

## Welcome, All Worshipers

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

"The greatest need in our world today is the need for hope. We thrive on hope, we rejoice in hope, we witness in hope, knowing that experience works hope. 'Happy is he... whose hope is in the Lord his God (Psalm 146:5).' There is hope for the future. It is centered in the Person of Jesus Christ who died for our sins and rose from the grave and is alive now. I have staked all that I am or ever hope to be on Him." - Billy Graham

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

### Prelude

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

**PAT LABADIE, LAY READER**

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

**\*OPENING HYMN: #349 I COME WITH JOY** VERSES 1, 4, 5

#### \*Call to Worship

Leader: Protect us, O God, for in you we take refuge;

**All: Let us say to God, "You are our Lord; we have no good apart from you."**

Leader: Today, we come to worship God in truth and turn away from worshipping the idols all around us.

**All: God delights in our sincere worship, but sorrow visits those who give their worship to idols.**

Leader: We bless the Lord who gives counsel, who instructs our hearts in the secret of the night.

**All: We keep the Lord always before us so that we shall not be moved from God's ways.**

Leader: Our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice, and our bodies rest secure,

**All: Because God keeps us from destruction in this life and the next.**

Leader: God shows us the path of life,

**All: And in God's presence is the fullness of joy forevermore.**

Leader: And so, we say to God,

**All: "You are our Lord; we have no good apart from you." Amen.**

#### \*Opening Prayer

**All: We believe in God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whose mercy we are given new birth into a living hope through Christ's resurrection from the dead. We believe that through Christ we are born into an inheritance that is imperishable,**

undefiled, and unfading; and into a present salvation that will be revealed in its fullness in the last time. We believe that until that time, the Spirit works in us to grow the genuineness of our faith, that we may give praise, glory, and honor when Jesus, whom we love but have not seen, is revealed. 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: PSALM 16 AND JOHN 20:19-31**

**ANTHEM**

**CHOIR**

**SECOND READING: 1 PETER 1:3-9**

**SERMON: LIVING HOPE**

**REV. JON GOUGEON**

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

**\*HYMN: CHRIST IS RISEN! SHOUT HOSANNA! (INSERT) ALL VERSES**

#### 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.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN: I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES! (INSERT) ALL VERSES**

\*Minister: Let us join together and read responsively:

**\*All: Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.**

*(Continued on back)*

**\*BENEDICTION**

Minister: May you go forth carrying the joy that is yours as a child of God and an heir to resurrection life through Jesus Christ. May that joy fill you up and fuel your journey as we ask in the wake of the resurrection, "What now?" 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: **Pat Labadie**

Altar Guild: **Sandy Jarmuzewski**

Ushers: **Joe & Pat Garant**

Greeter: **Beth Petty**

Fellowship Hosts: **Bill & Dottie Haase and Penny Anderson**

**This Week's Calendar**

Sunday	April 16	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service and Fellowship Time
Thursday	April 20	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice

**Announcements**

- ❖ A huge THANK YOU to everyone who baked, helped with setup, takedown, and transport for our Easter Sunrise Breakfast! -*Sandy Jarmuzewski*
- ❖ Feed A Family needs for April - Kids' cereals, flavored rice or noodles (boxed or bagged), Suddenly Salads, Hamburger/Tuna Helper, canned soups.
- ❖ 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

April 16, 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*

Part-Time Interim Pastor: *Reverend Jon Gougeon*

Organist & Choir Director: *Kat Tomaszewski*

Office Administrator: *Judy Suszek*

Treasurer: *Denise Fusina*

Custodian: *Mike LaMarre*

Live-stream Technician: *Brayden Broad*

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