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 **Church Secretary** Tiffany Willie Custodian Beth Lisak

Director of Children, **Youth & Family Ministries**

Laura Foote **Financial Secretary** Jan Letsos Iris Miller

Nursery Coordinator

Organist & Pianist Alexander Sandor **Pastor** Rev. Brett M. Foote **Christy Willmore** Treasurer

Cover Art: "Put Your Trust In The Lord" Cliff Pananen



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





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Online Worship

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26th, 2023

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.

PRELUDE Alex Sandor

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP & THEME FOR LENT: I Refuse To Be Comforted Easily (Verse 4 only)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: ... Let us pray.

All: Jesus of Nazareth.

I confess: I forget that you have known our feelings.

I forget that you, too, have wept. I forget that you, too, have lost.

I forget that you, too, have gathered at the tomb,

have grieved for a friend, have felt the sting of humanity.

Forgive me for all the times I place blame on you.

Forgive me for all the times I create distance, imagining that you could never feel what I feel.

Forgive me for allowing the valley of dry bones to be a sea of space between us.

Pour yourself into the cracks in my heart. Bring these bones back to life. Bring me closer to you. With gratitude I pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: United, you could spend your whole life ignoring God, pushing God away, or trying to solve the world's problems all on your own, and God would still love you all the same. Even in our shortcomings, we are God's beloved. So hear and believe this good news:

because of Christ's birth, life, death and resurrection:

All: We are saved by grace through faith. We belong to God. We are not alone. We are forgiven.

*HYMN Love Divine, All Loves Excelling #366

*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 Halle, Hallelujah (2x, chorus only) #591

SCRIPTURE READINGS Deborah Schlacks
Old Testament Reading Ezekiel 37:1-14

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM

SERMON "Can These Bones Live?: I Hope So" Rev. Brett M Foote New Testament Reading John 11:1-6, 17, 21-23, 34-35, 38, 43b-44

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

One: We believe that God loves us—

All: God loves us enough to weep when we are gone.

One: We believe that God does not give up on us—

All: breathing new life into tired bones.
One: We believe that God returns to us—
All: always seeking us when we are lost.
One: We believe that God holds hope for us—

All: so we hold onto hope as well.
One: We believe, help our unbelief.
All: In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

*HYMN We Come To You for Healing Lord #796

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP & MISSION

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Alex Sandor *RESPONSE #607

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all people, here below.

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.

PRAYER OVER OFFERING

One: Let us bless these gifts.

All: God who brings life from death. May we be good stewards of these gifts and may we be loving neighbors. May all those who have been pushed aside find in us good friends and companions on the journey. As we give of our time, talents, or treasures, may we reflect Christ to others. Help us to be people of change in our community. Help us to connect with, serve, and care for our community so that Superior, Duluth and the rest of the Northland may know your tender love. 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 We are Marching in the Light of God #853

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE Alex Sandor

Some of the prayers are adapted by Pastor Brett from prayers by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.'

NEW TESTAMENT READING

John 11:1-6, 17, 21-23, 34-35, 38, 43b-44

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep.

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

United Presbyterian Church Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY 3/26 8:45 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Morning Worship 10:15 AM Children's Church 11 AM Spud Day 11:30 AM Confirmation 6 PM Volleyball 6 PM Boy Scouts

Birthdays This Week 3/30 Karen Johnson

MONDAY 3/27 4-8:30 PM Piano Lessons

TUESDAY 3/28 3:45-7:30 PM Piano Lessons 4 PM Pickleball

WEDNESDAY 3/29
12 PM Staff Meeting
4-4:45 PM Piano Lessons
6:15 PM Soup Supper
6:30 PM Lenten Worship

THURSDAY 3/30 5 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7 PM AA Meeting

FRIDAY 3/31 UPBeat Mailing 5-7 PM Boy Scout Fish Fry

SATURDAY 4/1
6 PM AA Speaker Meeting

LOOKING AHEAD

April 7 April 7 & 10 Good Friday Service Office Closed

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

CURRENT COVID PROCEDURES

As of Friday, March 17th, 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.

