

Welcome, All Worshipers

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

“Every blade of grass has its angel that bends over it and whispers, ‘Grow, grow.’”
~The Talmud (AD 200-500) Collection of Jewish rabbinical writings.

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

JIM McNEIL, LAY READER

*OPENING HYMN: #17 TO YOU, O GOD, ALL CREATURES SING VERSES 1-4

*Call to Worship

Leader: We are now in the season called Eastertide. Perhaps it is a fitting time to consider that our resurrection faith has tidal qualities.

All: It breaks upon us as waters upon a shore, molding and shaping.

Leader: Faith brings surprises laying them before us as though they were dropped by an outgoing tide.

All: Faith tells us of God's power and grace, both ever in motion as the seas, both ever present whether we are a high or low points in our lives.

Leader: Faith constantly beckons. It seems to stretch toward us as the waters of a new-broken wave reaches out to the walker on the shore.

All: In gathering together during this season, we open ourselves to a God who changes us, surprises us, informs us, draws us..

Leader: May our worship be Eastertidal, our community filled with Spirit.

*Opening Prayer

All: God of Resurrection, we cry out to you as empty people in a fractured world. Sometimes it seems like we live in a world of Good Fridays: where the innocent

suffer and die, where evil seems to triumph. God of Resurrection, we long to discover your presence, we long to feel the rhythm of your power. Bring Easter to our hearts, to our eyes and ears, to our lives, to our world, this morning. In the name of Christ, whose resurrection is the hope which plants love and laughter in our lives and lures them to sprout and bloom and blossom like spring flowers in the morning sun, we say. Amen.

*Easter Song of Praise #236 -- Halleluja

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 2:4-9, 15

ANTHEM

CHOIR

CHILDREN'S SERMON

*HYMN: #31 ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL ALL VERSES

SCRIPTURE: JOHN 21:1-19

SERMON: GIFTS FROM THE SEA (AND EARTH)

REV. EUGENE BACON

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

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (PLEASE REFER TO INSERT)

*CLOSING HYMN: #28 FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH 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. 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: **Jim McNeil**
Altar Guild: **June Perry**
Communion Ministry: **Lynne Stewart**
Fellowship Hosts: **Penny Anderson, Joe & Pat Garant, and Bill & Dottie Haase**

Live Stream Operators: **Jay Kettler**
and **Lynn Borke**
Ushers: **Ron & Lynn Borke**

This Week's Calendar

Sunday	May 1	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
Tuesday	May 3	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Wednesday	May 4	5:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Practice

Announcements:

- ❖ Immanuel Lutheran Church is hosting a National Day of Prayer Breakfast this Thursday, May 5 at 6:45am. Tickets are \$10 each and may be purchased by calling Beth Pelkey at 989-379-3386.
- ❖ Please 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.

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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

May 1, 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

Web page: www.uccalpena.org

201 South Second Avenue • Alpena, Michigan 49707

Scripture Readings

Genesis 2:4-9, 15

⁴These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; ⁶but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— ⁷then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.

⁸And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. ¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

John 21:1-19

21After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ²Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is

the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. ⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

To You, O God, All Creatures Sing

St. Francis of Assisi, 1225

Adapt. Miriam Therese Winter, 1993

1. To you, O God, all crea-tures sing,
and all cre-a-tion, ev-ery-thing
sings your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia!
Your burn-ing sun with gold-en beam,
your sil-ver moon with soft-er gleam
sing your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.
2. Your wind that blows the tem-pest by,
your clouds that sail a-cross the sky
sing your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia!
Your morn-ing ris-es with a song,
and lights of eve-ning sing a-long,
sing your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.
3. Your flow-ing wa-ters, crys-tal clear,
make mel-o-dies for you to hear,
sing your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia!
Your fire, boun-ti-ful and bright,
re-mem-bering your warmth and light,
sings your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

GOD

4. To you, O God, day af-ter day,
your plan-et earth in ev-ery way,
sings your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia,
As sa-vory fruit and fra-grant flower
show forth your glo-ry and your power,
sing-ing prais-es, al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

5. Now we who are of ten-der heart,
for-giv-ing oth-ers, take our part,
sing your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia!
To you we lift our pain and care,
re-ceive the bur-dens that we bear,
sing-ing prais-es, al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

6. In you, a kind and gen-tle death
pre-pares to hush our fi-nal breath,
sing-ing prais-es, al-le-lu-ia!
Christ goes be-fore us to re-new
the way that leads us home to you.
Hear our prais-es, al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Ps. 148

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Cecil F. Alexander, 1848; alt.

Refrain:

All things bright and beau-ti-ful,
all crea-tures great and small,
All things wise and won-der-ful,
our dear God made them all.

1. Each lit-tle flower that o-pens,
each lit-tle bird that sings,
God made their glow-ing col-ors,
and made their ti-ny wings.

Refrain:

2. The pur-ple-head-ed moun-tain,
the riv-er run-ning by,
The sun-set, and the morn-ing
that bright-ens up the sky.

Refrain:

3. The cold wind in the win-ter,
the pleas-ant sum-mer sun,
The ripe fruits in the gar-den,
God made them ev-ery one.

Refrain:

For the Beauty of the Earth

St. 1–3, Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1864; alt.

