

## Welcome, All Worshipers

Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

*Pray the largest prayers. You cannot think a prayer so large that God, in answering it, will not wish you had made it larger. Phillip Brooks*

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(\* indicates when those who are able will stand.)  
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### Prelude

#### **WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MARILYN KETTLER, LAY READER**

(Please complete the Friendship Book as it is passed during announcements; then pass it toward the center aisle.)

**\*OPENING HYMN: LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVE EXCELLING (INSERT)**

#### **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: May those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the Lord!"

All: Yea, our heart is glad in God, because we trust in God's Holy Name.

Leader: Let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

All: We praise you, O God; we acknowledge you to be the Lord. Amen.

#### **\*Opening Prayer**

All: Almighty and everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being, You created us for yourself, so that our hearts are restless until they find rest in You. Grant to us such piety of heart and strength of purpose that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, and no weakness from doing it. In you light may we see life clearly and in you service find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ. AMEN.

#### **\*The Gloria Patri (sung)**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. *Words: Anonymous, 4<sup>th</sup> Century.*

*Music: Henry Greatorex. This selection is in the public domain.*

**FIRST READING: GENESIS 24: 34-38, 42-49, 58-67**

**SECOND READING: PSALM 45: 10-17**

**SERMON: "PICK A GOOD ONE"**

**REV. LAURA HOFFMAN**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (DEBTS AND DEBTORS)**

**\*HYMN: #449 SOFTLY AND TENDERLY (VERSES 1, 2, 4)**

#### **SHARING OF TITHES AND OFFERING** (PLEASE BE SEATED)

LEADER: LET US GIVE AS EACH IS ABLE FROM THE FULLNESS OF OUR GRATITUDE TO GOD.

OFFERTORY

**\*DOXOLOGY PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW.**

**PRAISE GOD, ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW.**

**PRAISE GOD ABOVE, YE HEAVENLY HOST.**

**PRAISE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST. AMEN**

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION (ALL): ALL GOOD GIFTS ARE FROM GOD.**

**WE SHARE OUR GIFTS WITH GRATITUDE. MAY WE GIVE WITH PASSION FOR JUSTICE, AND WITH GOD'S LOVE GUIDING OUR PATHS. AMEN.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN: #300 JESUS SHALL REIGN (VERSES 1, 2, 4, 5)**

#### **\*BENEDICTION**

Minister: Mat the grace of Christ our Savior, and the love of God our Father, and the fellowship of the Spirit be with you as you go forth.

**\*Unison Response: Amen**

### Postlude

OUR APPRECIATION IS EXTENDED TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS  
WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP MINISTRY

Lay Reader: Marilyn Kettler  
Fellowship Hosts: Bob & Diane Kelly  
Greeters: Dennis, Beverly & Heather Bodem

Altar Guild: Deb Butler  
Ushers: Lynn Stewart & Pat Labadie

### This Week's Calendar

Sunday	July 9	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
Sunday	July 9	After service.	Worship Committee Meeting
Monday	July 10	5:30 p.m.	Board Meeting

### Announcement

- ❖ We are pleased to welcome back Reverend Laura Hoffman to lead our worship service today.
- ❖ Fellowship Hosts are needed for August (including partial month availability). Please use the sign-up sheets at the back of the sanctuary.
- ❖ July Ladies luncheon is July 14, Friday at 11:45 am at Hunan Chinese Restaurant on M-32 in Alpena. Reservations are not necessary. Call Peg at 989-352-281-2283 or Dottie at 989-916-4104 with questions. Friends and guests are always welcome.
- ❖ Feed A Family Needs - Individual crackers & cheese packets, crackers & peanut butter packets or cookies packets, Jello or pudding 4-packs, canned Spaghettios or macaroni & sauce, soups (any kind). *Thank you for your continued support to our food pantry. ~Kathy, Salvation Army*
- ❖ Please remember to check for care letters and cards in the middle hall.

SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVE-STREAMED AND RECORDED -- Our Sunday worship services are live-streamed, shown on the Internet, as they are happening and recorded for viewing online later. People in the sanctuary attending the Sunday services may be seen as part of the live-stream and recording.

A unisex handicap-accessible restroom is located through the doors to your left as you exit the sanctuary. A ladies' room is near the Lockwood Street entrance. A men's room is in the middle hallway.

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 9, 2023

*We welcome people as they are,  
share Jesus as He is, and serve  
our community and the world in love.*



Rev. Dr. H. Robert Case, Pastor Emeritus  
Organist & Choir Director: Kat Tomaszewski  
Office Administrator: Nancy Ross  
Treasurer: Denise Fusina  
Custodian: Mike LaMarre

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