

## 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](mailto: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

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



UNITED  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF SUPERIOR, WI



### Joint Congregational Service

United Presbyterian Church  
& Pioneer Parish

### Ash Wednesday Service

February 14, 2024 6:30 p.m.

### Leading Worship This Evening

Rev. Dr. Lindsay Biddle, Minister at Pioneer Parish  
Rev. Brett M. Foote, Minister at United Presbyterian  
Church

Jane Wester, Director of Vocal and Handbell Choirs at  
United Presbyterian Church

Joyful Noise Choir - Pioneer Parish

Jim Willmore RE, Technology Committee of United  
Presbyterian Church

**OLD TESTAMENT READNG: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17**

Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
    sound the alarm on my holy mountain!  
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,  
    for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—  
a day of darkness and gloom,  
    a day of clouds and thick darkness!  
Like blackness spread upon the mountains,  
    a great and powerful army comes;  
their like has never been from of old,  
    nor will be again after them  
    in ages to come.

Yet even now, says the LORD,  
    return to me with all your heart,  
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;  
    rend your hearts and not your clothing.  
Return to the LORD your God,  
    for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love,  
    and relenting from punishment.  
Who knows whether he will not turn and relent  
    and leave a blessing behind him,  
a grain offering and a drink offering  
    for the LORD your God?

Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
    consecrate a fast;  
call a solemn assembly;  
    gather the people.  
Consecrate the congregation;  
    assemble the aged;  
gather the children,  
    even infants at the breast.  
Let the bridegroom leave his room  
    and the bride her canopy.

Between the vestibule and the altar,  
    let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.  
Let them say, “Spare your people, O LORD,  
    and do not make your heritage a mockery,  
    a byword among the nations.  
Why should it be said among the peoples,  
    ‘Where is their God?’ ”

**NEW TESTAMENT READING: MATTHEW 6:1-6, 16-21**

“Beware of practicing your righteousness before others in order to be seen by them, for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“And whenever you fast, do not look somber, like the hypocrites, for they mark their faces to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

# 23H Shepherd Me, O God

*Refrain* Fm D<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>

Shep - herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -

Cm7 D<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>m7 Cm7 (Last time D<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> Fm B<sup>b</sup>m F) Fm B<sup>b</sup>m Fm

yond my fears, from death in - to life.

Fm B<sup>b</sup>m Fm7 B<sup>b</sup>

1 God is my shep-herd, so noth-ing shall I want, I  
 2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you  
 3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I

Fm B<sup>b</sup>m Fm7 B<sup>b</sup>

rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I  
 lead me by path-ways of right-eous-ness and truth, my  
 fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

B<sup>b</sup>m7 Cm7 B<sup>b</sup>m/D<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> Fm B<sup>b</sup>m Fm B<sup>b</sup>m

walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace. *To Refrain*  
 spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name. *To Refrain*  
 rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope. *To Refrain*

B<sup>b</sup>m E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> D<sup>b</sup>

4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of ha-tred,

B<sup>b</sup>m B<sup>b</sup>m7/A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>m7/G C7

crown-ing me with love be-yond my power to hold. *To Refrain*

Fm B<sup>b</sup>m Fm7 B<sup>b</sup>

5 Sure - ly your kind-ness and mer - cy fol - low me

B<sup>b</sup>m7 Cm7 B<sup>b</sup>sus B<sup>b</sup>

all the days of my life; I will

B<sup>b</sup>m7 Cm7 D<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> Fm B<sup>b</sup>m Fm7 B<sup>b</sup>

dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more. *To Refrain*

# 77B I Refused to Be Comforted Easily

*Unison* Cm Fm Cm

1 In com-plete des-per-a-tion and in ut-ter frus-  
 2 With my eyes shut in fright and with no hope in  
 3 Will God al-ways re-ject me? Will he nev-er re-  
 4 Then, at last, I re-mem-bered all the things I'd for-

Fm Cm Abmaj7 G7sus G7

tra-tion, I called out and God lis-tened to me.  
 sight, I was much too dis-tract-ed to speak;  
 spect me? Has God's love for me failed ut-ter-ly?  
 got-ten, all the won-ders you, Lord, had be-gun.

Fm/G Cm/G Fm/G

Both by day and by night, with hands raised and fists  
 I i-ma-gined times past which I knew could-n't  
 Has his grace been for-got-ten, has he grudged me com-  
 And I saw how mis-for-tune had dis-tract-ed at-

Cm/G Fm/G Csus Cm

tight, I ex-pressed and re-peat-ed my plea.  
 last and my heart, will, and bo-dy grew weak.  
 pas-sion, does his right hand not strength-en or free?  
 ten-tion from your faith-ful-ness in all you've done.

*Refrain* Fm7 Bb7 Ebmaj7 Abmaj7

1-3 I re-fused to be com-fort-ed eas-i-ly  
 4 Now I'm sure that your way is a ho-ly way,

Fm G7 Cm

and the tears of dis-tress made me blind:  
 for its pro-gress and path I can see;

Fm7 Bb7 Eb7 Abmaj7

I turned faint when my thoughts went too deep for me  
 and I know that your faith-ful-ness in the past

Fm Gm7 Cm

and I groaned when I called God to mind.  
 will be real and be pre-sent for me.



Please rise in body or spirit.

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

**PRELUDE  
WELCOME**

Jane Wester

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a feast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people.

**All: Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged and the young, men and women, all who rejoice and all who grieve.**

One: "Even now," says the Holy One, "return to me with weeping and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your garments."

**All: We will return to the Holy One, our God, for God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

**\*HYMN: What Wondrous Love is This #215**

**RESPONSIVE READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 32 (Abridged)  
Rev. Dr. Lindsay Biddle**

One: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

**All: While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; My strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. *Selah***

One: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. *Selah*

**All: Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them. You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. *Selah***

One: I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

**All: Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.**

One: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous ones!

**All: Shout for joy, all you upright in heart!**

**Experiencing the Beauty of God Through Art  
*Penumbrae* by John UpDike**

Rev. Brett Foote

**SCRIPTURE READINGS  
New Testament Reading  
Old Testament Reading**

**AN INVITATION TO THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE INCLUDING A TIME FOR SILENCE, CONFESSION AND PERSONAL REFLECTION**

(You are invited to take this time for your own reflection—what hinders your relationship with God? What obstacles keep you from being the person God calls you to be? What are those things you could fast from or take on in this season that would fundamentally change you or your neighbor's physical and spiritual life?)

**\*HYMN & Imposition of Ashes I Refuse To Be Comforted Easily**  
(All who would like to receive the imposition of ashes may come forward up the center aisle in two lines to receive the ashes or a blessing. You may receive your ashes in two different ways: on the hand by out-stretching it or on your forehead by doing nothing. You may receive only the words by crossing your arms in front of yourself.)

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: If we say we have no sin, we are lying to ourselves. But when we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us all sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. This God does, because each and every human is created in the image of God. Witness and believe the good news of the gospel: Because of Christ's birth, life, death and resurrection...

**All: We are all forgiven, Amen.**

**HYMN Shepherd me O God**

**Offering\* Rev. Brett Foote** (Tonight's combined offering will go to the Superior Area Ministerium SAM Fund.)

Return to your seat by the side aisle.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Dr. Lindsay Biddle**  
(Please respond to each petition with the words, "Holy God, hear our prayer.")

**THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.**

**ANTHEM A Joyful Noise**

**\*BENEDICTION  
\*POSTLUDE**