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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) or Dean Hecht at 715-919-1325.

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 Magdazs

Laura Foote

Cathy Hecht

Annika Nikoi & JoAnn Rush

Alexander Sandor

Rev. Brett M. Foote

Jocelyn Langholz

Christy Willmore

Cover Art: "The Good That is Yours" by Lisle Gwynn Garrity



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



**UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF SUPERIOR, WI**



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Online Worship

Third Sunday in Advent

December 15th, 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 Alex Sandor

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP & INTROIT

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (vs 1-3) #85

CANDLE LIGHTING— Schlacks & Iafrate Families

*PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

One: God of Gladness, God of Jubilee, we find our joy in you.

All: O God, you are Mystery, above and beyond us, yet living within and among us.

One: You came to earth to upset the idea that we must save ourselves, offering a way of reconciliation and peace.

All: Forgive us, O God, for the times when we have been happy to hear the gospel without truly living it.

One: Forgive us for judging the worth of others based on our personal biases and prejudices, rather than accepting them for who they are— people made in your image.

All: Forgive us when our longing to live simply and with humility is defeated by selfish desires—for pursuing our own comfort and wealth and power before seeking your will.

One: Forgive us for placing our hope in anything or anyone other than the Christ-child born in a poor stable.

All: Heal, restore and bless us, we pray.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Now, in this very moment, God comes to us, bringing healing, promising forgiveness, offering hope.

All: May we open our hearts to the God who is with us, and receive these gifts of grace which have been offered to us. Thanks be to God. 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

CHANCEL CHOIR

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

SCRIPTURE READINGS Sue Olson

Old Testament Reading 1 Samuel 2: 1-10

MESSAGE The Magnificat: Rejoicing in a Promised Future
Jocelyn Langholz

New Testament Reading

Luke 1: 46-56

*HYMN My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout #100

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From the Declaration of Belhar)

All: We believe that God has revealed God's self as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people; that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged, that God calls the church to follow God in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry; that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind; that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly; That God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right; that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream; that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Alex Sandor

*RESPONSE Give Thanks

#647

*PRAYER OVER OFFERING

One: Let us bless these gifts.

All: We give our offerings because we live in relationship, with each other, with human siblings near and far, with all of creation, and with the God who chooses to live with us. In relationship we hear the call to care for one another, to seek to understand what is needed, to be present and to give of what we have. In Mary's song, we hear a song of radical imagination, awaiting the birth of the World to Come. We rejoice in the gift of a child, of the Promise of God for Liberation, Reconciliation and Peace. Use these gifts. Use us. 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 Angels We Have Heard on High

#113

*BENEDICTION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT READING

1 Samuel 2: 1-10

Hannah prayed and said, "My heart exults in the Lord; my strength is exalted in my God. My mouth derides my enemies because I rejoice in your victory. There is no Holy One like the Lord, no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God. Talk no more so very proudly; let not arrogance come from your mouth, for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength. Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry are fat with spoil. The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn. The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up. The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low; he also exalts. He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and on them he has set the world. He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked will perish in darkness, for not by might does one prevail. The Lord! His adversaries will be shattered; the Most High will thunder in heaven. The Lord will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king and exalt the power of his anointed."

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 1: 46-56

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant. Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name; indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. He has come to the aid of his child Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

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

CAROLING

Join us for our caroling tradition of going house to house, sharing some favorite carols and cookies. All family members enjoy jingling the bells, ringing the doorbells, handing out cookies and sharing our songs. Caroling is planned for today, right after worship and a warm soup lunch; carpooling and leaving about 1-1:15pm. Dress warm – hope many of you will join us.