St. 4, Miriam Therese Winter, 1993

1. For the beau-ty of the earth,
for the splen-dor of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
o-ver and a-round us lies,
God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grate-ful praise.
2. For the won-der of each hour
of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light,
God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grate-ful praise.
3. For the joy of hu-man love,
broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends a-bove,
for all gen-tle thoughts and mild,
God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grate-ful praise.
4. For the good that love in-spires,
for a world where none ex-clude,
For a faith that nev-er tires,
and for ev-ery heart re-newed,
God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

CWS BLANKETS

A seat at The Master's Table

Have you ever experienced a time when you felt invisible, insignificant or forgotten? That feeling is a daily reality for so many.

One church in Galveston, Texas is working to change that reality. And they're doing it *one person, one seat and one table at a time.*



Four years ago, God's Kingdom and Restoration Ministries began "The Master's Table," a ministry focused on helping people who are facing hard times. "It was always our vision to feed the needy, feed the working poor, feed the homeless," said Shiryln Thomas, co-pastor at the church.

Guests entering the church are taken to The Master's Table, to sit and enjoy a home-cooked meal. But a seat at *this* table isn't *just* about the food. CWS Blankets, and simple hand-assembled hygiene kits, provided by CWS Blankets supporters, help visitors feel comforted. The genuine fellowship they feel around the table helps them feel seen. "We want them to know that God hasn't forgotten them," says Thomas.

People leave the table with hope, knowing they are loved by God and by compassionate donors like you.

Because of you, ministries like The Master's Table have essential resources and a seat at the table for everyone to feel God's presence and abounding love.

Hope is powerful, especially in times like these. Will you answer the call to serve God's people and increase hope? Donate today.

Donate today to provide CWS Blankets to warmth and comfort to people in need. Scan the QR code or visit cwsblankets.org/bulletin to make a secure donation and to see how your gift helps others.



Scan Me!



CWS

cwsblankets.org

"And don't forget to do good and share with those in need."

— HEBREWS 13:16

In 2021, congregational gifts provided over 183,000 CWS Blankets and Kits to families impacted by hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding and other crises (including homelessness and poverty). Here's how your gift can make a difference this year:

\$10

Provides
one blanket

\$50

Gives blankets
to an entire family

\$250

Stocks shelves in a shelter with
blankets before wintry lows hit

Your gift supports two types of CWS Blankets:

HEAVYWEIGHT

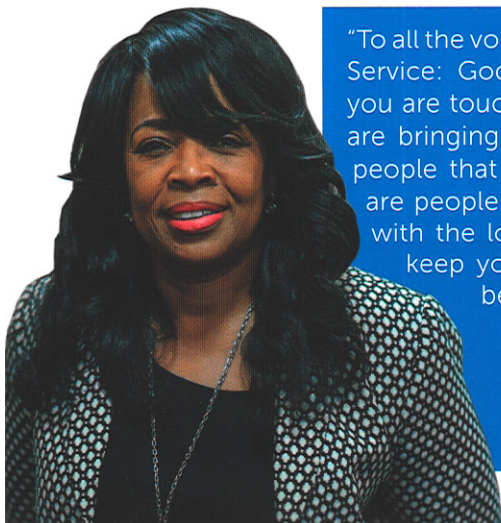
These woolen blankets are water-resistant and flame-retardant. They are extremely durable, warm and great for frigid temperatures or other extreme weather conditions.



LIGHTWEIGHT

Appropriate for warmer climates, these fleece blankets are water repellant, durable, warm and soft. These blankets keep families covered without adding bulk.

You can show God's love and provide hope to your neighbors by making a donation. Each \$10 gift provides a blanket and enables someone to feel God's love in their lives. Give cash, by check payable to **CWS Blankets** or give safely online at cwsblankets.org/donate.



"To all the volunteers, the donors of Church World Service: God bless you! What you have done, you are touching people you will never see. You are bringing hope to people that are hopeless, people that feel so disenfranchised. That there are people still concerned, loving, and walking with the love of Christ - God bless you, God keep you! Keep doing what you are doing because you are making a difference."

- SHIRLYN THOMAS, CO-PASTOR
GOD'S KINGDOM AND
RESTORATION MINISTRIES
GALVESTON, TEXAS

PHOTOS: EDWARD SANCHEZ / MOUNTAIN AND SEA COLLECTIVE

Sacrament of Holy Communion**

Pastor: This is the table of the Lord and belongs to no individual, church or denomination and is open to all people who wish to come closer to God shown to us in Jesus the Christ.

Pastor: Come to this table, not because you must, but because you may; not because you are strong, but because you stand in need of God's love, mercy and assurance. Come not to express an opinion, but to seek a presence and to pray for a spirit. Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come, but because you need mercy and help. Come, because you love the Lord a little and would like to love him more. Come, because he loved you and gave himself for you. Come and meet the risen Christ, for we are his Body. Come to this table as you are.

All: We come to the table that is spread for you and me that we might again know that God has come to us, shared our common lot, and invited us to be renewed and strengthened in our common mission to share God's love.

Pastor: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the God of mercy.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Communion Prayer

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration of Bread and Cup

The Sharing of Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in the Sacrament and united us with Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen

**** We sing one verse of "Let Us Break Bread Together" before we eat the bread and one verse of "Walls Mark our Bound'ries" before the cup. They are found on the inside back cover of the hymnals.**

*****During Covid we ask you to please pick up the prepackaged wafer and cup. We all partake of the bread at the same time and the same with the cup. Please dispose of the cup on your way out or place it in the holder on the back of the pew.***