

WAYS TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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HELPFUL TO KNOW

If you'd like to join us for Sunday worship service live, please go to our Facebook page or YouTube and connect with the following link:

<http://upc-superior.com/youtube>

Please feel free to place any questions you may have by replying in the comments section (YouTube), or contact the church office by phone or email and request to be added to our email list.

PRAYER REQUEST

The Pastor is always glad to share prayer requests during the Prayer Time during each worship service. You can share a prayer request online in the comments section (YouTube) or by contacting the church by email or phone with your request.

The Prayer Chain may be activated by calling Jan Heckman at 715-392-1072 (jan_KB9LTA@yahoo.com) or Dean Hecht at 715-398-6532.

Choirmaster & Handbell Director—Jane Wester

Interim Church Secretary—Jane Wester

Custodian—Beth Lisak

Director of Spiritual Formation—Laura Foote

Financial Secretary—Jan Letsos

Nursery Coordinators—Annika Nikoi & Danielle Brady-Anderson

Organist & Pianist—Alexander Sandor

Pastor—Rev. Brett M. Foote

Treasurer—Christy Willmore

Cover Art: Photograph provided by Laura Foote



**UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF SUPERIOR, WI**



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Superior, WI 54880

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Pastor: 717-247-4433

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Online Worship

Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

January 28th, 2024

10:00 AM



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

If you are 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

*CALL TO WORSHIP & INTROIT
Sing to God With Joy and Gladness #657

*PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

One: Let us pray...

All: God, you're so much bigger than our imaginations. May we never be so satisfied with our ideas about who you are that we can't expect even greater things from you. Forgive those times when our perceived certainty hurts others. Forgive those times when we seek to be right and not loving with our spouses, friends, and family members. Teach us love above all things and may we trade our certainty for awe. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

*HYMN Open My Eyes That I May See #451

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: United, the poet Ocean Vuong in his poem *On Earth We Are Briefly Gorgeous* writes: "Say amen. Say amend. Say yes. Say yes." Vuong's words are a reminder that our prayers and conversations with God are notices that we are forgiven, amends have been made before we have even prayed. God is at work and forgiveness has always been God's intention in Christ through the power of the Spirit. Because of Christ's birth, life, death and resurrection...

All: We and our neighbors are forgiven!

*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 Calm to the Waves (3x) #184

SCRIPTURE READINGS Tom Vosburgh
Old Testament Reading Psalm 111:1-10

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM Gather the People

SERMON "Animal Sacrifices, The Study Of God, And Christians Who Think They Know It All: Love"
New Testament Reading Rev. Brett M Foote
1 Corinthians 8:1-13

*APOSTLES CREED

One: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*HYMN Be Thou My Vision #450

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP & MISSION
OFFERING

OFFERTORY Alex Sandor
*RESPONSE God, We Honor You #709

God, we honor you. God, we trust in you.
God, we worship and adore you.
Take what we bring, offered to you.
Teach us to show your abundant blessings.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, amen.

*PRAYER OVER OFFERING

One: Let us bless these gifts.

All: God of love, thank you for the gifts of love before us, thank you for making yourself known to us in Jesus! Help us to elevate the voices of those who have been marginalized or hurt by society. Help us to give of our time, talents, or treasures. May we model your expansive justice and love. Send your powerful Spirit so we can connect with, serve, and care for each of our communities: Superior, Duluth, and Bovey. We want others to know your "love that goes into the far country." Amen.

