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*Central and Algonquin United  
Methodist Churches*

*Sunday, November 9, 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  
Pastor Marty Johnston  
November 9, 2025  
Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost  
*CCLI License# 3999519*

Ushers/Greeters: Norb Bennin, Ron Morgan  
Liturgist: James Bankson

PRELUDE "Trust in Jesus" arr. Kendall

CHORAL INTROIT "God Is Here" Green / Taylor

WELCOME/MISSION STATEMENT

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

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

**\*Call to Worship:** (Inspired by Psalm 145)

**Leader:** I will exalt You, my God and King, and bless Your name  
forever and ever.

**People:** Every day we will bless You and praise Your name forever  
and ever.

**Leader:** Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised—His greatness is  
unsearchable.

**People:** One generation shall praise Your works to another and declare  
Your mighty acts.

**Leader:** We will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty and  
on Your wondrous works.

**People:** The Lord is righteous in all His ways and gracious in all His  
works.

**Leader:** The Lord is near to all who call upon Him in truth.

**People:** Our mouths will speak the praise of the Lord, and all flesh will bless His holy name forever and ever.

\*OPENING HYMN

“How Great Thou Art”

UMH 77  
HOW GREAT THOU ART

PASTOR’S OPENING PRAYER \*

TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

INTRODUCTION TO FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

As we continue in worship and turn to the Gospel of Luke, we find Jesus in a moment of lively debate. The Sadducees—who were known for their sharp minds and their skepticism about resurrection—come to test Him with what sounds like an impossible riddle.

Their question isn’t really about marriage; it’s about whether life continues beyond the grave. They want to trap Jesus in logic, but He responds with something far deeper. He speaks of the *God of the living*—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—not a God of memory, but a God of presence, of life that cannot be extinguished.

This passage invites us to listen not for rules about the next life, but for a revelation about the *nature of God*—a God whose power is not limited by death, and whose love continues to hold us, and those we have lost, in life everlasting.

Let’s listen together for the living Word of the Lord from **Luke 20: 27-38**.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Luke 20: 27-38

**The Resurrection and Marriage**

<sup>27</sup> Some of the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Jesus with a question.

<sup>28</sup> “Teacher,” they said, “Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies and leaves a wife but no children, the man must marry the widow and raise up offspring for his brother.

<sup>29</sup> Now there were seven brothers. The first one married a woman and died childless.

<sup>30</sup> The second

<sup>31</sup> and then the third married her, and in the same way the seven died, leaving no children.

<sup>32</sup> Finally, the woman died too.

<sup>33</sup> Now then, at the resurrection whose wife will she be, since the seven were married to her?”

<sup>34</sup> Jesus replied, “The people of this age marry and are given in marriage.

<sup>35</sup> But those who are considered worthy of taking part in the age to come and in the resurrection from the dead will neither marry nor be given in marriage,

<sup>36</sup> and they can no longer die; for they are like the angels. They are God’s children, since they are children of the resurrection.

<sup>37</sup> But in the account of the burning bush, even Moses showed that the dead rise, for he calls the Lord ‘the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.

<sup>38</sup> He is not the God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive.”

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God

All: **Thanks be to God**

CHOIR ANTHEM

“We Belong to God”

Eslinger / Lund

SERMON

Faith That Outlives Us

## INVITATION TO OFFERING

God's faithfulness outlasts every generation. As we give today, we join His work of hope and new life. Let us offer our gifts to the God of the living.

