

# WELCOME, ALL WORSHIPERS

WHOEVER YOU ARE, AND WHEREVER YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME  
HERE.

**ADVENT IS A TIME OF PREPARATION, A PERIOD FOR EACH OF US TO EXAMINE OURSELVES  
IN THE LIGHT OF GOD'S WORD AND WILL — AND TO TURN TO GOD FOR FORGIVENESS AND  
REDEMPTION.**

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(\* ) INDICATES WHEN THOSE WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND.

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## PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LYNN BORKE, LAY READER

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

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING ANTHEM: HOPE, PEACE, JOY, AND LOVE**

“HOPE IS LIKE A CANDLE BURNING IN THE NIGHT. HOPE PAINTS EVERY SHADOW WITH ITS GENTLE LIGHT.  
GLOWING LIKE A PROMISE TILL OUR FAITH IS SIGHT, HOPE IS LIKE A CANDLE IN THE NIGHT.”

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**\*OPENING HYMN: MY LORD, WHAT A MORNING** INSERT (VERSES 1-3)

SPIRITUAL. PUBLIC DOMAIN.

**\*UNISON READING**

**ALL: IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD, AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD, AND THE WORD  
WAS GOD. HE WAS IN THE BEGINNING WITH GOD. ALL THINGS CAME INTO BEING THROUGH  
HIM, AND WITHOUT HIM NOT ONE THING CAME INTO BEING. WHAT HAS COME INTO BEING IN  
HIM WAS LIFE, AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF ALL PEOPLE. THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE  
DARKNESS, AND THE DARKNESS DID NOT OVERCOME IT. JOHN 1:1-5**

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**ALL: DEAR GOD, ALREADY WE CAN HEAR THE DISTANT SONG BREAKING OUT: “HE  
COMES!” WHEN WE ARE TOO BUSY AND SELF-ABSORBED FOR OUR LIVES TO CONNECT  
WITH THOSE OF OTHERS, HE COMES. WHEN WE ARE FULL OF DESPAIR AND HAVE ALL  
CONFIDENCE IN OUR VALUE AS PEOPLE SHAKEN, HE COMES. WHEN WE ARE LONELY, LOST,  
OR IN SEARCH OF SOME PURPOSE FOR OUR LIVES, HE COMES. HE COMES IN JUDGMENT**

**AND IN LOVE, TO BIND AND TO LOOSE, TO CUT DOWN AND TO RAISE UP. HE COMES, HE  
COMES. AND WE WOULD RECEIVE HIM. 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 LESSONS: LUKE 21: 25-36  
LUKE 3:2-6**

**SERMON: “A NEW WORLD IS COMING! HOW DO WE WAIT?” REV. RICHARD HOTCHKIN**

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

**\*HYMN: ON JORDAN'S BANK'S THE BAPTISTS CRY** INSERT (VERSES 1-2)

PUBLIC DOMAIN.

**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.**

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**\*CLOSING HYMN: #116 O COME, O COME EMMANUEL**

THIS SELECTION IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

**\*BENEDICTION: GO IN PEACE. LET THE BEAUTY OF THE LORD OUR GOD BE UPON YOU, AND LINGER IN YOUR HEARTS AND MINDS THROUGHOUT THE COMING WEEK, AND FOREVERMORE. 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.**

**POSTLUDE**

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

**LAY READER:** LYNN BORKE  
**ALTAR GUILD:** VICKY LINDSAY  
**GREETERS:** BEV OLSEN

**USHERS:** MAX & VICKY LINDSAY  
**FELLOWSHIP HOSTS:** BILL & DOTTIE HAASE  
**COMMUNION:** VICKY LINDSAY

**THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 3</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>WORSHIP SERVICE COMMUNION</b>
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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- ❖ THIS WEEK'S OPENING HYMN WAS CHOSEN AS PART OF OUR 'FAVORITE HYMN' SERIES BY AN ANONYMOUS SUBMITTER.
- ❖ FELLOWSHIP HOSTS NEEDED FOR DECEMBER 24. PLEASE USE THE SIGN UP BOARD IN THE MIDDLE HALLWAY.
- ❖ PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK FOR CARE LETTERS AND CARDS IN THE MIDDLE HALL.
- ❖ PAT GARANT IS COORDINATING THE MITTEN TREE THROUGH CHRISTMAS. WE ARE COLLECTING ADULT AND CHILDREN-SIZED MITTENS, HATS, SCARVES, AND SOCKS THAT WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO LOCAL AGENCIES IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS. YOU MAY HANG YOUR DONATIONS ON THE TREE NEXT TO THE SHOWCASE.
- ❖ THE AREA FOOD PANTRY IS IN NEED OF: GRAVY PACKAGES OR CANS (ANY FLAVOR), INSTANT MASHED POTATOES (BOXES OR PACKAGES), JIFFY CORN BREAD OR BISCUIT MIXES/BOXES, ANY KIND OF NOODLES & SAUCE, RICE & SAUCE PACKAGES (WALMART GREAT VALUE HAS SEVERAL FLAVORS), CEREAL (ANY KIND).

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 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

**December 3, 2023**

*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

