

**FOURTH SUNDAY** *in Lent*



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**(906) 632-7771 Fax: (906) 632-4666**

**[soopresbyterian.org](http://soopresbyterian.org)**

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# **FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Rev. Mark Gabbard**

**Liturgist - Doris Boogerd**

**Music - Kay Boyne**

**March 10, 2024**

**Fourth Sunday In Lent**



## OUR APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE      “A Song in Lent”      (Taylor)

INTROIT      “How Majestic is Your Name?”      (Michael Smith)

### CALL TO WORSHIP

We give you thanks, O God, for you are good; your steadfast loves endures forever.

**When we cried to you with our troubles, O Lord, you saved us from our distress.**

We give you thanks, O God, for your wonderful works to all of humanity.

**Hear now our offerings of praise and thanksgiving, as we tell of your deeds with songs of joy.**

Let us worship God!

### PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION

God of infinite goodness and mercy, we cannot escape your presence. Your promise remains with us in every situation. When we are desolate, your Spirit comes to comfort us. Amid our tribulation, your Chosen One remains our firm hope. We can sing your song in whatever land we find our abode. We shall forever give thanks for the gift of your grace. You are God who never forsakes us. To you be glory and praise now and forever.

✦ HYMN      “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”      #90

✦ LENTEN LITANY OF AFFIRMATION  
**Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace;  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
Where there is injury, pardon;  
Where there is error, truth;**

# About First United Presbyterian Church

## Church Staff

## To Our Visitors

**Minister:** Rev. Mark D. Gabbard  
*pastor@soopresbyterian.org*

**Commissioned Ruling Elder:**  
Brenda Ransom

**Clerk of Session:** Jessica Kuenzer

**President of Trustees:**  
Michael Lussier

**Chairman of Deacons:**  
Jeanne Shibley

**Music Director/Organist:**  
Kay E. Boyne

**Administrative Assistant:**  
Nicole DuFresne  
*office@soopresbyterian.org*

**Sexton:** Jason Fuller

Welcome! We are happy to have you worshipping with us today.

✦ Sunday Worship - 10:00 AM  
*(Children join the worship service for the first 15 minutes to hear the Children's Sermon)*

✦ Sunday School - 10:15 AM  
*K through 12th Grade - all meet in lower level classrooms*

✦ The nursery is available for your use during the worship service.

✦ An asterisk (\*) preceding a service element indicates the congregation should stand.

✦ **Bold** indicates congregation participation.

✦ Soup and Sandwich is held the 1st Sunday of each month in the Social Hall. Please join us!

✦ If you need the Pastor after hours, call Church Office to make appointment, or ask Nicole for Pastor Mark's cell phone number.

**Pastor's Office Hours:** **Office Hours:**  
9:15 AM to 12:00 PM 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
(Monday-Friday) (Monday-Thursday)  
906/632-7771 / [www.soopresbyterian.org](http://www.soopresbyterian.org)



Hearing Assistance devices are available. If you would like to use a receiver, please ask an Usher for assistance.

Please Silence all electronics prior to worship service.



*The Purpose of the First United Presbyterian Church is to:*  
*Invite people to know and glorify God*  
*Grow together as followers of Christ*  
*Serve others through the power of the Holy Spirit*



# IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

*We ask that you remember these people in your prayers throughout the coming week.*

Gabe Litzner, Crisanne Riordan, Jamison Strange, Annette Mailles, Dolores Leuvoy, Carolyn Trumble, Terry Mason, Scott Wallace, Nellie Harrington, Aaron Corbiere, Carolyn Shaw, Della Porter, Gina Gough, Jon Burgess, Kimberly (Swick) Jewell, Jeffrey Burgess, Donna LaPlaunt, Sandy Shaw, Jane Kellan, Patricia Farnhill, Geraldine Carnahan, Lillian Donelson, Dave & Leslie Henderson, Tara Jean Brody, and all missionaries, and members of the U.S. Armed Forces.

***Please keep us up to date on your prayer request.***

***If you would to add individuals to the prayer list or your prayers have been answered and you would like to be removed from the list, please contact the office***



## **WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS TO THE FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!**

We pray you'll be nourished in faith as you hear God's message for you. Jesus welcomed everyone; that is our aim, too.

Whether you're here for the first time or the thousandth, we count ourselves blessed by your presence. Persons interested in more information about First United Presbyterian Church, or in joining this congregation, are invited to fill out a 'Welcome' card found in the pews, or call the church office. Please be sure to sign our Guest Book near the entrance to the Sanctuary.

Thank you for worshiping with us today.

**DEACON PRAYER CHAIN** Please remember the Deacon Prayer Chain, if you, or someone you know, are in need of prayers. Contact Jeanne Shibley at (906) 630-1707.

**RIDES TO CHURCH** If anyone needs a ride to church, please contact the church office before Friday of each week and the Deacons will arrange a pick up time.

**PW ITEMS** The PW famous dish cloths are for sale at \$1.25 each. Buy several—the price is right! Get yours today! Ultimate Cloths, no chemicals needed, cleans with just water using MiraFiber technology! Guaranteed 5 years general use! Come on in to the Church office and get yours for only \$6 or 5 for \$25. Presbyterian Women's Second Edition Favorite Salads cookbook is also available in the church office for only \$8!

