



*Central and Algonquin  
United Methodist Churches*

*Sunday, March 16, 2025*

*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

March 16, 2025, CUMC - 10:30 a.m.

*CCLI License# 3999519*

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

Second Sunday in Lent

Greeters/Ushers: Barb Carlisle / Kris Donarski

Liturgist: Jim Bankson

**PRELUDE**

“Face to Face”

arr. Scott

**CHORAL INTROIT** “Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley”

Amer. Hymn

**WELCOME/MISSION STATEMENT**

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

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

**Leader:** The Lord is our light and our salvation—whom shall we fear?

**People:** The Lord is the stronghold of our lives—of whom shall we be afraid?

**Leader:** One thing we ask of the Lord, and that we will seek:

**People:** To dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to seek Him in His temple.

**Leader:** For in the day of trouble, He will keep us safe; He will hide us in His shelter and set us high upon a rock.

**People:** Our hearts will not fear; we will wait for the Lord, be strong, and take heart!

**Leader:** Come, let us worship the Lord, our light and our salvation!

**All:** We lift our voices in praise, for the Lord is our refuge and strength!  
**Amen!**

**\*OPENING HYMN** “Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing”

UMH 400  
NETTLETON

**PASTOR'S OPENING PRAYER \***

**TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS**

CHOIR ANTHEM

“They Crucified My Lord”

Spiritual/ arr. J. Carter

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Luke 13:31-35

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God

All: **Thanks be to God**

SERMON

God’s Persistent Love

INVITATION TO OFFERING

God’s love pursues us relentlessly, inviting us into grace we don’t deserve and hope we cannot earn. As we give today, may our generosity reflect the persistence of God’s love, reaching beyond ourselves to bless others.

OFFERTORY

“New England”

Curtis

\*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

**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.**

OLD HUNDREDTH

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION<sup>2</sup>

Gracious and loving God, You have given us everything—our lives, our salvation, and Your unending grace. Take these gifts, multiply them for Your purposes, and use them to extend Your love to the world. In Jesus ’name, we pray. **Amen.**

\*HYMN

“Just As I Am” (*Vs 1,2,5,6*)

UMH 357  
WOODWORTH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: God of grace,

All: **hear 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

\*CLOSING HYMN “Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling” UMH 348  
THOMPSON

## 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 “Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley” Amer. Hymn

POSTLUDE “Darwalls 148<sup>th</sup>” arr. Ritter

Pastor: Pastor Marty Johnston

Organist: Pat Deatrick

Ushers/Greeters: Barb Carlisle / Kris Donarski

Family Ministry Coordinator: Vacant

Video Camera: Derrick Washbish

Music Director: Cathy Wilkinson

Liturgist: Jim Bankson

Administrative Asst.: Kimberly Clark

Footnotes: UMH—The United Methodist Hymnal

\*TFWS—The Faith We Sing

\*1. Inspired by Psalm 27

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS – March 16, 2025

### **Membership class meets in the Lounge following the service.**

The elementary school project is still collecting food and snacks. Donations can be dropped off in the tubs outside the elevator upstairs or in the Fellowship Hall. Needed items include easy mac and cheese bowls, ramen noodles, Pop Tarts, oatmeal packs, granola bars, fruit cups, cracker packs, canned vegetables, and soups. Head lice kits (any brand) are also in high demand. If it's easier, gift cards to Meijer or Walmart can be placed in the offering plates or left at the church office. Thank you for your continued support! For questions, contact Barb Carlisle.

Join us for brunch this morning! **The Algonquin United Women in Faith** will be serving brunch immediately after the church service. We look forward to enjoying good food and fellowship with you!

For their Lenten project, the **Algonquin UWF** has chosen to support the Community Action Diaper Bank. Donations of diapers in any size, from infant to adult, are greatly appreciated.

**Mar. 17th** – The office will be closed and will reopen during regular hours on Tuesday, Mar. 18th.



Please submit your Easter flower order by **Sunday, March 30, 2025**.  
**Please** plan to take your plant home after the Easter service.

**Central Birthdays / Anniversaries**

**Mar. 17<sup>th</sup>** – Kathy Bankson – **Mar. 21<sup>st</sup>** – Paul Aikens  
**Mar. 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Tom Brown  
**Mar. 18<sup>th</sup>** – Kathy and Kevin Larson 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**Algonquin Birthdays/Anniversaries**

**Mar. 18<sup>th</sup>** -Jeff Collia

**This Week**



**Wed., Mar. 19<sup>th</sup>** - Family Night at CUMC Fellowship Hall @  
5:30 PM – 7 PM. Dinner is served before the lesson.

**Save the Date**

*Join us for Bible Study, led by Raymond Bell, every Sunday at 9:30 AM in the CUMC lounge.*

Financial gifts can be mailed to Algonquin UMC or Central UMC at: 111 E. Spruce St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783	
Website: <a href="http://www.cumcsoo.org">www.cumcsoo.org</a>	Online Giving: <a href="https://cumcsoo.org/give/">https://cumcsoo.org/give/</a>
<b>Office Hours:</b>	<b>Mon.-Thurs 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.</b>
Office Phone: 906-632-8672	Pastor's Cell Phone: 906-440-0288
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