Prayers to be Shared Please email or call the church with your prayer requests or share them in the comments section. (YouTube)
Silent Prayer
Pastoral Prayer

LORD'S PRAYER

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 The Gift of Love #693

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE Alex Sandor

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 111:1-10

Praise the Lord!
I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
Great are the works of the Lord,
studied by all who delight in them.
Full of honor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.
He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;
the Lord is gracious and merciful.
He provides food for those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.
He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the heritage of the nations.
The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.
They are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is his name.
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge, but anyone who loves God is known by him.
Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords— yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.
It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge the weak brother or sister for whom Christ died is destroyed. But when you thus sin against brothers and sisters and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never again eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

United Presbyterian Church Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY 1/28

**8:45 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM Morning Worship
10:15 AM Children’s Church
Annual Meeting following Service
Birthday Potluck following Annual Meeting
6 PM Volleyball**

MONDAY 1/29

**Fellowship Hall Reserved—Sister City
Commission Shinnekai 6-8 PM
6:15 PM Piano Lessons**

TUESDAY 1/30

**10 AM Pickleball
1 PM UPBeat Packing
6 PM Bell Choir**

WEDNESDAY 1/31

**UPBeat Mailing
2-6 PM CSA Pickup
6 PM Sanctuary Reserved**

THURSDAY 2/1

**10 AM Pickleball
7 PM AA Meeting**

FRIDAY 2/2

Leadership Retreat

SATURDAY 2/3

**Leadership Retreat
6 PM AA Speaker Meeting**

Birthdays This Week

**1/29 Bev Vosburgh
1/29 Hunter Willmore
1/29 Courtney Cairns
1/31 Cole Defoe
2/2 Kara Peterson**

LOOKING AHEAD

**February 14
February 14**

**Ash Wednesday
Ladies Valentines Bingo**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GET INVOLVED

There are plenty of ways to get involved here at United! Two great ways that are available year-round are to sign up to be a liturgist during our Sunday worship, or to host a coffee hour following the service. There are sign up sheets available at the back of the Narthex under the calendar!

NURSERY AVAILABILITY

Our nursery is open 15 minutes before the service begins for children who are newborn through 4 years old. Once checked in, your young ones can play in a safe environment during worship.

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, from there they will go together to the Youth room for Children's Church! This is a time designed specifically for our young ones to learn and grow in their faith.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

The envelopes are on the table in the back of the church. If you want envelopes and you were omitted, please contact Jan Letsos.

NOTE FROM JAN

Please remember when writing checks that it is now 2024! Thank you!

FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH NEWS

You can join us for pickleball **Tuesdays or Thursdays from 10 AM-12 PM**. We hope to see you there!

Volleyball will be playing **every Sunday at 6 PM** unless there is an announcement stating otherwise!

On **February 14th** we will be having a Ladies Valentine's Day Bingo from 1-3 PM! Invite a friend for fun games of bingo, with prizes! There will be a light lunch, good conversation, and lots of laughs!

On **February 18th** we will be having our annual SPUD DAY following the worship service! Included in this event are potatoes and all the fixings!

HEADPHONES AND EARBUDS FOR GREAT LAKES

Great Lakes Elementary could use any headphones or ear buds that you are not using, and that are in working condition. The headphones need to have the small round plug that would work in a laptop. Please bring them to the church office and we'll be sure they get to the school.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting will take place today, January 28th, following the service.

BIRTHDAY POTLUCK INFORMATION

Please join us for the Birthday Potluck following the Annual Meeting today, January 28th. When it is time to "dine" you sit at the table of your birthday month. It is a great chance to reconnect with those birthday sharing friends from last year's birthday potluck! Everyone is welcome; we always have plenty of delicious food and many cakes to sample!

CURRENT COVID PROCEDURES

As of Friday, January 26th, Douglas County is at a **Low COVID-19 Community Level**. At this level, the Session-approved guidelines recommend that our community members stay up to date on vaccinations, mask in spaces with older folks and other potentially immunocompromised individuals, and stay home when sick.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Come work at United Presbyterian Church! We are hiring for a part time (10-4, Monday through Friday, 30 hrs a week) Office Secretary. No church experience required. Pay is competitive and we offer some solid benefits: paid time off, paid family leave, sick time, and continuing education funds! We think UPC is a pretty great place to work! Apply today as all résumés and cover letters should be turned in by 2/12/24. Hope to see yours.

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>

657 Sing to God, with Joy and Gladness

(Psalm 147)

Capo 3: (D) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (D)
 Refrain F Dm Gm7 C F

Sing to God, with joy and glad-ness, hymns and
 psalms of grat-i-tude; with the voice of praise
 dis-cov-er that to wor-ship God is good.