LITURGIST & COFFEE HOUR SIGN UP

There are two sign up sheets at the back of the Narthex, one to sign up to host our coffee hours following the service, and one where you can sign up to be a liturgist during our Sunday worship services. These are both great opportunities to get involved with the church!

LENTEN WORSHIP

Each Wednesday during Lent we will be gathering around tables in the fellowship hall at 6:15 to enjoy dinner and worship...at the same time! Join us for this creative, informal, discussion based, and delicious time of worship and fellowship. It is potluck style and the Wednesday Night Soup sign ups are in the narthex.

FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH NEWS

Spud Day is back! Join us **TODAY** after church for a yummy lunch of baked potatoes with all the fixings.

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY:

Join us in April and May as we learn to plan AHEAD. The 7-session workshop, taught by Chelsea Thompson, covers the topics of end-of-life planning, including legal directives, estate planning, handling financial changes, and final wishes. Please feel free to grab a flyer for more information.

Dates: April 12th, 19th, and 26th; May 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th, 3-4 PM.

EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Our very own Chef, Cameron Campbell, will be preparing a Pancake Bar this year on Easter Sunday. Come hungry anytime between 8-9:30 AM. © Join us for pickleball every **Tuesday from 4-6 PM** and volleyball every **Sunday from 6-7:30 PM**.

2023 UPC COMMUNITY GARDEN SIGN-UP STARTS THIS SUNDAY

Get ready for this year's UPC Community Garden! Starting this Sunday (March 26), you can sign up to grow veggies for our Community Dinners. Like last year, the large pots and the raised bed on the church grounds will be used for the garden (plus we'll have a second raised bed). Please consider getting involved in this mission to address food insecurity in the Twin Ports community. Questions? Contact Deborah Schlacks at desertswan@aol.com or at 218-348-6032.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

On April 7th, United will be part of an Ecumenical/Interdenominational Good Friday Service held at Central Assembly of God. The service will be at 6:30 PM. We hope to see you there!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INCLUSIVE CARE UNIT

We are currently accepting: mittens, hats, scarves, hand warmers, coats, toiletry items (toothbrushes, toilet paper, bars of soap, etc.), and non-liquid, sealed food items. Please bring donations in during office hours or on Sunday morning. Thank you for your donations!

NURSERY AVAILABILITY

Our nursery is staffed 15 minutes before the service begins for children who are newborn through 4 years old. Stop by the Nursery and meet Iris, our Nursery Coordinator and her volunteer assistants. 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 Children's Church! This is a time designed specifically for our young ones to learn and grow in their faith. Children's Church takes place in the Youth room, which is next to the Nursery.

SECOND SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Every second Sunday of the month there is a Bible study for our high school students. Easter is the second Sunday in April, therefore our next and last meeting will be April 16.

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among adolescents ages 12-18. You'll build skills and confidence you need to reach out and provide initial support to young people who are struggling. You'll also learn how to help connect them to appropriate support. This training will take place on April 19 from 8a-4p here at UPC. Lunch and refreshments will be provided and spots are limited. To register go to: https://go.wisc.edu/yk82kk. If you need assistance with registering please connect with Laura after the service or call Tiff during open office hours.

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS

Order forms for Easter Flowers are due **TODAY**, March 26th. Extras are available at the back of the Narthex and in the office.

Holy Week 2023

Holy Week will begin this year on April 2nd with our 10 AM Palm Sunday Worship Service. There will be no Wednesday Night Lenten Worship Service on April 5th. Our Maundy Thursday service will be on April 6th at 6:30 PM. On April 7th, United will take part in an Ecumenical Community Good Friday Service held at Central Assembly of God (3000 Hammond Ave, Superior, WI). The service will be at 6:30 PM. At this service there will be a community gospel choir, made up of anybody from any church who would like to take part. If you would like to be a part of the community gospel choir, please arrive at Central Assembly at 5 PM to rehearse.

