

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 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

Cover Art: Photograph provided by Rev. Brett Foote

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



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Superior, WI 54880

Office: 715-392-4751

Pastor: 717-247-4433

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www.facebook.com/UnitedPresbyterianChurch

Online Worship

***First Sunday in Advent &
Communion Sunday***

December 3rd, 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
ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING Petite Family
***RESPONSE** Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (vs. 1) #85

***PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION**

One: Let us Pray...

All: God of our waiting, we come before you in hope.

One: We know you've acted on our behalf in the past.

All: You've repaired the divides in our lives.

One: Between us and you, O God.

All: Between us and our neighbors.

One: God, at times we are waiting for change, hope, and some "good news" to break through.

All: Forgive us for pointing fingers. We are waiting for you to show up and make a difference in our lives once again. Come Holy Spirit as we patiently and sometimes impatiently, wait. Amen.

***HYMN** Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus #82

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: United, sometimes we blame God for the wrongs we've done or caused. We're not always perfect angels...and yet God is good to us. God loves us. God crosses the divide between heaven and earth to be with us. In and through Christ's birth, life, death and resurrection...

All: God forgives us: wholly and fully.

***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.)

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

***RESPONSE** Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child (2x) #126

SCRIPTURE READINGS Jane Wester
New Testament Reading Mark 13:24-37

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM Listen Here

SERMON "Glass Fried Rice At 1:00 A.M.: Compassion"
Rev. Brett M Foote
Old Testament Reading Isaiah 64:1-9

***NICENE CREED**

One: Let us affirm our faith together.

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP & MISSION

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Alex Sandor
***RESPONSE** O Come, Let Us Adore Him (vs.1) #133

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord!

***PRAYER OVER OFFERING**

One: Let us bless these gifts.

All: God of compassion, thank you for the many blessings you offer us each day! Thank you for these blessings this morning. For the many volunteers who make this place thrive, to the finances that sustain the work of God here in Superior through us, thank you for blessing us so that we may be a blessing to our neighbors and fellow pilgrims. May we always reach out our hands to you and our neighbor when in need. May we also always reach out to bless others when they are in need. Help us to elevate the voices of those who have been marginalized. Help us to give of our time, talents, or treasures. May we represent your expansive justice and love. Send your Spirit so we can connect with, serve, and care for each of our communities: Superior, Duluth, and even La Pointe. We want others to know your "love that goes into the far country." Amen.

Invitation to Holy Communion

COMMUNION HYMN

In the Singing

#533

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God most High.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: Praise to You, O God, for all of Your works.

You created the world and called it good
and made us in Your image to live together in love.

You made a covenant with us,
and even when we turned from You,
You remained ever faithful.

You taught Your disciples to pray by saying...

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Sharing the Bread and Cup

You are invited to participate in this sacrament regardless of age, church affiliation, or location. We invite you to use what elements you have near you at home, preferably bread and grape juice. Please do not let having those specific items preclude you from participating in this sacrament. Please use what is available. At home we invite you to serve one another or yourself using the words "The Bread of Heaven" for the bread and "The Cup of Salvation" for the juice in whatever form they take after the pastor has spoken the words of institution. Here at the church we invite you to come forward in two lines, row by row, down the middle of the sanctuary to receive the elements. Return to your seat via the side aisles. Please raise your hand in your seat if you would like to receive the elements without leaving it. We will come around and offer them to you.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: Let us give thanks.

All: With this bread of life and cup of salvation, O God, You have brought us into Christ's presence, united us with Him, and bound us to each other. Now send us out, empowered by Your Holy Spirit, that we may be Your light and love in the world. 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

***CLOSING HYMN**

Canticle of the Turning

#100

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Alex Sandor

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Mark 13:24-37

'But in those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

THE LORD'S SUPPER is open to all Christians. Celebrating the Eucharist is not a right conferred upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in curiosity, faith, repentance, and love. In preparing to be brought into the presence of Christ in this Sacrament, the person confesses sin and brokenness, seeks reconciliation with God and neighbor, and trusts in Jesus Christ for cleansing and renewal. Even one who doubts, or whose trust is wavering, comes to the Table to be assured of God's love and grace in Jesus Christ.

