

Welcome, All Worshipers

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

"The great good news about America -- the American Gospel, if you will -- is that religion shapes the life of the nation without strangling it. Belief in God is central to the country's experience, yet for the broad center, faith is a matter of choice, not coercion, and the legacy of the Founding Fathers is that the sensible center holds."

~Jon Meacham, "American Gospel"

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

CENTERING SONG – SPIRIT, OPEN MY HEART (INSERT)

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

JIM McNEIL, LAY READER

*OPENING HYMN: #43 LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING ALL VERSES

*Call to Worship

Leader: It is not good to be alone.

All: We gather here not alone but as a community of faith.

Leader: This is a home where we know we are cared for and called to care.

All: We come to the table of remembrance to be made whole and to be healed of our brokenness.

Leader: Help us Holy One to know that we are loved by you as shown in your son, Jesus, who is the Christ.

All: Help us this morning to be lost in Wonder, Love and Praise.

*Opening Prayer

Leader: Creator and loving God, come and be with us this morning and in us and beside us and over us.

All: Shape our lives that they may shine forth with your love and place you in the center of our community life. Bind us in a holy love and give to all the gift of the peace of forgiveness. We pray this filled with the love you gave to the world in your son, Jesus. Amen.

*Pentecost Song of Praise - Hymn #42 O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Vs 1, 2 & 4

SCRIPTURE: DEUTERONOMY 10:12-13, MICAH 6:6-8, 1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-6,13

CHILDREN'S SERMON

*HYMN #594 How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies ALL VERSES

SERMON: SIMPLE COMPLEXITY

REV. ROBERT CASE

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS, PASTORAL PRAYER

*CLOSING HYMN: #593 LIFT EVERY VOICE 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

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

Lay Reader: **Jim McNeil**
Altar Guild: **Jackie Bell**
Ushers: **Lill Banas and Boris Gerber**
Fellowship Hosts: **Jay & Marilyn Kettler**

Live Stream Operators: **Jay Kettler**
and **Lynn Borke**
Communion Ministry: **Joan Chrzan**

This Week's Calendar

Sunday	July 3	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
Monday	July 4	*Office Closed – Happy Independence Day!	
Friday	July 8	11:45 a.m.	Ladies Luncheon, Hunan Restaurant

Announcements:

- ❖ Altar flowers are given by Nancy Wedge in memory of her parents, John and Patricia Kreft. They were the first couple married in the new First Congregational Church (fellowship hall, as the sanctuary wasn't finished yet) on July 3, 1954. Happy 68th Heavenly Anniversary Dad and Mom.
- ❖ URGENT - Fellowship hosts are needed for July and August. Please complete the sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary or call Bill Haase at 989-916-4104 for more information.
- ❖ Our Ladies Luncheons are resuming for the summer months. We will meet at 11:45 the second Friday of each month at Hunan Chinese Restaurant in Alpena. No need to sign up, just come join us. All our welcome.
- ❖ The following items are currently needed for our Feed A Family Program:
Hotdog and hamburger buns, Tuna Helper and Chicken Helper, au gratin potato packages, Rice A Roni or Pasta Roni, Noodles & Sauce or Rice & Sauce pouches

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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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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 3, 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
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Scripture Readings

Deuteronomy 10:12-13

¹²So now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you? Only to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³and to keep the commandments of the LORD your God and his decrees that I am commanding you today, for your own well-being.

Micah 6:6-8

⁶“With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” ⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

1 Corinthians 13:1-6, 13

13 If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ¹³And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.