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### HELPFUL TO KNOW

If you'd like to join virtually, please go to our Facebook page or YouTube and connect with the following link:  
<http://upc-superior.com/youtube>

### 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 Jan Heckman at 715-392-1072 ([jan\\_KB9LTA@yahoo.com](mailto:jan_KB9LTA@yahoo.com)) or Dean Hecht at 715-398-6532.

**Choirmaster & Handbell Director**

**Church Secretary**

**Custodian**

**Director of Spiritual Formation**

**Financial Secretary**

**Nursery Coordinators**

**Organist & Pianist**

**Pastor**

**Pastoral Intern**

**Treasurer**

Jane Wester

Reese Stariha

Kaiti Magdzas

Laura Foote

Cathy Hecht

Annika Nikoi & JoAnn Rush

Alexander Sandor

Rev. Brett M. Foote

Jocelyn Langholz

Christy Willmore

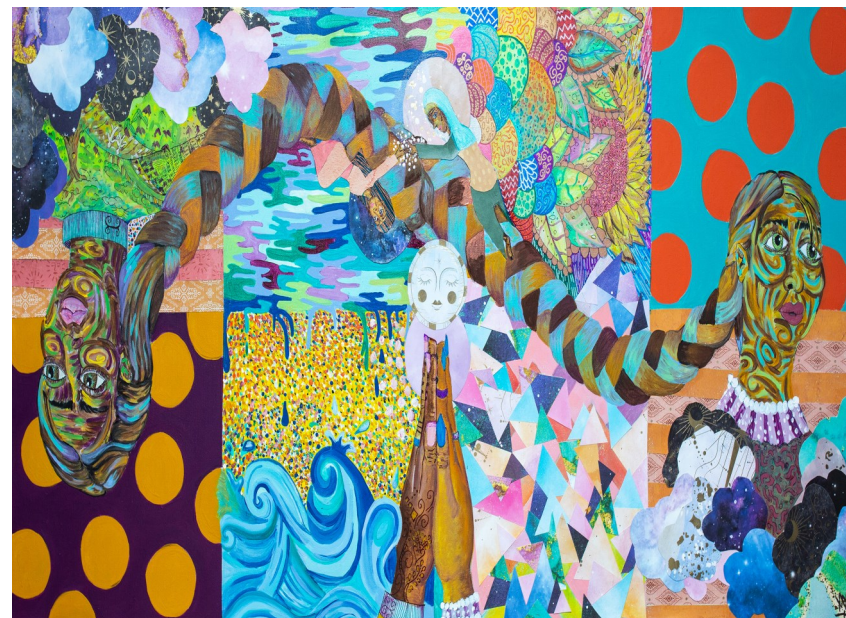
*Cover Art: Binding Braids by Rev. Nicolette Peñaranda*



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



**UNITED  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF SUPERIOR, WI**



**229 North 28th Street East**

**Superior, WI 54880**

Office: 715-392-4751

Pastor: 717-247-4433

[unitedpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com](mailto:unitedpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com)

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

**Online Worship**

**Second Sunday in Advent**

**December 8th, 2024**

**10:00 AM**

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.**  
**(We offer hearing assistance devices— see technology desk.)**

**PRELUDE**      **Small Group Bells**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP & INTROIT**      **Light One Candle (vs 1,2)**      **#85**

**CANDLE LIGHTING—** Harnstrom Family (Jill + Krubes)

**\*PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION**

One: God who makes a way for us each and every day...

**All: We have sometimes tried to make our own way. We have perhaps tried to lace our own shoes, to build our own house, to kindle our own faith.**

One: We don't need to kindle and shine, we just need to be turned towards light, to let the light of God reflect in us.

**All: When we stay near God, God's light shines into our darkness.**

One: God's light reflects to others and with others. However, we forget that.

**All: We forget, because the days are long. So forgive us loving God, and help us to remember. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: I need your help. Can you remind me?

**All: We will remind you of this everlasting truth: You are not alone. Where we go, God goes. We are held in grace. We are forgiven. Trust in this good news. Thanks be to God! We remember. We believe because of Christ. 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)

**\*RESPONSE**      **Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child**      **#126**

**BELL CHOIR**      **Carol of the Bells**

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

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**      **Kathy Kadlecsek**

**New Testament Reading**      **Ecclesiastes 4: 9-12**

**SERMON**      **Love In Back Alleys & Down The Block**  
                 **Rev. Brett M. Foote**

**Old Testament Reading**      **Ruth 1: 15-20**

**\*HYMN**      **To Be Known**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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

**All: We believe in a with-us God: a God who walks with us in the valley, dances with us on the mountaintop, sings with us through the night and rejoices in the morning. We believe that this with-us God wired us for relationship, saying to creation on the very first week, "Humans should not be alone." Therefore, in an effort to be who God called us to be, we strive to live like the Trinity— connected, united, and centered. We believe in the power of community. We commit to learning each other's names. We choose to journey with each other, like Ruth with Naomi. And we remember that no one can go through life alone. Thanks be to God, for lighting our way.**

**SOLO**      **Tom Cawcutt**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**      **Alex Sandor**

**\*PRAYER OVER OFFERING**

One: Let us bless these gifts.

**All: God who never lets us go at it alone, take our gifts of time, talents, and treasures and grow them for your kingdom. Help us to live openhanded lives sharing the gift of our lives with others. Move in us so that we may center the voices of those on the margins. Send your grace filled Spirit so we can connect with, serve, and care for our congregation, Superior community, and this world. We want others to know your "Yes!" towards all humanity! Amen.**

**PRAYERS TO BE SHARED**

**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**      **Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates**      **#93**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Liturgy inspired by the folks at A Sanctified Art, a Swedish Hymn sung by the choir at Andreaskyrkan in Stockholm, Sweden, and modified by Rev. Brett M. Foote.*

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

#### **Ruth 1: 15-20**

So she said, "Look, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you, to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people and your God my God. Where you die, I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!"

