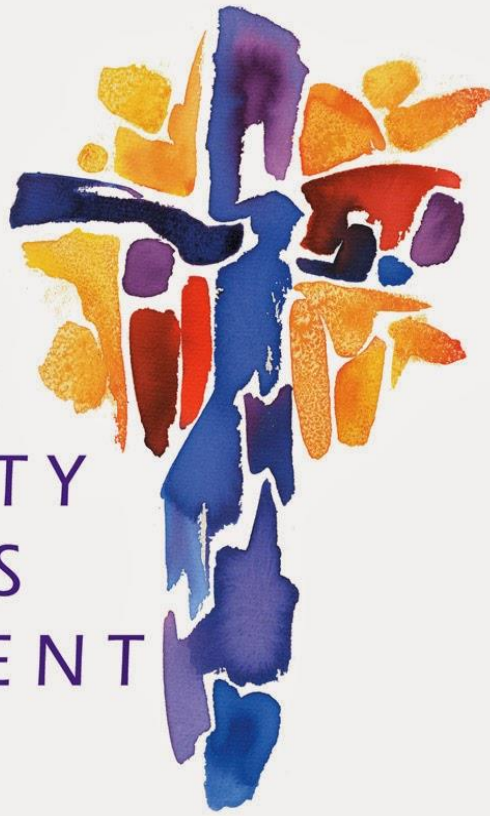


THE  
FORTY  
DAYS  
of LENT



RETURN  
to the  
LORD  
YOUR  
GOD

*Central and Algonquin  
United Methodist Churches*

*Sunday, February 25, 2024*

*With Reverend Brenda Ransom*

Mission Statement:

**Connecting all people to God by building bridges of  
caring, outreach, and acceptance.**

Central and Algonquin UMC's Worship Gathering  
February 25, 2024 - 10:30 a.m.  
Second Sunday in Lent

*CCLI License# 3999519*

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

Greeters/Ushers: Barb Carlisle/Kris Donarski

Liturgist: Marcie Gleason

PRELUDE "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me" arr. Sewell

WELCOME/MISSION STATEMENT

Connecting all people to God by building bridges of caring, outreach, and acceptance

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

One: From you comes my praise in the great congregation;

**All: my vows I will pay before those who worship the Lord.**

One: The poor shall eat and be satisfied;

**All: those who seek the Lord shall praise the Lord! May your hearts live for ever!**

One: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;

**All: and all the families of the nations shall worship before the Lord.**

One: For dominion belongs to the Lord who rules over the nations.

**All: All who sleep in the earth shall bow down to the Lord.**

One: All who go down to the dust shall bow before the Lord, and I shall live for God.

**All: Posterity shall serve the Lord;**

One: each generation shall tell the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn.

**All: Surely the Lord has done it.**

\*OPENING HYMN "And Are We Yet Alive" UMH 553  
DENNIS

PASTOR'S OPENING PRAYER \*

TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS *Youth are invited to attend Young Christian's Worship at this time downstairs*

INTRODUCTION TO FIRST SCRIPTURE READING:

In our first reading this morning, God appears to Abram and promises to make him the father of many nations. God changes Abram's name to Abraham, meaning "father of many." God also promises to give Abraham and his descendants the land of Canaan as an everlasting possession. God then promises that Abraham's wife Sarai (later called Sarah) will bear a son and that nations and kings will arise from her.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING      Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

BELL CHOIR ANTHEM -    “To Mock Your Reign, O Dearest Lord”    arr. J. W. Krug

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING      Mark 8:31-38

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God

All:      Thanks be to God

SERMON                              Look Into My Crystal Ball!

INVITATION TO OFFERING

*As symbols of love and signs of hope, let us bring our gifts and offerings to God.*

OFFERTORY – BELL ANTHEM-- “What Wondrous Love is This”    arr. J. W. Krug

\*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<sup>2</sup>

*God of ancient days and futures not seen, bring your faith and faithful love to the gifts we now bring. May our gifts bring transformation and hope to your world. 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

“Where He Leads Me”

UMH 338  
NORRIS

## BENEDICTION

*God be with you till we meet again, by his council guide, uphold you,  
with his sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again...*

## POSTLUDE

“Allegro Maestoso”

Peeters

Footnotes: UMH—The United Methodist Hymnal

\*1. Taken from the 753 Psalm 22:25-31

\*TFWS—The Faith We Sing

\*\*2. Taken from the Abington Worship Annual 2023

Reverend: Brenda Ransom

Organist: Pat Deatrick

Ushers/Greeters: Barb Carlisle/Kris Donarski

Family Ministry Coordinator: Jenny Shelley

Video Camera: Derrick Washbish

Music Director: Cathy Wilkinson

Liturgist: Marcie Gleason

Administrative Asst.: Abby Abrego

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS – February 25, 2024**

**Reminder: Holy Communion worship service will be held  
on Sunday, March 10, 2024, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.**

**Pastor Marty will be out of the office through Monday, March 4th.**

We want to welcome our guest speaker, Reverend Brenda Ransom, who is filling in for Pastor Marty while he is away.

We have purchased **unlimited access** to **thousands of Christian videos** and are giving **free access** to everyone in our church. The QR Code & access information may be found on **page 10** of the **March Flame**. **Please call the church office to ensure that your mailing information is current in our system.**

**Robin Myers**, who is the **host for online services** during worship at Central, **will be away** for two Sundays, **March 24 & 31**. A **backup is needed** to host on those Sundays. **Please let the pastor or Robin know if you would be willing to cover during this time.**

### **Central Birthdays/Anniversaries**

Mar. 1st – Mary Beth Aikens, Mar. 2 – Jerry Cook

Mar. 1st – Julie and Dennis Hill (44<sup>th</sup> anniv.)

### **Algonquin Birthdays**

Feb. 28 – Sam White

### **This Week**

**Wednesday:** Bible Study at 10:30 in the CUMC library. Viewing and

discussing “A Bible Study of Ephesians” by Joyce Meyer.

**Wednesday:** Bell Choir Rehearsal - 6 p.m., Choir Rehearsal - 7 PM –CUMC

**Wednesday:** Anchor House Campus Ministries - Book Study & Snacks at 6 PM at the Norris Center (on LSSU Campus) in room 100 next to the S.A.C entrance. All college students are welcome.

**Saturday:** Brunch & Book Study for college students is being held in the CUMC Fellowship Hall - 11:30 AM start time. For information email: [diranchorhouse@gmail.com](mailto:diranchorhouse@gmail.com).

### **Save the Date**

Sun., Mar. 3: Central’s Soup Luncheon after the service.

Sat. Mar. 9: The **16<sup>th</sup> Annual Family FUN Fair** will be held in the Student Activity Center at the Norris Center at LSSU from 1 PM - 3:30 P.M. **Door prizes, 20+ Carnival Games, food, face painting, & more. NO ADMISSION FEE and NO TICKETS NEEDED.**

*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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