OLD TESTAMENT READING***Isaiah 64:1-9***

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity for ever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

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>

United Presbyterian Church Weekly Calendar**SUNDAY 12/3**

Christmas Cookie Sale before Service
8:45 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM Morning Worship
10:15 AM Children's Church
4 PM Christmas Concert
6 PM Boy Scouts

MONDAY 12/4

1:30 PM Fellowship & Outreach
6:15-8 PM Piano Lessons

TUESDAY 12/5

10 AM Pickleball
1 PM Boost Your Brain & Memory
4:30 PM Worship Committee
6 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY 12/6

12:30 PM PW Meeting @ Aces
2-6 PM CSA Pickup
4 PM Deacons Meeting
6 PM Book Club

THURSDAY 12/7

10 AM Pickleball
6:30 PM Nominating Committee
7 PM AA Meeting

FRIDAY 12/8**SATURDAY 12/9**

Youth Room Reserved—Brunch Set Up
9:30 AM Piano Recital

Birthdays This Week

12/3 Katie Grymala
12/6 Phyllis Flaherty
12/8 Carol Baker
12/8 Marian Lanigan
12/8 Ronald Underdale
12/9 Aidan Pennington

LOOKING AHEAD

December 10	Spiritual Formation Brunch
December 17	Children's Program

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GET INVOLVED

There are plenty of ways to get involved here at United! Two great ways that are available year-round are to sign up to be a liturgist during our Sunday worship, or to host a coffee hour following the service. There are sign up sheets available at the back of the Narthex under the calendar!

NURSERY AVAILABILITY

Our nursery is open 15 minutes before the service begins for children who are newborn through 4 years old. 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 meet by the round table in the narthex, from there they will go together to the Youth room for Children's Church! This is a time designed specifically for our young ones to learn and grow in their faith.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

On Sunday, December 17th we will be having our annual Christmas program! All ages are invited to join in the fun. We will gather for breakfast at 8:30a and practice together afterward. The program will take place during the service. Please let Laura know if you are planning to come!

FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH NEWS

You can join us for pickleball **Tuesdays or Thursdays from 10 AM-12 PM**. We hope to see you there!

Volleyball will be playing **every Sunday at 6 PM** unless there is an announcement stating otherwise! *There will be no volleyball this Sunday due to the Christmas Concert!*

December 3 & 10—Fellowship and Outreach will be selling plates of cookies before the service! They will be sold for \$5 per plate.

December 5, 12, 19—Chelsea Thompson will be leading a “Boost Your Brain and Memory Program” from 1-2:30 PM.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

We will be hosting a Christmas Concert today at 4 PM with Alex Sandor, Bill Bastian, and Laurie Bastian! Following the concert, there will be cookies and coffee in the fellowship hall. We hope to see many of you there!

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

During Advent season, there will be an opportunity for the congregation to request their favorite Christmas carols to be sung in the 10 minutes prior to the service starting.

GETTING TO KNOW UNITED

If you've been curious to get to know who we are and what we are about at United, Pastor Brett will be leading a group for this very purpose soon. Date is TBD. Contact Pastor Brett for more info!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAT AND MITTEN TREE

The mission committee is now collecting hats and mittens for the mitten tree. A labeled tote is located on the shelf where donations are collected. Donations will be divided between the Headstart centers. Donations that are too big for pre-schoolers will be given to others who are in need.

UPC COMMUNITY GARDEN SEEDMONEY FUNDRAISING HAPPENING NOW!

It's time! The SeedMoney.org fundraising campaign for the 2024 UPC Community Garden is now under way. (Will we again be awarded a grant in recognition of how much money we raise? Let's make it happen!) The fundraising period is November 15 through December 15. Go to <https://donate.seedmoney.org/9293/united-presbyterian-church-community-garden> to donate. If you would like help doing so, someone from the garden committee will be on hand to assist after our service today (as well as the other Sundays during this period). We hope you'll consider giving to this cause.

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

This year, we as a church will be putting together our own devotional for the 40 days of Lent. We are asking for submissions from anyone interested in sharing something in this devotional. There is a sign up sheet at the back of the narthex where folks can sign up for one of the 40 days. Please keep submissions short (1-2 paragraphs), as there will be limited space. They must also be submitted digitally to the office via email. Examples of submissions include: Stories, poems, artwork, pictures, or anything else special to you! The deadline for submissions to be sent to the office is January 18th at noon.

