

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## WELCOME, ALL WORSHIPERS

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**WHOEVER YOU ARE, AND WHEREVER YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.**  
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**FOR JESUS IS OUR PEACE; IN HIS FLESH HE HAS MADE BOTH GROUPS INTO ONE AND HAS  
BROKEN DOWN THE DIVIDING WALL, THAT IS, THE HOSTILITY BETWEEN US. EPHESIANS 2:14**  
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(\* INDICATES WHEN THOSE WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND.

### PRELUDE

### MOMENT FOR MISSIONS

### WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(PLEASE COMPLETE THE FRIENDSHIP BOOK AS IT IS PASSED DURING ANNOUNCEMENTS; THEN PASS IT TOWARD THE CENTER AISLE.

### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING (RESPONSIVE LITANY)

LEADER: IN THIS SEASON OF ADVENT, WE PRAY FOR GOD'S PEACE.

**ALL: CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT AND THE SOURCE OF OUR PEACE.**

LEADER: WE WITNESS THE HOSTILITY BETWEEN NATIONS AND NEIGHBORS.

**ALL: CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT AND THE SOURCE OF OUR PEACE.**

LEADER: WE SEE A WORLD FULL OF FRACTURED RELATIONSHIPS AND UNFORGIVING HEARTS.

**ALL: CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT AND THE SOURCE OF OUR PEACE.**

LEADER: WE SEEK RELIEF FROM OUR OWN INNER TURMOIL AND RESTLESSNESS.

**ALL: CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT AND THE SOURCE OF OUR PEACE.**

### \*OPENING HYMN: #116 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL (VERSES 1-2)

*PSALTERIOLUM CANTIONUM CATHOLICARUM*, 1710 BASED ON ANCIENT ANTIPHONS FROM ADVENT VESPERS TRANSL. JOHN MASON NEALE, 1851, AND OTHERS; ALT. ST. 2, 7, TRANSL. HENRY SLOANE COFFIN, 1916; ALT.

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)

**JIM McNEIL, LAY READER**

LEADER: REJOICE, O PEOPLE, REJOICE.

**ALL: THE LORD WILL GATHER US IN HOPE.**

LEADER: THE LORD WILL GUARD US IN FAITHFULNESS.

**ALL: THE LORD WILL RENEW US IN LOVE.**

### \*OPENING PRAYER

**ALL: LOVING GOD, THE VISION IS SET BEFORE US OF THE WORLD RENEWED AND RESTORED BY  
THE REIGN OF CHRIST. IT IS A VISION OF GOODNESS, JUSTICE, FORGIVENESS, AND PEACE THAT  
TRULY SURPASSES OUR UNDERSTANDING. WE EAGERLY JOIN WITH ALL WHO OFFER THE  
CONFIDENT CRY: "THE LORD IS NEAR!" 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.**

WORDS: ANONYMOUS, 4TH CENTURY. MUSIC: HENRY GREATOREX. THIS SELECTION IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

### ANTHEM

### SCRIPTURE LESSON: EPHESIANS 2:11-22

### SERMON: "BREAK DOWN THOSE DIVIDING WALLS"

**REV. DICK HOTCHKIN**

### PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (DEBTS AND DEBTORS)

### \*HYMN: #103 WATCHER, TELL US OF THE NIGHT (ALL VERSES)

JOHN BOWRING, 1852; ALT.

### SHARING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

LEADER: LET US GIVE AS EACH IS ABLE FROM THE FULLNESS OF OUR GRATITUDE TO GOD.

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

### \*CLOSING HYMN: #104 WE HAIL YOU GOD'S ANOINTED (ALL VERSES)

JAMES MONTGOMERY, 1821: ALT.

