

*"I will make
breath
enter you,
and you will
come to life."*

Ezekiel 37:5, NIV

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 22nd, 2026

5th Sunday in Lent

Rev. Mark Gabbard
Liturgist—Mark Strange
Music Director—Kay Boyne / Guitar: David Blackburn



OUR APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE “The Glory of These Forty Days” (Leatherman)

INTROIT “I Will Come and Bow Down” (Nystrom)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

Hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and great power to redeem.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits; and in the word of Lord, I hope.

Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION

You are merciful and just in the deliverance of your people, O God. You draw us up out of the depths of distress; you incline your ear as we call on your name. Our souls rest in you and in the promise of Christ’s redeeming love. Lay now your hand upon us, and draw us out by your Spirit, that we may sing praises to your name. Amen.

✠ HYMN “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” #210

✠ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You called us to life in the Spirit, yet we seek to satisfy the flesh. We call you gracious, yet we practice greed. We praise you with our lips, O God, yet we do not honor you in our lives. Discontent consumes us as we yearn for still more things. We know that to live by your grace promises inheritance of new life. Redeem our enslavement to corruptible desires, that we may be worthy to be called righteous in Christ. Amen.

✦ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Paul declares that if the Spirit of God swells in us, the one who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to our mortal bodies through God's Spirit which dwells in us. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. Believe this word of promise and walk in newness of life. Amen.

✦ 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.***

✦ PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of God be with you.

And also with you.

Greet one another in Peace.

THE CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Congregational Life

ANTHEM "For Those Tears I Died" (Stevens)
Solo: David Blackburn

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Children are dismissed to their classrooms.

THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Romans 8: 6-11

John 11: 1-45

Test. Blk pg. Red pg.

Old 762 987

New 138 191

New 91 127

SERMON "So That They May Believe"

✦ HYMN "Blessed Assurance" #572

✠ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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 Prayers of the People

OFFERTORY “The Old Rugged Cross” (Bennard)

✠ DOXOLOGY **#814**
*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.*

✠ PRAYER OF DEDICATION
**O God, as Jesus released Lazarus from the hands of death, may our
ministry give to others the promise of new life. Accept the gifts
that we offer to proclaim your love. Use our talents in ways that
will set others free May the liberating truth of Christ’s gospel be
heard anew in the land. Amen.**

✠ HYMN “Freely, Freely” **#436**

✠ BENEDICTION

✠ POSTLUDE “Alleluia, Amen” (Ottis)

WE WELCOME EVERYONE 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 the First United Presbyterian Church, or in joining this congregation, are invited to fill out a 'Welcome' card found in the Book near the entrance to the Sanctuary. Thank you for worshipping with us today.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- ✦ Sunday Worship - 10:00 AM
The nursery is available for your use during the worship service.
- ✦ A Celtic cross (✦) preceding a service element indicates the congregation should stand.
- ✦ **Bold** indicates congregation participation.
- ✦ If you need the Pastor after office hours, please call the church and leave a message on the Pastor's voicemail. If you call during office hours and he is not available, the staff may be able to provide his cell #.
- ✦ Pre-service refreshments are available each Sunday in the Westminster Room.

FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED

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



***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***

We ask that you remember these people in your prayer throughout the coming week:



Paul Sabourin, Gordon and Carol Rohweder, Leitha Vollick, Tom Thoresen, Jennie McCain, Dee Leuvoy, Marge Simpkins, Crisanne Riordan, Ronan Mouw, Dr. Pat Newhouse, Geraldine Carnahan, all those who are sick, all those who are traveling, all missionaries, and all members of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Please keep us up to date on your prayer request. Unless we are informed otherwise, names are listed for 2 weeks.

FUPC Meetings/Groups—standard gathering times / or as noted
Choir Practice—Every Wednesday at 5:30pm / Every Sunday at 9:15am
Circle 3—2nd Thursday at 9:30am (WR)
Deacons—2nd Sunday at 11:15am (WR)
Men's Study Group—Every Friday at 9:00am (WR)
Presbyterian Women—3rd Tuesday at Noon (SH)
Session—3rd Monday at 5:30pm (WR)
Textile Social Group—1st, 3rd & 4th Thursdays at 9:30am (SH)
Trustees—3rd Monday at 5:30pm (LB)
Women's Bible Study --- 1st, 3rd & 4th Wednesdays at 9:30am (WR)

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

Commissioned Ruling Elder: Brenda Ransom

Clerk of Session: Julie Walsh

President of Trustees: Ron Meister

Chairman of Deacons: Jeanne Shibley

Music Director/Organist: Kay Boyne / *Guitarist: David Blackburn*

Administrative Assistant: Maria Price / office@soopresbyterian.org

Sexton: Jason Fuller

Office Hours: 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Monday-Friday

Pastor's Office Hours: 9:15 AM to 12:00 PM, Monday-Friday

555 Bingham Ave.

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

906/632-7771 / soopresbyterian.org



**THE NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES
ARE IN!**

If you have not yet picked up your copy, they are available in the church office between 9:00am and 1:00pm Monday through Friday. One copy per family, please.

OUR FACEBOOK PAGE is updated and up and running! Please give us a “like” and a “follow”.

OUR WEBSITE has had a major overhaul. Please check it out.

THE WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY’S MONTHLY MISSION PROJECT for March and April will be collecting *non-food* items for our food pantry. These items include toilet paper, shampoo, toothbrushes & toothpaste, dental floss, mouthwash, hand soap, dish soap, laundry soap, feminine care products, and the like. Donations may be left on the cart in the Narthex. Cash donations are also appreciated and envelopes designated “Food Pantry” are available in the pew pockets or may be left in the cash case on Sundays. Our food pantry is open the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 3:30 – 5:00 PM.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be hosted by FUPC this year and the dates are June 22nd through the 26th.

A REMINDER TO ALL...When last to leave the building, please make sure that all lights are off and the doors are closed and locked. Thank you!

RIDES TO CHURCH are available. Should you need a ride to church, please call the church office before Friday of each week and the Deacons will arrange a pickup time.

UPCOMING EVENTS



DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **March 29th – Palm Sunday / Holy Week Begins**
- **April 2nd – 6:00 pm Potluck followed by Maundy Thursday Service with Communion**
- **April 3rd – Good Friday Service at FUPC at 1:00 pm**
- **April 5th – Resurrection of the Lord / Easter Sunday**

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, 3/22

- 9:00am - Coffee Hour (WR)
- 9:15am - Choir Practice (S)
- 10:00am - Worship Service (S)
- 10:15am - Sunday School

MONDAY, 3/23

- 7:00pm - Scout Troop #105 (SH)

TUESDAY, 3/24

- 3:30pm – Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY, 3/25

- 9:30am – Women’s Bible Study (WR)
- 5:30pm – Choir Practice (S)

THURSDAY, 3/26

- 6:00pm – Scout Leader Meeting

FRIDAY, 3/27

- 9:00am - Men’s Study Group (WR)

SATURDAY 3/28

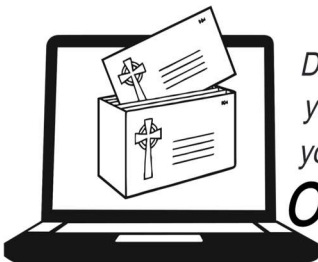
- 7:00pm - AA (WR)

SUNDAY, 3/29

- 9:00am - Coffee Hour (WR)
- 9:15am - Choir Practice (S)
- 10:00am - Worship Service (S)
- 10:15am - Sunday School

**Palm Sunday*

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



*Did you know
you can give
your offerings*

ONLINE ?

