



*Central and Algonquin United
Methodist Churches*

Sunday, September 1, 2024

With Pastor Marty Johnston

Mission Statement:

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

Central and Algonquin UMC's Worship Gathering
Pastor Marty Johnston
September 1, 2024
Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
CCLI License# 3999519

Greeters/Ushers: Norb Bennin/Rong Morgan/James Arfstrom

Liturgist: Marcie Gleason

Communion: Diane Bell/Robin Myers

PRELUDE

“Chanson D’Ete”

Warriner

WELCOME/MISSION STATEMENT

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP¹

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands!

All: Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into God's presence with singing!

One: Know that the Lord, who made us, is God.

All: We are the Lord's; we are the people of God, the sheep of God's pasture.

One: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise!

All: Give thanks and bless God's name!

One: For the Lord is good;

All: God's steadfast love endures forever; God's faithfulness to all generations.

*OPENING HYMN “Come, Christians, Join To Sing”

UMH 158
SPANISH HYMN

PASTOR'S OPENING PRAYER *

TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING James 1:17-27

¹⁷ Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

¹⁸ He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

Listening and Doing

¹⁹ My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,

²⁰ because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

²¹ Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

²² Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

²³ Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror

²⁴ and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

²⁵ But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

²⁶ Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.

²⁷ Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God

CHORUS

“Open Our Eyes”

TFWS 2086
OPEN OUR EYES

SERMON

True Religion

COMMUNION

Leader: Brothers and sisters in Christ, we are gathered here to share in the Lord's Supper, a holy meal that unites us as one body. As we prepare our hearts, let us remember the call to live a life worthy of our calling, with humility, patience, and love, striving for unity in the Spirit.

Congregation: We come together as one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God.

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

All: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved You with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done Your will, we have broken Your law, we have rebelled against Your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Congregation: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

Words of Institution

Leader: On the night in which He gave Himself up for us, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to You, broke the bread, gave it to His disciples, and said:

Congregation: "Take, eat; this is My body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

Leader: When the supper was over, He took the cup, gave thanks to You, gave it to His disciples, and said:

Congregation: "Drink from this, all of you; this is My blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also, with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You have made us one body in Christ, with gifts to build each other up and to grow in unity and maturity.

Congregation: We give thanks to You, O God, for calling us to be Your people, and for giving us the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Consecration

Leader: Pour out Your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by His blood.

Congregation: By Your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at His heavenly banquet.

Leader: Through Your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in Your holy church, all honor and glory is Yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Congregation: Amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Leader: Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

Congregation: The body of Christ, given for us. Amen.

Leader: The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

Congregation: The blood of Christ, shed for us. Amen.

(Congregation comes forward)

Closing Words of Encouragement

Leader: As we have shared in this holy meal, let us be reminded of our call to live as one body in Christ. Let us strive for unity, building each other up in love, and growing in faith. Go forth with the strength and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, being faithful until He comes again.

Congregation: Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

As we give, remember that every good gift comes from our unchanging God. Let our offerings reflect our gratitude and commitment to live out our faith, supporting those in need and advancing God's work.

OFFERTORY

“Amazing Grace”

arr. Broughton

DOXOLOGY

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.

UMH 95
OLD HUNDREDTH

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION²

God of every good gift, bless the gifts of our resources, our prayers, and our lives. Bless these gifts for the good of others and to the honor of your name. Amen.

HYMN

“Father, We Thank You”

UMH 565
RENDEZ À DIEU

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE,

Leader: Merciful God,
All: receive our prayer.

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 – September 1, 2024

Thank you to all who helped with assembling the September Flame. Your help is/was greatly appreciated. We hope to see you and perhaps a few more next month. ;D

Adult Bible Study will be meeting each Sunday @ 9:30 AM in the lounge. Ray & Diane Bell will lead the bible study.

Central's Choir began **Fall rehearsals** on **Wednesday, August 28 @ 7 PM**
We are always looking for new members. Rehearsals happen in the 2nd-floor
choir room - use the Spruce St. door. **Join us for an enjoyable time.** For
more information - contact Cathy Wilkinson @ 906-630-1777
or wilkinsoncathy@ymail.com.

Rally Day and Blessing of the Backpacks will be held on **Sunday,
September 8th** for the children who will begin school this year.

Mark your calendars for the **return of Family Night** held on the **3rd
Wednesday of the month** from **5:30 – 7 PM**. Dinner is served before the
lesson. **Wednesday, September 18th** is the first meeting of the season.
Please make plans to join us.

*The **Mission committee** is **starting a new mission project** focusing on the
Sault. We are starting to **collect** new or clean lightly used **clothing for the
local elementary schools** to hand out to children in need. The sizes range
from children's 5 through 16. Some needed items are socks, underwear,
leggings, jogging or sweatpants in black, blue, and gray, sweatshirts, and
hoodies. The **box in the hall by the elevator** is the **collection site**. Contact
Barb Carlisle for information.*

Hiring - Family Ministries Coordinator Position

Do you know someone who enjoys working with children and loves God?
CUMC is **seeking** to hire a **Family Ministries Coordinator**. The position is
part-time with **flexible hours** and has a **strong support team**. A job
description is available in the church office. Anyone **interested** or with
questions is encouraged to **contact Pastor Marty** at the church office or
Terri Bush at **906-440-2850**.

Central Birthday/Anniversary

Sept. 3 – Debbie Smart Sept. 4 – Diana Morgan Sept. 6 – Terry Myers
Sept. 1 – Jamie and Brenda Coullard - 40th Anniv.

This Week

Monday – Labor Day – The **office** will be **closed**.

Tuesday – Office will be **open from 2 PM – 4:30 PM**

Wednesday – Choir rehearsal @ 7 PM in the CUMC choir room.

Saturday – Memorial Luncheon for Audrey Gillett in the CUMC
Fellowship Hall from **11 AM - 1 PM** (Given by family)

Save the Date

Sun., 9/8 - Adult Bible Study at **9:30 AM** in the lounge. Lead by Ray Bell

Sun., 9/8 – Rally Day and Blessing of the Backpacks during service with a luncheon after the service.

Tues., 9/10 – The church **office** will be **closed**.

Sun., 9/15 – CYC Meeting @ 11:45 AM in the CUMC Lounge

Wed., 9/18 – Family Night 5:30 PM – 7 PM at CUMC. Dinner is served before the lesson.

*CLOSING HYMN “Where Charity and Love Prevail”

UMH 549
ST. PETER

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

“Festival Recession”

Nordman

Financial gifts can be mailed to Algonquin UMC or Central UMC at:

111 E. Spruce St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Website: www.cumcsoo.org

Online Giving: <https://cumcsoo.org/give/>

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