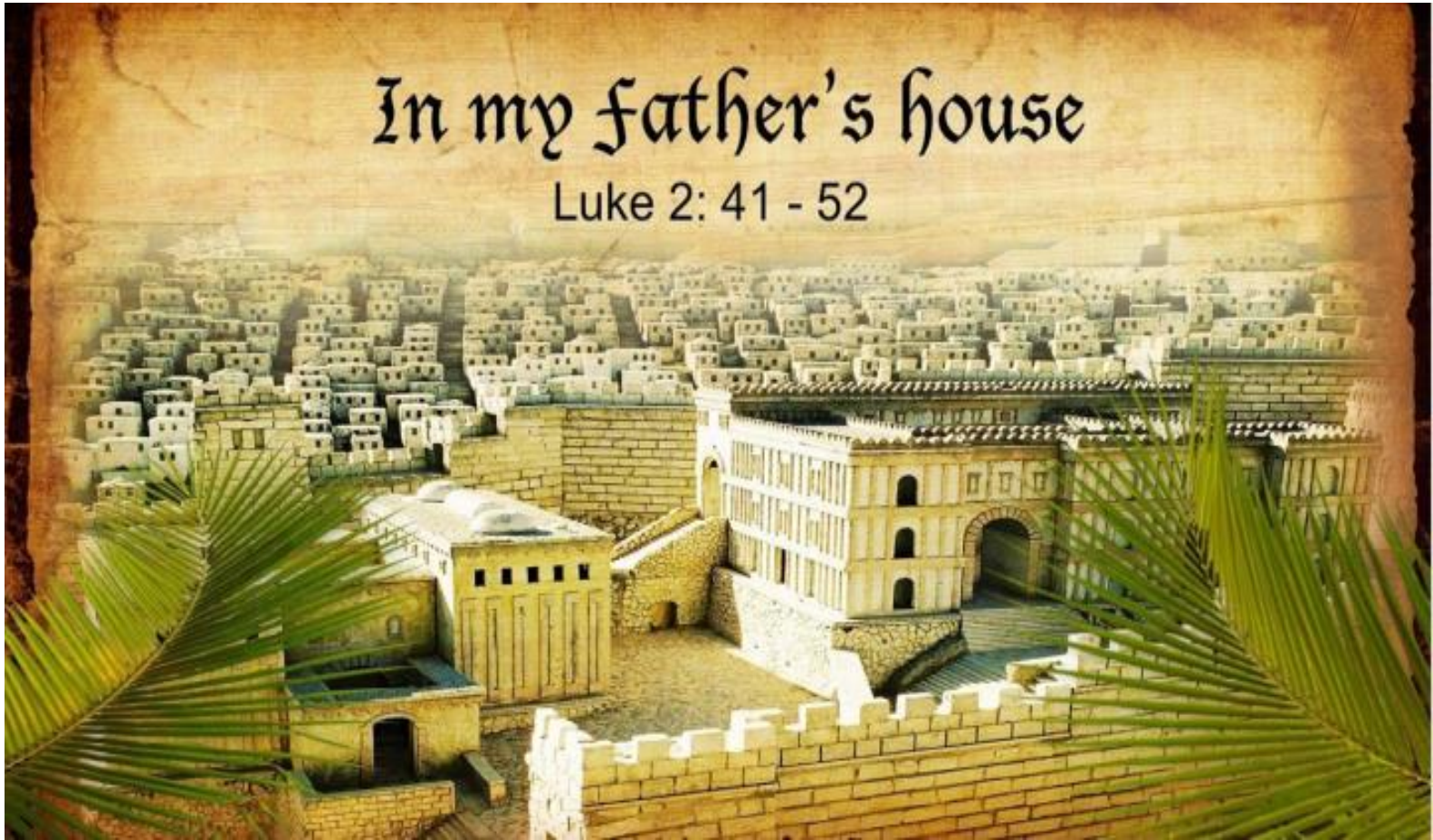


In my father's house

Luke 2: 41 - 52



Central and Algonquin United Methodist Churches

Sunday, December 29, 2024

With Pastor Paul Raappana

Mission Statement:

