

## Welcome, All Worshipers

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

*A man who was completely innocent, offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies, and became the ransom of the world. It was a perfect act.*

Mahatma Gandhi

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

#### WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LORI MAYER, LAY READER

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

#### RECOGNITION OF 50 YEAR MEMBERS

#### \*OPENING HYMN: GOD BLESS AMERICA

GOD BLESS AMERICA, LAND THAT I LOVE,  
STAND BESIDE HER AND GUIDE HER,  
THROUGH THE NIGHT WITH A LIGHT FROM ABOVE.  
FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE PRAIRIES,  
TO THE OCEANS WHITE WITH FOAM,  
GOD BLESS AMERICA, MY HOME SWEET HOME.  
GOD BLESS AMERICA, MY HOME SWEET HOME.

CCS #14398

#### \*Call to Worship

Leader: Trust in the Lord and do good.

All: May the Lord give strength to the people!

Leader: O taste and see that the Lord is good!

All: God is our refuge and strength. Amen.

#### \*Opening Prayer

All: Patient and forgiving God, we come to you this day. Remind us that your blessings are poured out in many ways, through many people. Give us the confident faith that reaches beyond our own lives to help others. Forgive us when we sink into our own selfishness and pettiness. For it is in those times that we turn our back on you. Bring us back to you, to the awareness of your eternal love. In Christ's Name, we pray. AMEN.

Minister: Christ, our Cornerstone and our salvation, offers to us hope and comfort.

On this day help us to make our home in you knowing our sins are forgiven. 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: MATTHEW 10: 40-42

SECOND READING: GENESIS 22: 1-14

SERMON: "GREAT SACRIFICE"

REV. EUGENE BACON

PASTORAL PRAYER: THE LORD'S PRAYER

\*HYMN: #498 JESU, JESU FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE VERSES 1 THROUGH 4

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

MINISTER: 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.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (PLEASE REFER TO INSERT)

\*CLOSING HYMN: #594 HOW BEAUTIFUL, OUR SPACIOUS SKIES VERSES 1 AND 2

#### \*BENEDICTION

Minister: The grace of God, deeper than our imagination; the strength of Christ, stronger than our need; and the communion of the Holy Spirit, richer than our togetherness; guide and sustain us today and in all our tomorrows. Amen.

\*UNISON RESPONSE: And God will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand. Amen. Words/music by Michael Joncas. Copyright 1979 OCP. Permission to reprint/stream obtained from One License #A-739847.

Postlude

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

Lay Reader: **Lori Mayer**  
Ushers: **Ashley and Nancy Wedge**  
Communion Ministry: **Joan Chrzan**

Altar Guild: **Deb Butler**  
Greeter: **Lillian Banas**

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 2, 2023

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



## This Week's Calendar

Sunday July 2 10:00 a.m. Worship Service and Celebration

## Announcement

- ❖ We are pleased to welcome back Reverend Eugene Bacon 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.

*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

Email: [officeuccalp@gmail.com](mailto:officeuccalp@gmail.com) -- Web page: [www.uccalpena.org](http://www.uccalpena.org)  
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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