**WBS MISSION PROJECT** Our March Mission Project is a food collection to help support Lincoln School's "Weekend Backpack Program". The program helps provide food for children during the weekend. The packs are returned to school on Monday and replenished for the next weekend. Following are suggested items: fruit cups, Ramen noodles, Ravioli, tuna, Tuna Helper, peanut butter and jelly (in plastic jars), spaghetti sauce (plastic jar), spaghetti, Spaghettios, canned vegetables, baked beans, canned soups (Chicken Noodle a favorite), soda crackers, granola bars, oatmeal packets. Please, no drink items or Mac n' Cheese (presently an over abundance of these items). Once again, THANK YOU for your generous spirit in support of the monthly missions. The recipients are always very grateful.

**SPECIAL BIRTHDAY** Ardith Bawks is turning 92 on March 23rd! If you would like to send her a birthday card, please address it to:  
Ardith Bawks  
2023 West 4th Ave. 103-E  
Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783



**FUPC MEETINGS / GROUPS:** *unless otherwise noted...*

*Session*—3rd Monday of each month at 5:30pm (WR)  
*Trustees*—3rd Monday of each month at 5:30pm (LB)  
*Deacons*—2nd Sunday of each month at 11:15am (LB)  
*Presbyterian Women*— 3rd Tuesday at Noon (SH)  
*Circle 3*—2nd Thursday of each month at 9:30am (WR)  
*Textile Social Group*—Every Thursday from 9:30am to 1:00pm (SH)  
*Women's Bible Study*—1st, 3rd, & 4th Wednesdays at 9:30 am (WR)  
*Choir Practice*—Every Wednesday at 6:00pm (S)  
*Men's Bible Study*—Every Friday at 9:00am (WR)

LB—Library MR—Music Room S—Sanctuary  
SH—Social Hall WR—Westminster Room



**SERVING US THIS WEEK**

**Greeters:** Margaret Eagle & Lee Mason  
**Ushers:** Ron Meister, David Bernier, Fred Michels,  
Roger Roe, & Paul Sabourin

**SERVING US NEXT WEEK**

**Greeters:** Margaret Eagle & Lee Mason  
**Ushers:** Charlie Zane, Audrey Zane, Alegra Soorus,  
Francie Waybrant, & Jim Waybrant

**Last week's attendance: 88**

**Last week's offering: \$4,750**

**This Week's Calendar**  
**March 10, – March 17, 2024**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>
9:00a Coffee Hour (WR) 9:15a Choir Practice (MR) 10:00a Worship Service	7:00p Boy Scout Troop #105 (SH)	3:30p Food Pantry
<b>Wednesday</b>	 <i>Presbyterian Church (USA)</i>	<b>Thursday</b>
9:00a Women's Bible Study (WR) 6:00p Choir Practice (S)		9:00a Textile Social (SH)
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
9:00a Men's Bible Study (WR)	7:00p A.A. (WR)	9:00a Coffee Hour (WR) 9:15a Choir Practice (MR) 10:00a Worship Service  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Coffee and Cookie Fellowship</b></p>

LB—Library    MR—Music Room    S—Sanctuary  
 SH—Social Hall    WR—Westminster Room

*Where there is doubt, faith;  
Where there is despair, hope;  
Where there is darkness, light;  
And where there is sadness, joy.  
O Divine Master, Grant that I may not so much seek  
To be consoled as to console;  
To be understood as to understand;  
To be loved as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive;  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*

✦ GLORIA PATRI “Glory Be to the Father” #812  
*Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be  
world without end. Amen, Amen.*

✦ PASSING OF THE PEACE  
The peace of God be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Greet one another in Peace.

ANTHEM “Jesus Paid It All” (Livingston)

CHILDREN’S SERMON  
*children are dismissed to the Classrooms for Sunday School*

THE WORD OF GOD

Num. 21:4 - 9 (page 130, OT)  
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 (page 522 OT)  
John 3:9– 21 (page 81, NT)

SERMON “The Problem of Free Will”

✦ HYMN “Just as I Am” #488

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles’ Creed  
Let us say what we believe.  
**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven  
and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,**

**born of the virgin Mary;  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and  
was buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose  
again from the dead; he ascended to heaven and sitteth  
at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the  
dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic  
church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of  
sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

**OUR RESPONSE TO GOD**

**THE CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH  
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE  
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  
THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**OFFERTORY      "Surrender"      (Weeden)  
Guitar: David Blackburn**

**✦ DOXOLOGY "O Bless the Gifts"      #817  
*O bless the gifts our hands have brought;  
And bless the work our hearts have planned.  
Ours is the faith, the will, the thought;  
The rest, O God, is in Your hand.***

**✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION  
O God of boundless love, you restore our strength  
through faith in your goodness. You look with favor upon us  
and through Christ redeems us. You take not yourself from us,  
but promise your presence through the gift of your Spirit.  
You come from behind to push us, and go before us as our guide.  
Accept now what we bring you in response to your encompassing care of us.**

**✦ HYMN      "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"      #586**

**✦ POSTLUDE      "Rigaudon"      (Purcell)**