



FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

555 Bingham Avenue

Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783

906.632.7771

July 26th, 2026

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



OUR APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE “Love is the Only Power” (Smith)

INTROIT “I Love You, Lord” (Klein)

CALL TO WORSHIP

O Lord, you have searched for me and known me. You discern my thoughts from far away.

You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

Search me, O God, and know my heart. See if there is any wicked way in me and lead me in the way everlasting.

Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION

Gracious God, you have searched us and known us. You, indeed, discern our thoughts from afar. You lead us in the way everlasting as we gather to bless you for your bountiful mercy, for the compassion and care you extend to us. You surround us with a mantle that protects us from danger; our breastplate is your righteousness fulfilled in Christ Jesus. You are our shield and defender, our hope and our comfort. We give you all praise as we assemble in Christ's name. Amen.

✠ HYMN “Shine, Jesus Shine” #431

✠ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, O God, that our lives are a mixture of weeds and good seeds. The weeds choke us and limit our will to respond. We admire the good seeds and want to nourish them. When the harvest comes, we know that the good seed will be kept and all

else will be judged unfit for your realm. Christ have mercy upon us as we learn of your will. Give us guidance and determination as we obey your command. Forgive our misplaced allegiance when we settle for weeds. May we broadcast the landscape with the good seed of your word. Amen.

✠ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Paul writes of our assurance when he says: "We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pain until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope, we were saved." 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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

ANTHEM "What a Joy" (Morrison)

THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 29: 15-28

Romans 8: 26-39

Matthew 13: 31-33; 44-52

Test.	Blk pg.	Red pg.
Old	24	32
New	138	192
New	13	17

SERMON "Pearl of Great Price"

✠ HYMN "Near to the Heart of God" #617

✠ 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

The Lord's Prayer

OFFERTORY "Peace in the Valley" (Dorsey)

✠ 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. Amen.***

✠ PRAYER OF DEDICATION
**As the wheat is gathered into the barns, O God, so the fruits of our
labors are brought into your house. Through the purging fire of
your judgement, render our gifts acceptable in your sight. Set them
aside as worthy, so that Jesus Christ, the bread of life, may nourish
others.**

✠ HYMN "I Am Thine, O Lord" **#552**

✠ BENEDICTION

✠ POSTLUDE "The Faithful Heart Rejoices" (Peterson)

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:***



Marge Simpkins, Audrey Zane,
Ronan Mouw, Dr. Pat Newhouse,
Geraldine Carnahan, Stephanie Vert,
all that are sick and suffering,
all that are homebound, all that 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

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THE PW'S ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE NEWS: Your outdated, unused and overflow items are needed for the rummage sale being held on Saturday, August 1. You can drop off your donations Monday through Thursday July 27th – 30th from 9:00AM – 12:00PM. Also, an evening drop off is available Wednesday July 29th from 6:00PM – 8:00PM. We need volunteers to help set up, to help on sale day, to pack things when the sale is completed, and pickups to bring things away. Please contact Doris Boogerd at 616.901.4299 if you are willing to help.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE! There will be a community drive held on Wednesday, August 5th at Red's Revolving Rental located at 2733 Ashmun Street, Suite 3. Any questions? Contact Brenda Ransom at 906.630.4143.

PLEASE VOTE ON 8/4 in support of our town's Community Health Access Coalition organization proposal on the ballot. Our CHAC provides a great service to the public. For more information on their programs, please contact Andrea Osborn at info@upchac.org. Be informed! Make a vote!

YOU ARE INVITED TO AN OPEN HOUSE at Presbytery Point Camp! Come tour the grounds, meet the new camp director, learn about our mission and taste some yummy camp food! **Please join us on August 22nd from 1:00 to 7:00PM at 211 Brown Rd, Michigamme, MI.**

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!

ATTENDANCE FOR SUNDAY 7-19-26

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OFFERING FOR SUNDAY 7-19-26

\$3,123.00



DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **8/1 – PW's Annual Rummage Sale**
- **8/2 – Communion**
- **8/5 – Community Blood Drive**
- **8/9 – 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, 7/26

9:00am – Social Hour (WR)
9:00am - Choir Practice (S)
10:00am - Worship Service (S)

MONDAY, 7/27

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

TUESDAY, 7/28

3:30pm – Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY, 7/29

Go berry picking

THURSDAY, 7/30

9:30am – Textile Social (SH)

FRIDAY, 7/31

9:00am - Men's Study Group (WR)

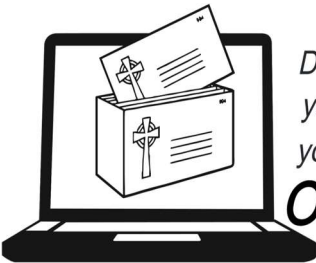
SATURDAY 8/1

9:00am – PW Rummage Sale
7:00pm - AA (WR)

SUNDAY, 8/2

9:00am - Coffee Hour (WR)
9:00am - Choir Practice (S)
10:00am - Worship Service (S)
***Communion**

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



*Did you know
you can give
your offerings
ONLINE ?*

