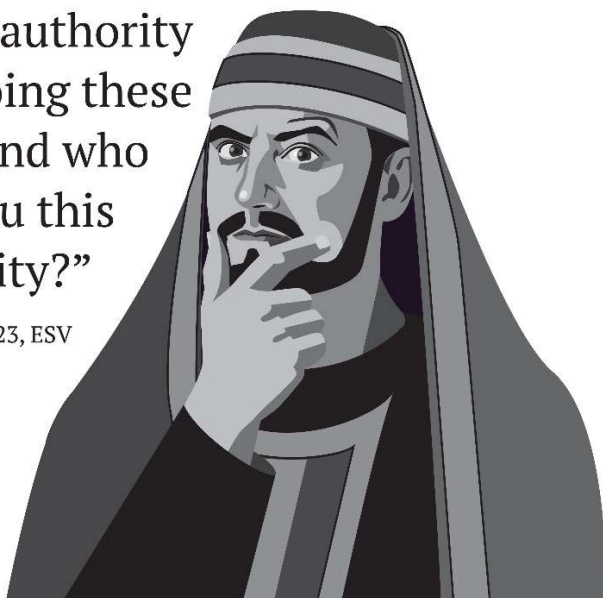


“By what authority
are you doing these
things, and who
gave you this
authority?”

Matthew 21:23, ESV



FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

***555 Bingham Avenue
Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783
906.632.7771
September 27, 2026***

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



OUR APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” (Kirkland)

INTROIT “This is the Day” (Hayes)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to God who spread a cloud for a covering and gave fire to light and night!

Who opened the rock and water gushed forth and flowed through the desert sands.

Seek the Lord and the strength only God can give, a presence that continually abides.

We will remember the wonderful works God has done, the miracles, and the judgements God made.

Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION

O Lord, it would take forever to tell of your deeds, an eternity of boasting how great you are. The heavens could not contain our bountiful expressions of your grace and mercy. The seas would flood ashore with the expanse of your love. Yet, we are bold to bring you our praise and thanksgiving. We delight to remember how you care for us all. Be pleased with our offerings of unbridled devotion and accept our attempts to give you the worship you are due. Amen.

✠ HYMN “O How I Love Jesus” #92

✠ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Like our ancestors before us, we complain when things do not go our own way. We want abundance of everything rather than what is sufficient to sustain us. We would rather be elsewhere than where we are at the moment. When things do not go our way we ask, “Where are you?” We would rather you serve us than be

accountable ourselves. You gave manna and quail to those before us, yet we still doubt you will be there for us. Forgive our lack of trust in your goodness and grant us forgiveness, we humbly pray. Amen.

✦ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

As Paul reminds us, let us live our lives in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel. As we focus our minds on the goodness of God, we will have the assurance that in Christ Jesus we are forgiven. 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 "Be Still"

Solo: Alicia Cottle

(Hill)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

(Children are dismissed to their Sunday School Classrooms)

THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

PTURE READINGS	Test.	Blk pg.	Red pg.
Exodus 17: 1-7	Old	59	79
Philippians 2: 1-13	New	174	240
Matthew 21: 23-32	New	20	28

SERMON “Questions of Authority”

✠ 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 “Surrender”

(Hayes)

✠ 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, you give us tasks to perform. You equip us with strengths
and abilities beyond what we deserve. In Christ you call us to
faithfulness, to exercise obedience, to be deliberate in our
discipline. We come now offering you the result of our labors. Use
them as a means to further your work in Christ’s name. Amen.**

✠ HYMN “Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

#393

✠ BENEDICTION

✠ POSTLUDE “The Crusaders”

(Stickles)