

## Welcome, All Worshipers

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

*"They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'Jesus has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak'." Mark 7:37*

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

#### WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**DOTTIE HAASE, LAY READER**

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

#### **\*OPENING HYMN: #490 I WANT JESUS TO WALK WITH ME (ALL VERSES)**

AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRITUAL; THIS SELECTION IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

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

Leader: The Lord shares the blessings of his wisdom.

All: Give us insight, Lord, and hearts that are ready to believe.

Leader: The Lord gives us the blessing of his wisdom.

All: Lord Jesus, help us to be followers, no just admirers of your wisdom. AMEN

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

All: Almighty God, teach us to see what you would have us to see. Teach us to hear what you would have us to hear. Teach us to speak what you would have us speak. Shape and mold us so that we may be vessels used by you. 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 (LAY READER): ROMANS 13: 8-4**

**SECOND READING (PASTOR): MARK 7:24-37**

**SERMON: THE HEALING PRESENCE OF JESUS**

**REV. RICHARD HOTCHKIN**

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

**\*HYMN: BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS (INSERT)**

TEXT: JOHN FAWCETT, MUSIC JOHANN GEORG NAGELI. THIS SELECTION IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

### **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: #245 THE DAY OF RESURRECTION (VERSES 1-3)**

Text: John of Damascus, 8<sup>th</sup> Century. Transl. John Mason Neale, 1862. Music: Henry T. Smart 1836.

#### **\*BENEDICTION**

Go in peace. Let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon you, and linger in your hearts and minds throughout the coming week, and forevermore. AMEN

#### **\*Unison Response:**

And God will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breadth of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand. Amen

### Postlude

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

Lay Reader: **Dottie Haase**

Greeter: **Joe and Pat Garant**

Ushers: **Ashely and Nancy Wedge**

Fellowship Hosts: **Nancy and Ashley Wedge, Sonny & Joan Chrzan**

Altar Guild: **Joan Chrzan**

Counter: **Nancy Wedge**

**This Week's Calendar**

Sunday	September 10	10:00 AM	Worship Service
Sunday	September 10		Grandparents Day
Monday	September 11	5:30 PM	Board Meeting

**Announcements**

- ❖ Altar flowers given by the Wedge Family in memory of our Grandparents.
- ❖ Feed A Family Needs - Kathy from the Salvation Army is indicating that their biggest need at this time is: canned Spaghettios, Beefaroni and Ravioli along with boxed Macaroni and Cheese. She is also indicating, "Anything they can provide would be very helpful". In the meantime, they still need individual cracker & cheese packets, cracker & peanut butter packets, cookie packets and Jello as well as pudding 4 packs. Thank you.
- ❖ Please remember to check for care letters and cards in the middle hall.
- ❖ Choir practice will begin on September 14.

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 10, 2023

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



*Rev. Richard Hotchkin, Intentional Interim Pastor*

*Rev. Dr. H. Robert Case, Pastor Emeritus*

*Organist & Choir Director: Kat Tomaszewski*

*Office Administrator: Nancy Ross*

*Treasurer: Denise Fusina*

*Custodian: Mike LaMarre*

Office hours: 9:00am – 1:00pm, Monday – Thursday

Phone: (989) 356-1795

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201 South Second Avenue • Alpena, Michigan 49707

*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.*

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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  
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