Welcome, All Worshipers

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

"Do not let the behavior of others destroy your inner peace." ~Dalai Lama – currently the most famous Buddhist teacher in the world, widely respected for his commitment to inner peace, nonviolence, and the cause of Tibetan freedom.

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

Prelude

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

DOTTIE HAASE, LAY READER

*OPENING HYMN: #1 IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE ALL VERSES

*Call to Worship

Leader: God holds out to us the promise of new life.

All: Life as unpredictable, as unrehearsed, as explosive as life at the very

beginning.

Leader: God calls us to respond to this gift with creativity, with joy, and with

courage.

All: In worship we can begin to accept this gift of new life.

Leader: Let us worship God.

*Opening Prayer

All: We pray to you, O God, for the nations of the earth, that their leaders and people might learn the things that make for peace. We thank you for the vision of a holy city centered on your worship and service, where diverse people live in harmony. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, may we discover inner peace ourselves, that we might more readily share in making our earthly cities more like that heavenly one. Amen.

*Easter Song of Praise #236 -- Halleluja

SCRIPTURE: REVELATION 21:10, 22-27 AND REVELATION 22:1-5

ANTHEM

CHILDREN'S SERMON

*HYMN: I'VE GOD PEACE LIKE A RIVER (SEE INSERT)

SCRIPTURE: JOHN 14:23-29

SERMON: MAKING IT REV. EUGENE BACON

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

*CLOSING HYMN: LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH (SEE INSERT)

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

Postlude

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

Lay Reader: **Dottie Haase**Altar Guild: **June Perry**Live Stream Operators: **Jay Kettler**and **Lynn Borke**

Ushers: Lill Banas and Vicky Lindsay

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

This Week's Calendar

Sunday May 22 10:00 a.m. Worship Service Tuesday May 24 5:30 p.m. Choir Practice

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.
- Our Friendship Pads are back! We invite you to complete a Friendship form and pass the pad to your neighbors. Please drop your completed form in the offering plate. This is a great opportunity to greet our guests and new members as well as reacquaint ourselves with one another as we return to a more regular worship service.
- ❖ Feed A Family Update: Items needed include hotdog and hamburger buns, boxed potatoes/sides/rice/noodles, Tuna Helper, and Chicken Helper. "We thank you for your continued support of our food pantry, especially now with the price of groceries. We do not want to make it a hardship for the donors." Blessings, Kathy Ceci

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

May 22, 2022

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

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201 South Second Avenue • Alpena, Michigan 49707

First Reading

Revelation 21:10, 22-27 and Revelation 22:1-5

¹⁰And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

²²I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

22Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Second Reading

John 14:23-29

²³Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

²⁸You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.