NEW YEARS PARTY

January 1st @ 12:00 PM at Amnicon Lake, 4519 E Pleasant View Rd, Superior, WI 54880. Fun, fun, and more fun! Games, outside ice time with boot hockey, ice fishing, bonfire, ice sliding, food and more! Contact Beth Lisak at 715-817-4861 if you have any questions.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

We will be collecting our Christmas Joy Offering today!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY 12/15

8:45 AM Chancel Choir
Coffee Hour
6:00 PM Volleyball
Pastor Out– Vacation

TUESDAY 12/17

10:00 AM Pickleball
1:00 PM AA Meeting

THURSDAY 12/19

10:00 AM Pickleball
3:30 PM Piano Lessons
6:15 PM Session Meeting

FRIDAY 12/20

SATURDAY 12/21

10:00 AM Wrapping Party
2:00 PM Blue Christmas

MONDAY 12/16

9:30 AM Finance Committee
3:30 PM Piano Lessons
6:01 PM Mission Committee
Pastor Out– Vacation

WEDNESDAY 12/18

10:00 AM Crafters Group
12:00 PM Staff Meeting
1:00 PM Caregiver Conversations
2:00 PM CSA Pick-up
4:30 PM Piano Lessons

Birthdays This Week

12/15— Duane Aslyn
12/16— Sue Olson
12/17— Heidi Carswell
12/18— Alice Matthias
12/20— Cheri Danielson

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 Dinners 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.

113 Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some ti - dings be which in-spire your heaven-ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It features a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The score includes three verses of lyrics, a refrain, and a final chorus. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes in both hands, providing harmonic support for the vocal parts.

100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you
3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



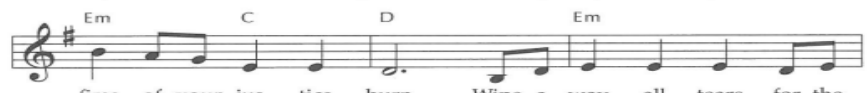
weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

647

Give Thanks



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart; give thanks to the Ho - ly One;



give thanks be - cause we're giv - en Je - sus Christ, the Son. Give



Son. And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the



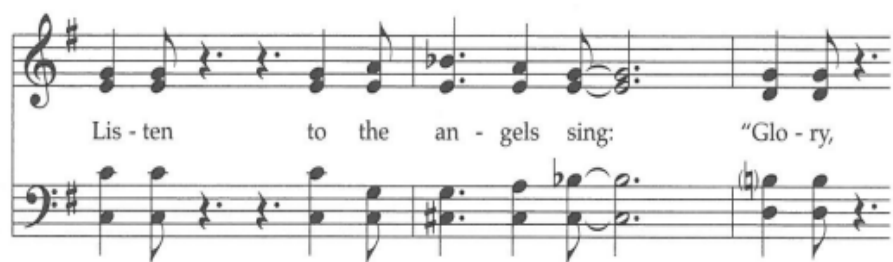
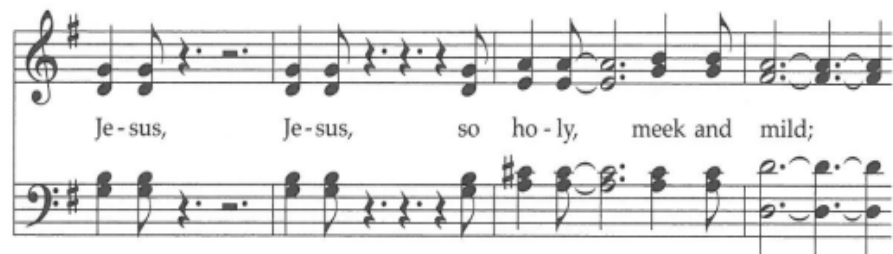
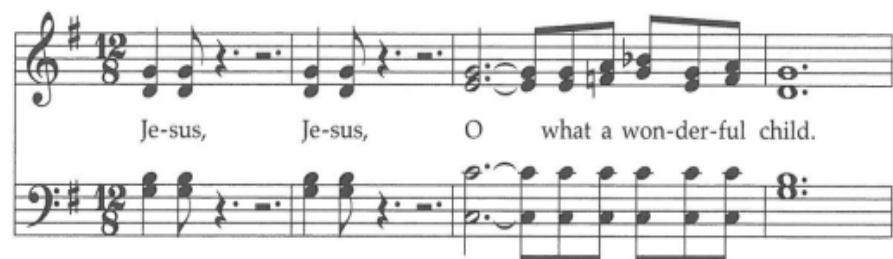
poor say, "We are rich be - cause of what the Lord has done for



us!" And us!" Give thanks. Give thanks.



Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child 126



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.