PLEDGE CARDS

Pledge cards are due today! Please be sure to turn them in to the office or the offering plate so we can more accurately calculate our budget for next year!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The December meeting of the Presbyterian Women will be a lunch at Ace's on Wednesday, December 6 at 12:30. Please contact Bonnie Wallin (715-392-7029) for reservations by Monday, December 4.

CURRENT COVID PROCEDURES

As of Friday, December 1st, 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.

December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	01	02 9 AM Men's Breakfast 9 AM Hanging of Greens 12 PM Bingo 6 PM AA Speaker Meeting
03 8:45 AM Chancel Choir 10 AM Worship 10:15 AM Children's Church 4 PM Christmas Concert 6 PM Boy Scouts	04 1:30 PM Fellowship & Outreach 6:15-8 PM Piano Lessons	05 10 AM - 12 PM Pickleball 1 PM Boost Your Brain & Memory 4:30 PM Worship Committee 6 PM Bell Choir	06 12:30 PM PW Meeting 2-6 PM CSA Pickup 4 PM Deacons Meeting 6 PM Book Club	07 10 AM - 12 PM Pickleball 7 PM AA Meeting	08	09 Youth Room Reserved - Brunch Set Up 9:30 AM Piano Recital
10 8:45 AM Chancel Choir 9 AM Spiritual Formation 10 AM Worship 10:15 AM Children's Church 11 AM Spiritual Formation Brunch 3 PM Caroling & Cookie Delivery 6 PM Volleyball	11 5 PM Finance Committee 6:15-8 PM Piano Lessons	12 10 AM - 12 PM Pickleball 1 PM Boost Your Brain & Memory 6 PM Bell Choir	13 10 AM Crafters Group 12 PM Staff Meeting 2-6 PM CSA Pickup 6:15 PM Personnel Committee	14 10 AM - 12 PM Pickleball 6 PM Buildings & Grounds 7 PM AA Meeting	15 Annual Report Deadline 8 PM Scouts Lock-In	16
17 8:45 AM Chancel Choir 10 AM Worship - Christmas Pageant 4 PM Community Dinner 6 PM Boy Scouts 6 PM Volleyball	18 Tiff Out 6:15-8 PM Piano Lessons	19 10 AM - 12 PM Pickleball 1 PM Boost Your Brain & Memory 6 PM Bell Choir	20 1 PM UPBeat Deadline 1 PM Caregiver Conversations 2-6 PM CSA Pickup	21 10 AM - 12 PM Pickleball 6:15 PM Session Meeting 7 PM AA Meeting	22	23
24 8:45 AM Chancel Choir 10 AM Worship 10:15 AM Children's Church 7:30 PM Candle Light Service	25 Office Closed	26 Office Closed	27 Tiff Out 10 AM Crafters Group 12 PM Staff Meeting 2-6 PM CSA Pickup	28 Tiff Out 7 PM AA Meeting	29 1 PM UPBeat Packing	30
31 8:45 AM Chancel Choir 10 AM Worship 10:15 AM Children's Church 6 PM Volleyball	01	02	03	04	05	06



Christmas Poinsettias

Order Form 2023

Poinsettias will be bought to decorate our sanctuary for Advent. If you wish to remember or honor someone, donations should be made by:

Sunday, December 3rd, 2023.

Please circle if the person is to be remembered or honored.

Remembered

Honored

Suggested donation \$17.00 per poinsettia plant.

The order form and donation may be placed in the offering plate, brought into the church office (placed on the desk if secretary isn't present), or mailed to the church.

Given by:

Number of Plants Ordered _____

Amount Donated \$ _____

I wish to take a poinsettia home after Christmas Eve.

Yes

No

United Presbyterian Church, 229 N 28th St. El Superior, WI 54880

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.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.



Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child 126

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

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

new life, new hope the child will bring.

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

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

In the Singing

533

1 In the sing-ing, in the si-lence, in the hands ex-pec-tant,
2 In the ques-tion, in the an-swer, in the mo-ment of ac-

o-pen, in the bless-ing, in the break-ing,
cep-tance, in the heart's cry, in the heal-ing,

in the Pres-ence at this ta-ble
in the cir-cle of your peo-ple

Refrain
Je-sus Christ, Je-sus Christ, be the wine of grace:
Je-sus Christ, Je-sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

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.