(Bm) (Em7) (D) (Bm) (Em7)
 Dm Gm7 F Dm Gm7

1 God u-nites the scat-tered peo-ple, gath-ers
 2 Such is God's great power and wis-dom, none can
 3 God with clouds the sky has cur-tained, thus en-
 4 God's dis-cern-ment nev-er fa-vors strength or

(A) (D) (Bm) (Em7) (D)
 C F Dm Gm7 F *Fine*

those who wan-dered far, heals the hurt and bro-ken
 cal-cu-late or tell; keen is God to ground the
 sur-ving rain shall fall; earth, re-spond-ing, grows to
 speed to lift or move; God de-lights in those who

(Em) (F#) (F#7) (Bm) (Em7) (A)
 Gm A A7 Dm Gm7 C

spir-its, tend-ing ev-ery wound and scar.
 wick-ed and with hum-ble folk to dwell.
 or-der food for crea-tures great and small.
 wor-ship, trust-ing in God's stead-fast love.

Open My Eyes, That I May See 451

1 O-pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou hast for me.
 2 O-pen my ears, that I may hear voic-es of truth thou send-est clear.
 3 O-pen my mouth, and let me bear glad-ly the warm truth ev-ery-where.

Place in my hands the won-der-ful key that shall un-clasp and
 And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev-ery-thing false will
 O - pen my heart, and let me pre-pare love with thy chil-dren

set me free. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
 dis-ap-pear. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
 thus to share. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy

will to see. O-pen my eyes; il-lu-mine me, Spir-it di-vine!
 will to see. O-pen my ears; il-lu-mine me, Spir-it di-vine!
 will to see. O-pen my heart; il-lu-mine me, Spir-it di-vine!

The first woman to publish a collection of her own anthems, this author/composer has created in this hymn a sung prayer for illumination. It not only asks God to help us understand Scripture but also prays for the strength and courage to make God's love known to others.

Calm to the Waves

184

Musical score for 'Calm to the Waves' in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. The lyrics are: 'Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind. Je - sus whis - pers, "Peace, be still." Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In still-ness, hear his voice.'

450

Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) E^b (G) A^b (D/F#) E^b/G (A7) B^b7 (D) E^b

Musical score for 'Be Thou My Vision' in E-flat major, 3/4 time. The score consists of a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. The lyrics are: '1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word; 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise; 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,'

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) B^b (D) E^b (G) A^b (A) B^b

Musical score for 'Be Thou My Vision' (continued) in E-flat major, 3/4 time. The score consists of a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. The lyrics are: 'naught be all else to me, save that thou art; I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways; may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) A^b (D) E^b (F#m7) Gm7 (G) A^b (A) B^b

Musical score for 'Be Thou My Vision' (continued) in E-flat major, 3/4 time. The score consists of a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. The lyrics are: 'thou my best thought, by day or by night, thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower; thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart, Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

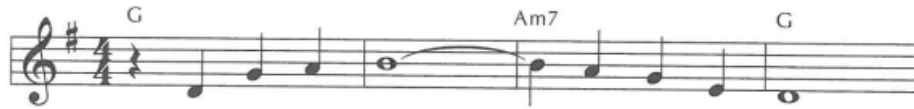
(Bm) Cm (D/F#) E^b/G (G) A^b (D) E^b

Musical score for 'Be Thou My Vision' (continued) in E-flat major, 3/4 time. The score consists of a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. The lyrics are: 'wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light. raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power. High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art. still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Though I May Speak 693

The Gift of Love



1 Though I may speak with brav - est fire,
2 Though I may give all I pos - sess,
3 Come, Spir - it, come, our hearts con - trol;



and have the gift to all in - spire,
and striv - ing so my love pro - fess,
our spir - its long to be made whole.



and have not love, my words are vain,
but not be given by love with - in,
Let in - ward love guide ev - ery deed;



as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.
the prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.
by this we wor - ship, and are freed.