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

Central and Algonquin UMC's Worship Gathering
Pastor Paul Raappana
December 29, 2024
CCLI License# 3999519

Ushers/Greeters: Barb Carlisle & Kris Donarski
Liturgist: Robin Myers

PRELUDE

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

Warriner

WELCOME/MISSION STATEMENT

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP¹**

Leader: Lift praises to the name of our God; bless God's name forever!

People: How great is our God!

Leader: From generation to generation we will sing your praises and speak of
your goodness!

People: Great is our God and worthy of praise!

Leader: God, you are just and kind in all your doings?

People: Great is our God and worthy of praise!

Leader: God, you watch over us in love and hear the desperate cries of those who
call to you!

All : How great is our God! How great is our God! Bless God's name forever!
Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

“ O Come, All Ye Faithful”

UMH 234
ADESTE FIDELES

***PASTOR'S OPENING PRAYER**

INTRODUCTION TO FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Samuel 2:18-20

- 18 But Samuel was ministering before the Lord—a boy wearing a linen ephod.
- 19 Each year his mother made him a little robe and took it to him when she went up with her husband to offer the annual sacrifice.
- 20 Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, saying, “May the Lord give you children by this woman to take the place of the one she prayed for and gave to^[a] the Lord.” Then they would go home.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:41-52

- 41 Every year Jesus’ parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover.
- 42 When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom.
- 43 After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it.
- 44 Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends.
- 45 When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him.
- 46 After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.
- 47 Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers.
- 48 When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.”
- 49 “Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?”^[a]
- 50 But they did not understand what he was saying to them.
- 51 Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart.
- 52 And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God

All: **Thanks be to God**

SERMON

Pastor Paul Message

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"In the Bleak Mid-Winter"

arr. Boyles

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

Loving God, we dedicate these gifts to You, trusting that they will bring hope, peace, joy, and love to those in need. Use what we offer today to magnify Your name and fulfill Your purpose in the world. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE,

Leader: God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

A brief silence.

For those who teach and those who learn, we pray. Bless the education ministries of your church. Guide Sunday school teachers, college and seminary professors, and Bible study leaders in our ongoing faith formation and curiosity. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For the thriving of creation, we pray. Protect the habitats of pangolins and porcupines, penguins and parrots, and all wild animals and creeping things. Increase our knowledge of the natural world and the care of its inhabitants. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For the nations of the world, we pray. Raise up rulers who lead with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Let your peace rule in their hearts and in all lands. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For the well-being of your people, we pray. Keep watch over all who travel this holiday season. Accompany those who are alone or ill. Console parents and

children whose relationships are strained or severed. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For the ministry of this place, we pray. Let the world of Christ dwell among us. In times of conflict, clothe us in love and move us to forgiveness. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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 – December 29, 2024

Pastor Marty will be out of the office Dec. 26, 2024 – Jan. 2, 2025.
Wed, Jan. 1., the office will be closed for New Year Day.

Birthday/Anniversary

Dec. 30th – Bernie Arbic
Jan. 1st – Marge Tomlinson – Jan. 3rd – Kathy Packman – Jan. 4th – Doris Kelly
Jan 2nd – Evelyn and Pete Bush 65th Anniv.

This Week

A Happy and Blessed New Year to all!

*CLOSING HYMN “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

UMH 224
IN DULCI JUBILO

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

“Trio de Grosse Tierce”

Charpentier

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/>

Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

Office Phone: 906-632-8672

Pastor's Cell Phone: 906-440-0288

Office Email: centralumc632@gmail.com

Pastor's Email: pastormartyj@yahoo.com

Adult Bible Study, Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM
led by Ray and Diane Bell - ALL are welcome.