### \*CLOSING PRAYER

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*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.**

### POSTLUDE

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

LAY READER: JIM MCNEIL

ALTAR GUILD: VICKY LINDSAY

USHERS: GARY JARMUZEWSKI AND PENNY ANDERSON

COUNTER: ASHLEY WEDGE

COUNTER: ASHLEY WEDGE

GREETERS: BETH PETTY AND KATHY MOORE

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS: HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SUNDAY DECEMBER 8 10:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

MONDAY DECEMBER 9 5:30 PM

BOARD MEETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ PLEASE CHECK THE CARDS AND CARE LETTERS IN THE MIDDLE HALLWAY.
- ❖ FELLOWSHIP HOSTS ARE NEEDED FOR DECEMBER 22 AND 29.
- ❖ SAVE THE DATE: **CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE, DECEMBER 20, 5:30 TO 7:30 PM.**
- ❖ WE ARE IN NEED OF LAY READERS. PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU CAN BE AVAILABLE FOR THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY.
- ❖ PLEASE SEE NANCY WEDGE FOR GREAT STOCKING STUFFERS: DISH CLOTHS FOR \$2.50 AND/OR CORN BROOMS FOR \$20 EACH. ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE CHURCH.
- ❖ THE LADIES LUNCH BUNCH PLANS TO MEET FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13 AT THE 19<sup>TH</sup> HOLE AT 11:30 AM. INVITE YOUR FRIENDS! CONTACT BOBBI ZUBI FOR MORE INFORMATION 989-657-9996.
- ❖ **DECEMBER 15 CPR AND AED TRAINING AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE.**
- ❖ WE ARE ONCE AGAIN COLLECTING WARM HATS, MITTENS, SCARVES, AND SOCKS FOR THOSE IN NEED THIS WINTER. YOU MAY PLACE THEM ON THE TREE ACROSS FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE.
- ❖ FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR DECEMBER; JELLO, PUDDING (ANY FLAVOR), CHICKEN OR TURKEY PACKAGES, CANS OF GRAVY, SPAGHETTIOS, RAVIOLI, PASTA RINGS, KIDS CEREAL (RICE KRISPIES, CAPT. CRUNCH, FRUIT LOOPS), CRANBERRY SAUCE. THEY CURRENTLY HAVE 141 FAMILIES SIGNED UP FOR CHRISTMAS ASSISTANCE.

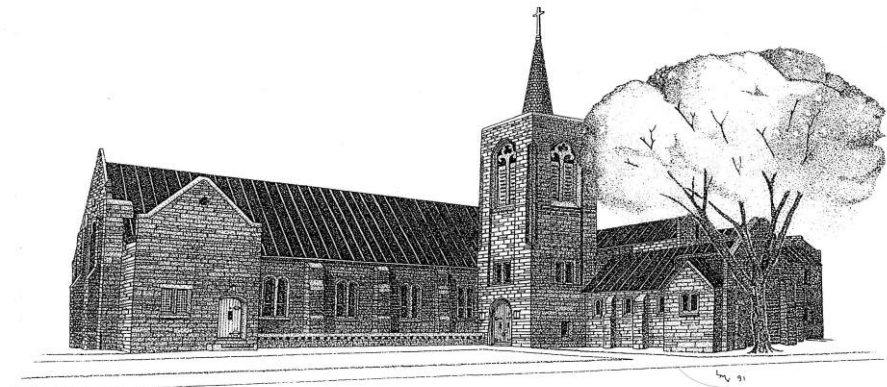
SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVE-STREAMED AND RECORDED -- OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES ARE LIVE-STREAMED, SHOWN ON THE INTERNET, AS THEY ARE HAPPENING AND RECORDED FOR VIEWING ONLINE LATER. PEOPLE IN THE SANCTUARY ATTENDING THE SUNDAY SERVICE MAY BE SEEN AS PART OF THE LIVE-STREAM AND RECORDING.

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A UNISEX HANDICAP-ACCESSIBLE RESTROOM IS LOCATED THROUGH THE DOORS TO YOUR LEFT AS YOU EXIT THE SANCTUARY. A HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE LADIES RESTROOM 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

December 8, 2024

*As an Open and Affirming congregation,  
we welcome people as they are,  
share Jesus as He is, and serve  
our community and the world in love.*



*The Rev. Dr. Richard E. Hotchkin, Transition Minister*

*The Rev. Dr. H. Robert Case, Pastor Emeritus*

Organist & Choir Director: *Kat Tomaszewski*

Office Administrator: *Nancy Ross*

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)  
201 South Second Avenue • Alpena, Michigan 49707