat

"Fear not," the an - gel told her, "I come to bring good news;
who e - ven now is with you. You are on earth most blest;
What was the an - gel say - ing? It trou-bled her to hear,
His name shall be called Je - sus, God's off-spring from on high.
The an - gel an-swered quick - ly, "The power of the Most High
"Be - hold, I am your hand-maid," she said un - to her God.

(Em) (Am) (B) (Em) (Am) (B) (Em)
Gm Cm D Gm Cm D Gm

good news I come to tell you, good news, I say, good news."
you are most blest, most bless - ed; God chose you, you are blest!"
to hear the an - gel's mes - sage, it trou-bled her to hear.
And he shall reign for - ev - er, for - ev - er reign on high."
will come up - on you short - ly, your child shall be God's child."
"So be it; I am read - y ac - cord - ing to your word."

113 Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some ti - dings be which in - spire your heaven - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Love Has Come

110

Capo 3: (D) F (Bm7) Dm7 (Em7) Gm7 (A) C

1 Love has come: a light in the dark - ness!
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der.
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us!

(D) (Bm7) (Em) (A7) (D)
 F Dm7 Gm C7 F

Love shines forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all
 Love is God now a - sleep in the hay. See the
 Love is life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is

(A) (D) (Bm) (D) (A) (G) (D)
 C F Dm F C B^b F

heav - en has come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of
 glow in the eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her
 Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our

(Em7) (F#7) (G) (A) (Bm) (A7)
 Gm7 A7 B^b C Dm C7

joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a
 heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she
 hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of

(D) (A) (G) (A) (D) (A) (A7) (Dsus) (D)
 F C B^b C F C C7 Fsus F

Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.
 Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!