## OFFERTORY

"Sweet Hour of Prayer"

arr. Clarke

## 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 DEDICATION

Living God,  
You are faithful and generous. Bless these gifts and use them to bring Your light and life to others. Strengthen our faith as we give, that our lives may also become instruments of Your grace.  
In Christ's name, **Amen.**

## \*HYMN

"Come, Let Us Join Our Friends Above"

UMH 709

COME, LET US JOIN OUR FRIENDS ABOVE

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE,

**Leader:** Lord, in Your Mercy,  
**All:** Hear our prayer.

### **Pastor:**

With confidence in the God of the living, whose mercy endures beyond death itself, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

## **For the Church**

Faithful God, You are the Lord of both the living and the dead. Keep Your Church anchored in hope that outlasts every fear. When we doubt Your promises, remind us that You are still "I AM," ever present, ever faithful, ever alive. Give us courage to live as resurrection people in a world that forgets Your power.  
**Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **For the World**

God of all nations, Teach the leaders of the earth humility instead of pride, justice instead of vengeance, and compassion instead of indifference. Bring peace where violence rages, and life where despair has taken root. Let Your kingdom come in every corner of the world You so love.  
**Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **For Creation**

Creator of all that is, You breathe life into every creature and call it good. Guard our land, air, and water from harm. Make us faithful caretakers of what You have made, so that future generations may see Your beauty in a living world.  
**Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **For Our Community**

God of the living, Bless this community of Sault Ste. Marie and all our neighbors. Strengthen bonds of kindness and trust. Where there is division, bring understanding; where there is loneliness, bring friendship; and where there is need, awaken generosity.  
**Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **For Those in Need**

Merciful Lord, Draw near to those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Comfort the grieving, heal the sick, and grant peace to those who are weary. Remind each one that nothing—not even death—can separate us from Your love.

**Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **For the Saints and Our Own Journeys of Faith**

God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—and our God too—We thank You for the faithful who have gone before us, whose trust in You continues to inspire our own. Teach us to live with the same steady faith, that when our time comes, we too may be found alive in You.

**Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

## **Pastor:**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who taught us to pray:

## **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 – November 9, 2025**

**Tue., 11/11 Veteran's Day** – On this Veterans Day, let us take a moment to thank all veterans for their service to our country.

**\*\*Please Remember** that the youth will be outside after the service on the **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month** to collect a Mission Love Offering and new this year, we now have a **Misson's Change Jar** (located on table at top of stairs) to use any time. All proceeds will go toward helping elementary school children with their needs.

**Missions:** is also collecting shelf stable foods for the elementary school. The kind of food needed is: oatmeal packets, pop tarts, granola bars, cracker packs, Chef Boyardi, canned soup and vegetable's, easy Mac and cheese, and ramen noodles. There is a tub outside the elevator upstairs and in the fellowship hall that food can be left in.

The **Holiday Season** is fast approaching us, and the *Poinsettias Orders* are already being taken. If you would like to purchase a Poinsettia plant, just fill out the form enclosed in the bulletin and bring it to the office with your check. These orders are due by **Sunday Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>**.

*Join us for Bible Study*

*Sunday at 9:30 AM in the CUMC lounge led by Raymond Bell,*

*Thursday at 1:00 PM in the CUMC library led by Pastor Marty*

**Central Birthday/Anniversary**

**Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>** - Matthew Laroue

**Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>** - Nicholas Bell

**Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>** - John Proulx

**Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>** - Bob Arfsrom

**This Week**

Tue., – Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> Veterans Day – The office will be closed

**Save the Date**

**Sun., 11/16** - **Richard Gilewitz** and special guest **Tim May** will be at **CMUC** to put on a *Guitar Concert at 3pm*, this event is free, but donations are welcome. This should be a great night of Entertainment.

**Wed. 11/19** - **Family Night at CUMC**—from 5:30–7:00 PM! Come enjoy a tasty dinner, fun activities, and a meaningful lesson for all ages. Bring the whole family—everyone is welcome!



Nursery is available for infants through age 3 during worship with Mallory Baier. The nursery is located downstairs, and ushers will be happy to assist you.

\* CLOSING HYMN

“He Lives”

UMH 310  
HE LIVERS

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”

arr. W.F. Smith

POSTLUDE

“Lift Every Voice”

arr. Paxton

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](http://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](mailto:centralumc632@gmail.com)

Pastor's Email: [marty.johnston16@gmail.com](mailto:marty.johnston16@gmail.com)