



*“How awesome is this place!  
This is none other than  
the house of God,  
and this is the gate of heaven!”*

GENESIS 28:17

*Central and Algonquin  
United Methodist Churches  
Sunday, July 23, 2023*

Mission Statement:  
Connecting all people to God by building bridges  
of caring, outreach, and acceptance.

*With Pastor Marty Johnston*

Central UMC's Worship Gathering

July 23, 2023 - 10:30 am

CCLI License# 3999519

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

\*Indicates please stand on your feet or in your heart.

PRELUDE

Early Hungarian Dances

- mvmts I, II, III -- F. Ferenc

Woodwind Quintet - Rob Galbraith - flute, Cathy Wilkinson - oboe,

John Wilkinson - clarinet, Brian Carter - French horn, Barbara Finch - bassoon

WELCOME

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>**

One: O Lord, you have searched me and known me!

**All: You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.**

One: You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

**All: Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it altogether.**

One: You pursue me behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

**All: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain it.**

One: Whither shall I go from your spirit?

**All: Or whither shall I flee from your presence?**

One: If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

**All: If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.**

One: If I say, "Let only darkness cover me, and the light about me be night,"

**All: even the darkness is not dark to you, the night is bright as the day; for darkness is as light with you.**

One: Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts;

**All: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

*UMH 103*  
ST. DENIO

**\*PASTOR'S OPENING PRAYER**

## TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS -

*Youth are invited to attend Young Christian's Worship at this time downstairs.*

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 27:41-43, 28:10-19a

SPECIAL MUSIC Early Hungarian Dances - mvmt IV -- F. Ferenc  
Woodwind Quintet

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON Never Alone

## INVITATION TO OFFERING

*As we continue our worship of God, may we respond to God's goodness with faithful love for those who are in need of our gifts this day.*

OFFERTORY "Summer Idyl" Grieg, arr. Price

## \*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*God of dreams and visions, we offer you our gifts this day in gratitude and praise for your angels who come to bring us your blessings. May this offering be a sign of our commitment to be a blessing to all the peoples of the earth. Amen.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## \*CLOSING HYMN

*Grace Greater than Our Sin*

UMH 365  
MOODY

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Early Hungarian Dances*  
Woodwind Quintet

- mvmt V -- F. Ferenc

Pastor: Pastor Marty Johnston

Organist: Pat Deatrick

Ushers/Greeters: N. Bennin/J. Arfstrom/T. Robinson/R. Morgan

Family Ministry Coordinator: Jenny Shelley

Special Guest Musicians: Woodwind Quintet - Rob Galbraith - flute, Cathy Wilkinson - oboe,  
John Wilkinson - clarinet, Brian Carter - French horn,  
Barbara Finch - bassoon

Video Camera: Derrick Washbish

Music Director: Cathy Wilkinson

Liturgist: Gwen Worley

Administrative Asst.: Abby Abrego

## Announcements – July 23, 2023

If you are interested in becoming a member of the church or receiving baptism, please contact Pastor Marty Johnston.



AUMC - Our July change jar offering will be donated to Feeding America.

## Algonquin Birthdays/Anniversaries

23rd – Mason Atkins (12<sup>th</sup>)

23rd – Susan Belleau

26<sup>th</sup> – Peter Pratt

28<sup>th</sup> – Sandy Ellis

July 29<sup>th</sup> – Mary Beth and Todd Vollick

## Central Birthdays/Anniversaries

23rd – Katelyn and Nick Bell - 7<sup>th</sup> Anniv.

## ***This Week***

Wednesday: Bible Study @10:30in the CUMC Library with Norb Bennin continuing with Dr. David Jeremiah “Overcomer” - 8 Ways to Live a Life of Unstoppable Strength, Unmovable Faith, & Unbelievable Power!

## **Save The Date**

Saturday, August 5, 2023 @ 9:00am-1:00pm: The First United Presbyterian Church Women's Association located at 555 Bingham St. is holding a Rummage Sale on Sat. 8/5/23, 9am-1pm. It will be held at the Lion Street entrance (outside), as well as in the Social Hall downstairs. The money raised will be used for local mission projects.

\*UMH—The United Methodist Hymnal

\*TFWS—The Faith We Sing

\* Footnotes: 1. UMH 854-855 Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24 \*\*2. Taken from the Abington Worship Annual 2023

*Financial gifts can be mailed to Algonquin UMC or Central UMC at:  
111 E. Spruce St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.*

**Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 9a.m. to 2p.m.**

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