



*Central and Algonquin United
Methodist Churches*

Sunday, September 22, 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 22, 2024
Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost
CCLI License# 3999519

Greeters/Ushers: Barb Carlisle/Kris Donarski
Liturgist: Jerry Bell

PRELUDE “As the Dew From Heaven” arr. Darley

CHORAL INTROIT ‘I Will Call Upon the Lord M. O’Shields

WELCOME/MISSION STATEMENT

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Leader: Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked,

Congregation: Or stands in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers,

Leader: But whose delight is in the law of the Lord,

Congregation: And who meditates on His law day and night.

Leader: That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,

Congregation: Which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do prospers.

Leader: Not so the wicked!

Congregation: They are like chaff that the wind blows away.

Leader: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,

Congregation: Nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous,

Leader: For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,

Congregation: But the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

Congregation: Amen.

*OPENING HYMN “Blessed Assurance” UMH 369
ASSURANCE

PASTOR’S OPENING PRAYER *

TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

INTRODUCTION TO FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Heavenly Father, we come before You with grateful hearts, rejoicing in the blessed assurance that Jesus is ours. As we gather to worship, may we be like trees planted by streams of water, rooted in Your Word, bearing fruit in season. Guide our hearts in wisdom and humility, that we may live lives that reflect Your love and truth. Cleanse us from envy and selfish ambition, drawing us closer to You. As we seek Your presence, help us submit to Your will, resist the enemy, and purify our hearts. Draw near to us, Lord, as we draw near to You. In Christ's holy name, we pray. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Two Kinds of Wisdom

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

¹⁴ But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth

¹⁵ Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.

¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

¹⁸ Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

Submit Yourselves to God

¹ What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you?

² You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God.

³ When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

⁷ Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God

CHOIR ANTHEM 'They'll Know We Are Christians' Scholtes/arr. H.S. Livingston Jr.
By Our Love'

SERMON Wisdom that works

INVITATION TO OFFERING

As we prepare to give, let us reflect on the wisdom from above that is pure, peace-loving, and full of mercy, allowing our generosity to be an expression of our submission to God's will. Like trees planted by streams of water, may our offerings bear fruit in the lives of others and bring hon

OFFERTORY "Chorale" Peeters

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 DEDICATION²

Heavenly Father, we bring these gifts before You, asking that You bless them and use them to create a community where all are valued and loved without favoritism. Help us to reflect Your impartial love in all we do, ensuring that these offerings bring justice, kindness, and care to everyone in need. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

HYMN "Near to the Heart of God" UMH 472
McFEE

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 – September 22, 2024

Make sure to come downstairs after church service to socialize and enjoy an ice cream social to benefit Sue Mackie!

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**.

Missions is now accepting Meijer and Walmart gift cards in order to purchase items needed in our local elementary schools. Gift cards can be placed in the offering plate or left in the church office. Missions is also accepting clothing articles. Contact Barb Carlisle for questions at 517-740-9311.

Central Birthday/Anniversary

Sept. 22 – Sheri Garee
Sept. 25 – Marquette Bruce
Sept. 27 – Nate Moran

This Week

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

*CLOSING HYMN “Let There Be Peace On Earth”

UMH 431
WORLD PEACE

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...*

CHORAL BENEDICTION RESPONSE ‘Go Forth for God’ Peacy/C.W. Douglas

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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