On Easter Sunday (April 9th) there will be a 6:30 AM Easter Sunrise Service. This will take place at Wisconsin Point, Lot 1. Later that morning, we will have our annual Easter Breakfast from 8-9:30 AM, prepared by our very own Chef, Cameron Campbell, and put together by the Fellowship and Outreach committee. Our Easter Sunday Worship Service will then begin at 10 AM with Nursery Care provided for children who are newborn through 4 years old. Nursery Care, as usual, begins at 9:45 AM and ends 15 minutes after the conclusion of the service.

As a reminder, the church office will be closed on Good Friday (April 7th) and Easter Monday (April 10th).

A Quick Look at Holy Week 2023:

Palm Sunday Service – 4/2 at 10 AM in the Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday Service – 4/6 at 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary

Good Friday – 4/7 Office Closed

Ecumenical Community Good Friday Service – 4/7 at 6:30 PM at Central Assembly of God (5 PM Rehearsal for Community Gospel Choir)

Easter Sunrise Service – 4/9 at 6:30 AM at Wisconsin Point, Lot 1

Easter Breakfast – 4/9 from 8-9:30 AM Pancake Bar in the Fellowship Hall

Easter Sunday Nursery Care—4/9 beginning at 9:45 AM and ending 15 minutes after the service concludes

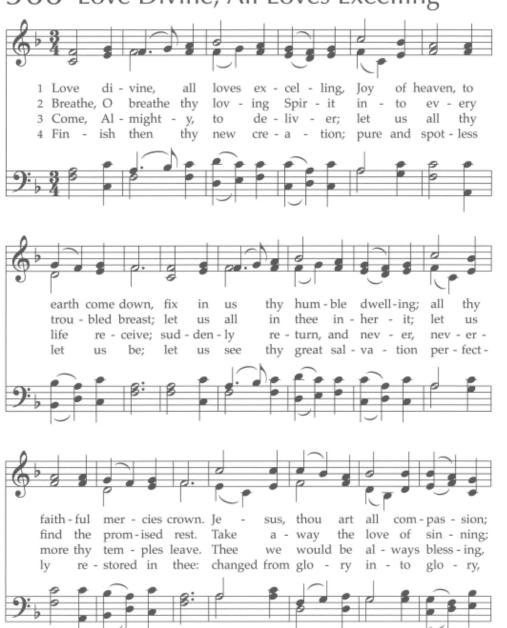
Easter Sunday Service – 4/9 at 10 AM in the Sanctuary

Easter Monday – 4/10 Office Closed

77B I Refused to Be Comforted Easily Fm Unison Cm - a - tion and in ut - ter frus -1 In com-plete des - per and with no hope in 2 With my eyes shut in fright 3 Will God al - ways re - ject me? Will he nev - er re re - mem - bered all the things I'd for -4 Then, at last, Abmaj7 G7sus CmI called out and God lis-tened to me. tra - tion, I was much too dis - tract - ed to speak; sight, Has God's love for me failed ut - ter - ly? spect me? all the won-ders you, Lord, had be - gun. got - ten, Fm/G Cm/G Fm/G with hands raised and fists Both by day and by night, which I knew could - n't i - ma - gined times past Has his grace been for - got - ten, has he grudged me And I saw how mis - for - tune had dis - tract - ed Cm Csus Fm/G Cm/G ex-pressed and re - peat - ed my tight, bo - dy grew weak. and my heart, will, and pas-sion, does his right hand not strength-en or in all you've done. ten - tion from your faith - ful - ness



366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling







We Come to You for Healing, Lord 796 1 We come heal - ing, for Lord, of 2 As walked through an - cient once you streets and 3 You touch phy - si - cians' through skills, through 4 Through nights wake - ful - ness, through 5 We come you, ing - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your reached toward those in pain, we know you come es' gifts of care, and through the love when strength runs low, days grant us your gift dis - tress and pain, in that through our trust Spir it's touch we may gain whole. still

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853 We Are Marching in the Light of God