When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her. So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. When they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them, and the women said, "Is this Naomi?" She said to them, "Call me no longer Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt bitterly with me.

### **NEW TESTAMENT READING**

#### **Ecclesiastes 4: 9-12**

Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other, but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.

#### **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**

### **2025 PRESBYTERY DISASTER ASSISTANCE WORK TRIP**

Join us February 15-23, 2025 in Asheville, North Carolina for the Disaster Assistance Work Trip to help clean up and rebuild the community following the devastation caused by Hurricane Helene. For more information check the registration forms in the narthex or register online at <https://forms.gle/VAzExxyup4zyGake8>

### **MISSION COMMITTEE**

We have made the following changes to our donation totes. We will be collecting the following: hygiene and cleaning supplies, non perishable food items, hats, mittens and gloves adult and child sizes. Each box is labeled and we appreciate your help providing help with needed items- Thanks from mission committee.

### **CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING**

We will be collecting our Christmas Joy Offering next Sunday, December 15th.

## **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

### **SUNDAY 12/8**

8:30 AM SF Committee  
8:45 AM Bell Choir  
Coffee Hour  
11:30 AM Confirmation Class  
6:00 PM Volleyball

### **TUESDAY 12/10**

10:00 AM Pickleball  
1:00 PM AA Meeting  
5:00 PM Bell Choir

### **THURSDAY 12/12**

10:00 AM Pickleball  
3:30 PM Piano Lessons  
4:00 PM Kickstarters Soccer  
6:00 PM Building & Grounds

### **FRIDAY 12/13**

### **SATURDAY 12/14**

9:00 AM Piano Recital  
10:00 AM Wrapping Party

### **MONDAY 12/9**

3:30 PM Piano Lessons

### **WEDNESDAY 12/11**

10:00 AM Crafters Group  
2:00 PM CSA Pick-up  
4:30 PM Piano Lessons  
6:15 PM Personnel Committee

#### **Birthdays This Week**

12/8— Carol Baker  
12/8— Marian Lanigan  
12/8— Ron Underdale  
12/9— Aidan Pennington  
12/13— Bonnie Gronquist

### 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.
- Community Dinner— Volunteer for our Community Dinner the third Sunday in October, February, June and August.
- Twin Ports Welcome Corp— Join the TPWC and help sponsor a refugee.
- Community Garden\*— Help plan and carry out the UPC Community Garden project, which provides vegetables for UPC Community Diners and Great Lakes Elementary students.
- 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). *\*A background check is required.*
- Children's Church — Come help our young ones 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). *\*A background check is required.*
- Volunteer with Great Lakes Elementary — Support the students at our neighboring school, Great Lakes Elementary. The times and days vary—connect with Laura to find out availability. *\*A background check is required.*

### Ways To Learn, Grow, & Get Involved

- Pickleball—Every Tuesday & Thursday at 10:00 AM.
- Volleyball— Every Sunday at 6:00 PM.
- Blue Christmas Service— On December 21st, the winter solstice, we will be having a Blue Christmas Service. While Advent and Christmas may be joyful, it can also be a time of lament, grief and pain. This is a time to worship together and hold space for these feelings and experiences. The service will be held at 2p in the Youth room.

## To Be Known

WALTHAM 8.8.8.8

Words by Anna Strickland, 2024

Music by John Baptiste Calkin, 1872



Re - call the truth that we once knew:  
For in the gar - den God de - clared  
In ev - ery age hu - man - i - ty  
Both you and I are in - ter - twined



We were not made for sol - i - tude  
That our brief lives on earth be shared  
Re - lied on mu - tu - al - i - ty  
The warp and weft of hu - man - kind




We need com - mun - i - ties of faith  
With part - ners, friends, and fam - i - ly  
Our God - breathed spi - rits weren't de - signed  
So please don't try to go a - lone



Where we can feel God's warm em - brace  
Who hold us in our joy and grief  
To be di - vid - ed and con - fined  
Your hu - man heart needs to be known


# Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 93



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the  
 2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a  
 3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to




King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is  
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for  
 thee; here, Lord, a - bid. Let me thy in - ner



draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.  
 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.  
 pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in me re - veal.

# Light One Candle to Watch 85 for Messiah



1 Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the  
 2 Light two can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the  
 3 Light three can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the  
 4 Light four can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the



light ban - ish dark - ness. He shall bring sal -  
 light ban - ish dark - ness. He shall feed the  
 light ban - ish dark - ness. Lift your heads and  
 light ban - ish dark - ness. He is com - ing;



va - tion to Is - rael, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
 flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.  
 lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.  
 tell the glad ti - dings. Let your lights be shin - ing.

# Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child 126

Je-sus, Je-sus, O what a won-der-ful child.

The first system of the musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 12/8 time. The treble staff features a melody with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

Je - sus, Je - sus, so ho - ly, meek and mild;

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff has a more active line with many sixteenth notes, while the bass staff remains more rhythmic with eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

new life, new hope the child will bring.

The third system shows the continuation of the piece. The treble staff has a melodic line with some rests, and the bass staff has a steady accompaniment. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

Lis - ten to the an - gels sing: "Glo - ry,

The fourth system continues the musical progression. The treble staff has a melodic line with some rests, and the bass staff has a steady accompaniment. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

glo - ry, glo - ry!" Let the heav - ens ring.

The fifth and final system of the page concludes the piece. The treble staff has a melodic line with some rests, and the bass staff has a steady accompaniment. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.