

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 24th, 2025

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

SERMON "Wonderful Counselor"

✠ HYMN "A Communion Hymn for Christmas #287

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S TABLE

Invitation

COMMUNION ANTHEM "Pass the Bread, Pass the Cup" (Schram)

Communion

The Lord's Prayer

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

The Prayers of the People

OFFERTORY "Emmanuel Has Come" (Moen)
Solo: Alicia Cottle

✠ DOXOLOGY #814

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

✠ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We offer ourselves, O God, as messengers of peace and goodwill. Where war threatens and strife is real, we seek by grace to demonstrate your reconciling love. When hostilities persist and your people are alienated, our gift is Christ's promise of intercession and accord. May our words be combined with commitment to act, and our actions conform to your abiding desire.

✠ HYMN "Silent Night! Holy Night!" #253

✠ BENEDICTION

✠ POSTLUDE "Silent Night" (Gruber)

Merry Christmas!

WE WELCOME EVERYONE TO THE FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

We pray you'll be nourished in faith as you hear God's message for you. Jesus welcomed everyone; that is our aim, too. Whether you're here for the first time or the thousandth, we count ourselves blessed by your presence. Persons interested in more information about the First United Presbyterian Church, or in joining this congregation, are invited to fill out a 'Welcome' card found in the pews, or to call the church office. Please be sure to sign our Guest Book near the entrance to the Sanctuary. Thank you for worshipping with us today.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- ✦ Sunday Worship - 10:00 AM
The nursery is available for your use during the worship service.
- ✦ A Celtic cross (✦) preceding a service element indicates the congregation should stand.
- ✦ **Bold** indicates congregation participation.
- ✦ If you need the Pastor after office hours, please call the church and leave a message on the Pastor's voicemail. If you call during office hours and he is not available, the staff may be able to provide his cell #.
- ✦ Pre-service refreshments are available each Sunday in the Westminster Room.

FOR THE  **HEARING IMPAIRED**

Hearing assistance devices are available. If you would like to use a receiver, please ask an Usher for assistance.



***The Purpose of the First United Presbyterian Church is to:
Invite people to know and glorify God
Grow together as followers of Christ
Serve others through the power of the Holy Spirit***

***We ask that you remember these people in your prayer
throughout the coming week:***



Alice Halsey, Marge Simpkins, Dee Leuvoy,
Geraldine Carnahan,
Mackenzie (Kalchik) Paul,
Crisanne Riordan,
Ronan Mouw, Dr. Pat Newhouse,
all missionaries, and all members of the
U.S. Armed Forces.

***Please keep us up to date on your prayer request.
Unless we are informed otherwise, names are listed for 2 weeks.***

FUPC Meetings/Groups—standard gathering times / or as noted

Choir Practice—Every Wednesday at 5:00pm / every Sunday at
9:00am

Circle 3—2nd Thursday at 9:30am (WR)

Deacons—2nd Sunday at 11:15am (WR)

Men's Study Group—Every Friday at 9:00am (WR)

Presbyterian Women—3rd Tuesday at Noon (SH)

Session—3rd Monday at 5:30pm (WR)

Textile Social Group—1st, 3rd & 4th Thursdays at 9:30am (SH)

Trustees—3rd Monday at 5:30pm (LB)

Women's Bible Study—1st, 3rd & 4th Wednesdays at 9:30am (WR)

Minister: Rev. Mark D. Gabbard / pastor@soopresbyterian.org

Commissioned Ruling Elder: Brenda Ransom

Clerk of Session: Julie Walsh

President of Trustees: Leanne Deuman

Chairman of Deacons: Jeanne Shibley

Music Director/Organist: Kay Boyne / *Guitarist: David Blackburn*

Administrative Assistant: Maria Price / office@soopresbyterian.org

Sexton: Jason Fuller

Office Hours: 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Monday-Friday

Pastor's Office Hours: 9:15 AM to 12:00 PM, Monday-Friday

555 Bingham Ave.

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

906/632-7771 / soopresbyterian.org



THE SIMPLY GIVE PROGRAM at Meijer, for our Food Pantry, will run through December 27th. You may take a gift card from the church (located on the table in front of the bulletin board) or pick one up in the checkout lane at Meijer and contribute in amounts of \$10. If you rather not deal with going to Meijer, you can give the money to Doris Boogerd.

SUNDAY SCHOOL will **not** be held on December 28th. It will resume as normal on Sunday, January 4th.

TEXTILE SOCIAL will not be meeting again until January 15th.

THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS OFFERING will go to our FUPC Food Pantry.

THE DEACONS ARE COLLECTING new socks to distribute to the community this winter. Help warm a set of toes and place a pair of socks on our sock tree in the narthex until January 11th.

THERE ARE OPEN DATES AVAILABLE for hosting "Cookies & Coffee" and "Soup & Sandwich" Sundays. The list is on the bulletin board across from the office. Please contact Maria in the church office if you are available to serve on one of these Sundays. Thank you.

THE FOOD PANTRY is seeking clean, gently used jackets and coats to distribute on the scheduled Food Pantry distribution days. Donations may be dropped off at the church workroom. Thank you!

ATTENTION ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS: Just a friendly reminder to begin working on your annual reports. Reports are due January 6th.

UPCOMING EVENTS



DATES TO REMEMBER:

- December 28th – First Sunday after Christmas (No Sunday School)
- January 1st – Presbytery Point camp registrations begin (online)
- January 4th – Epiphany of the Lord / Soup and Sandwich
- January 11th – Baptism of the Lord

This Week at a Glance

Sunday, 12/21

9:00am - Coffee Hour (WR)

9:15am - Choir Practice (S)

10:00am - Worship Service (S)

***4th Sunday of Advent**

10:15am – Sunday School

Monday, 12/22

7:00pm - Scout Troop #105 (SH)

Tuesday, 12/23

3:30pm - Food Pantry

Wednesday, 12/24

***OFFICE CLOSED**

***7:00pm Christmas Eve Worship
Service / Communion &
Christmas Offering**

Thursday, 12/25

***OFFICE CLOSED - MERRY
CHRISTMAS!**

Friday, 12/26

***OFFICE CLOSED**

9:00am – Men’s Study Group
(WR)

Saturday, 12/27

7:00pm - AA

Sunday, 12/28

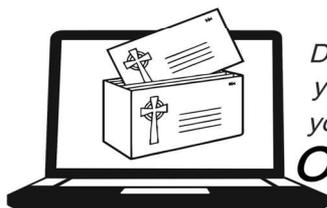
9:00am - Coffee Hour (WR)

9:15am - Choir Practice (S)

10:00am - Worship Service (S)

***First Sunday after Christmas**
10:15am - Sunday School

WR-Westminster Room, MR-Music Room, S-Sanctuary, LB-Library, SH-Social Hall



*Did you know
you can give
your offerings*

ONLINE ?

