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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.

Choirmaster & Handbell Director

Jane Wester

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Reese Stariha

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Kaiti Magdzas

Director of Spiritual Formation

Laura Foote

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Organist & Pianist

Alexander Sandor

Pastor

Rev. Brett M. Foote

Treasurer

Christy Willmore



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



UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF SUPERIOR, WI



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Online Worship

Ash Wednesday Service

March 5th, 2025

6:30 PM

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

WELCOME

Alex Sandor

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Adapted from Joel 2: 1, 12-16)

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

Holy, Holy, Holy!

#1

RESPONSIVE READING FROM THE PSALMS

Psalm 32 (Abridged)

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

The Seagull Scans a Fallow Field by Cameron David Brooks

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Rev. Brett M. Foote

New Testament

Old Testament

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 Refused to Be Comforted Easily

See Insert

(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 outstretching 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

See Insert

*OFFERING

Return to your seat by the side aisle.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(Please respond to each petition with the words, "Holy God, hear our prayer.")

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

*CLOSING HYMN

In Silence My Soul Thirsts

#790

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

SCRIPTURE READING

OLD TESTAMENT

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?’ ”

SCRIPTURE READING

NEW TESTAMENT

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.

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>

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 A^bma⁷ 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 C^{sus} 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 B^b7 E^bma⁷ A^bma⁷

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 B^b7 E^b7 A^bma⁷

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.

231H Shepherd Me, O God

Refrain Fm D^b A^b E^b

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

Cm7 D^b B^bm7 Cm7 (Last time D^b E^b Fm B^bm F) Fm B^bm Fm

yond my fears, from death in - to life.

Fm B^bm Fm7 B^b

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^bm Fm7 B^b

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^bm7 Cm7 B^bm/D^b E^b Fm B^bm Fm B^bm

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^bm E^b A^b D^b

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

B^bm B^bm7/A^b B^bm7/G C7

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

Fm B^bm Fm7 B^b

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

B^bm7 Cm7 B^bsus B^b

all the days of my life; I will

B^bm7 Cm7 D^b E^b Fm B^bm Fm7 B^b

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

1 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Descant

4 Ho - ly, Ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore thee,
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

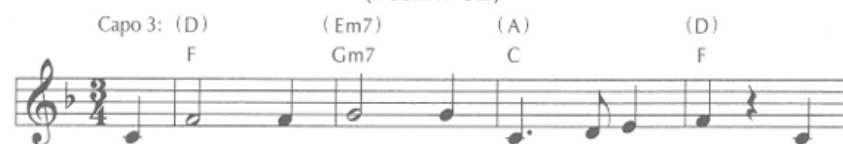
ho - ly,
 Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

ho - ly,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!

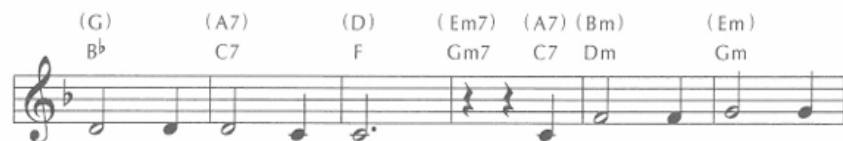
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in power, in love and pu - ri - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

In Silence My Soul Thirsts 790

(Psalm 62)



1 In si - lence my soul thirsts for God; for
 2 In still - ness I pour out my fears; the
 3 In qui - et - ness my Lord con - ferred two



God a - lone I wait. My en - e - mies may
 sol - i - tude builds trust. My ref - uge rests in
 truths I now de - clare: no great - er love than



chase me down; love shields me from their hate.
 God's great grace. My anx - ious thoughts are hushed.
 God's is known; no pow - er can com - pare.



God is my rock; God is my strength; God is



my sal - va - tion, my ref - uge, my a -



bid - ing peace. I shall not be shak - en.