

Welcome, All Worshipers

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

“Jesus Christ did not say ‘go into all the world and tell the world that it is quite right.’ The gospel is something completely different. In fact, it is directly opposed to the world.” ~C.S. Lewis from “Cross Examination,” *God in the Dock*

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

Prelude

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BORIS GERBER, LAY READER

***OPENING HYMN: #417 THIS IS A DAY OF NEW BEGINNINGS ALL VERSES**

***Call to Worship:**

Leader: We can trust God in all circumstances and with all aspects of our lives. Amid enemy occupation and on the brink of exile, the prophet Jeremiah trusts that God has a promising future for the Hebrew people and their homeland. A seemingly irrational act in enemy-occupied territory, Jeremiah buys the deed to a piece of property as a statement of radical trust in God. Psalm 91 is a litany of trust in the face of dangers - a trust answered by God's own words of reassurance. Timothy reminds us that even in settled times, wealth and status, rather than war and physical danger, often lure us away from placing our faith in God. Luke emphasizes this point through the caricature of a rich man who does not trust God. The unnamed rich man is so wrapped up in his status and wealth that even in the torment of death, he still is trying to take charge of his life and of God. Trusting in God, we find the peace that passes all understanding and the strength to heed Christ's call. Those who love God,

All: God will deliver.

Leader: Those who know God by name,

All: God will protect.

Leader: Those who call out to God,

All: God will answer.

Leader: We gather this morning,

All: as those who trust God.

***Opening Prayer:**

All: Almighty God, you create, redeem, and sustain us, every moment of our lives. In you we place our trust. When we face illness, conflict, and fear, you are our

steadfast protector. When we suffer setback and loss, you restore us through your love. When our lives prosper and we are comfortable, you move us to share our blessings with others. In times of hardship and plenty, you alone are the source of the life that really is life. Holy God, in love and trust, we live the power of your resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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

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SCRIPTURE: PSALM 91:1-6, 14-16; JEREMIAH 3:1-3A, 6-15; 1 TIMOTHY 6:6-19

ANTHEM

CHOIR

***HYMN: #539 WON'T YOU LET ME BE YOUR SERVANT? ALL VERSES**

GOSPEL: LUKE 16:19-31

SERMON: BREAKING INTO THE KINGDOM

REV. JON GOUGEON

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

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

***CLOSING HYMN: #420 WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD ALL VERSES**

***BENEDICTION**

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.

Minister: And the blessing God who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us, be with you now and forever. Amen.

(continued on back)

hand. Amen. Words and music by Michael Joncas. Copyright 1979 OCP. Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-739847.

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

- ❖ We are pleased to welcome Reverend Jon Gougeon to lead our worship service today.
- ❖ The Worship Committee has been taking strides to return the worship service back to our traditional structure. We will offer Communion in our traditional form beginning October 2. The elements will be distributed to the congregation by the passing of the bread and cup trays. Please feel free to participate at your own comfort level. For those who may choose to use the individual portion cups, we will put the balance of our supply on the back Narthex table; feel free to help yourself.
- ❖ The following items are currently needed for our Feed A Family Program:
Noodles and sauce boxes/pouches, jello/pudding boxes, cake mixes and Jiffy mixes.
- ❖ Hosting helpers are needed for Fellowship Hour for October, November and December. Please use the sign-up sheet on the care table in the Narthex.
- ❖ Please remember to sign the care letters for Keith Titus' family and for Terry Bell and hold them in prayer throughout the days to come. Cards for Terry can be mailed to his Alpena address.

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.

201 South Second Avenue • Alpena, Michigan 49707