

## Welcome, All Worshipers

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

*"Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness."  
~Desmond Tutu, South African Anglican Bishop and Theologian*

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(\* indicates when those who are able will stand.)  
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**Prelude** **Bell Choir**  
*Gardenia Waltz* by Johnny Gimble -- *Open Our Eyes* by Bob Cull --  
*Like a River Glorious* by James Mountain

**CENTERING SONG – ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! GIVE THANKS TO THE RISEN LORD**

***Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.***  
***Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.***  
*(sing through twice)*

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** **BILL DEMPSEY, LAY READER**

**\*OPENING HYMN: #22 SING PRAISE TO GOD, WHO HAS SHAPED** ALL VERSES

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: Put away your cares.

All: Put away your anxieties.

Leader: God has not forsaken us.

All: God has not forgotten us.

Leader: Could a mother forget the child she has nurtured?

All: Neither will God forget us.

Leader: We are imprinted on the palms of God's hands.

All: God is with us.

Leader: God is with us.

### \*Opening Prayer

All: Resurrected Savior, Savior of new life and new hope, we come to you in humble prayer and joyous song, for Easter has changed our lives. We are no longer frightened people - because you live, we have courage to face life and to face death. We are no longer lonely - because you live, we can accept ourselves and reach out to each other. We are no longer scattered people - because you live, we may come together to worship in our weakness and our strength in the presence of your reign among us and the promise of your reign to come. Amen.

\*Easter Song of Praise #236 -- Halleluja

**SCRIPTURE: PSALM 23**

**ANTHEM**

**CHOIR**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**\*HYMN: #473 BLESSED ASSURANCE** ALL VERSES

**SCRIPTURE: JOHN 10:2-4, 7-10, 22-30**

**SERMON: HOPE, BASED ON CONFIDENCE IN GOD**

**REV. EUGENE BACON**

**LIFT THINE EYES (FROM ELIJAH)**

**BELL CHOIR**

**SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS, PASTORAL PRAYER, THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**\*CLOSING HYMN: #46 HOPE OF THE WORLD** 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.

**\*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.**

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**Postlude**

*Fourteen Plain Hunt Triples #1 (English Change Ring)*

**Bell Choir**

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

Lay Reader: **Bill Dempsey**

Live Stream Operators: **Jay Kettler**

Altar Guild: **June Perry**

and **Lynn Borke**

Ushers: **Gary & Sandy Jarmuzewski**

Fellowship Hosts: **Penny Anderson, Joe & Pat Garant, and Bill & Dottie Haase**

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 15, 2022

## This Week's Calendar

Sunday	May 15	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service and Fellowship Hour followed by Congregational Conversations
Tuesday	May 17	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Wednesday	May 18	5:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Practice
Friday	May 20	7:00 p.m.	Congregational Conversations

### Announcements:

- ❖ Please call the church office by May 25 if you (or an immediate family member) are graduating soon from high school, college, grad school or trade school. We would like to acknowledge all graduates in our June newsletter.
- ❖ Calling all members - If you are interested in serving on one of the following committees, please call the church office (989-356-1795), Blair Diamond, Board Chair (989-354-4714), or Deborah Butler, Board Vice Chair (989-255-2812):  
Budget/Finance Committee, Comstock Committee, Counters Committee, Investment Committee, Missions Committee, Personnel Committee, Property Committee, Stewardship Committee, Worship Committee
- ❖ Remember to use the sign-up sheets at the back of the sanctuary if you're interested in helping to host Fellowship Hour, or would like to participate in the upcoming Congregational Conversations meetings.
- ❖ Please sign the care letter for the Lance family and keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

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



Transitional Ministers: *Rev. Dr. H. Robert Case (Pastor Emeritus)*  
and *Reverend Eugene Bacon*

Organist & Choir Director: *Kat Tomaszewski*

Office Administrator: *Judy Suszek*

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)

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## **First Reading:**

### **Psalm 23**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;

<sup>3</sup>he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

## **Second Reading:**

### **John 10:2-4, 7-10, 22-30**

<sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

<sup>22</sup>At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup>and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup>So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." <sup>25</sup>Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; <sup>26</sup>but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup>My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup>The Father and I are one."