



*Cicero*  
*United Methodist Church*  
April 24, 2022



*\* Please stand as you are able*

**\*WELCOMING MUSIC**    *“Lord I Lift Your Name on High”*

**GREETING**

**YOUNG CHRISTIANS TIME**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Pastor:** Somebody said that if we talk too much about Jesus, people will call us Holy Rollers. But because Jesus is on our side , we are here today, and we will talk about his goodness ‘til the day we die.

**People: Let the people keep on calling us Holy Rollers, but if it had not been for the Lord on our side, where would we be today?**

**Pastor:** In this place, we have permission to speak freely about what the Lord has done for us.

Yes, many of us came up short on the rent this month, but somehow God saw us through.

Tests came and tests went this week, but we passed the most important test of all: the test of faith.

In this house, there is no gag order against testifying to what great things God has done.

**People: Let the people keep on calling us Holy Rollers, but if it had not been for the Lord on our side, where would we be today?**

*Sherrie Dobbs Johnson, The Africana Worship Book, For Year C, Valerie Bridgeman Davis, PhD and Safiyah Fosua, eds., Discipleship Resources, 2008, 68.*

**Special Music** *“He Who Began a Good Work In You”*

Performed by the Praise Group

**GIVING TIME**

Offertory

\*Doxology

\*Dedication

**CALL TO PRAYER**

*“Because He Lives”*

**UMH #364**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Lord, our Creator and Redeemer,  
as Jesus entered the locked room

to show his disciples the beginning of a new world,

so enter our hearts and move us to faith in Jesus as the Risen One.

Convince us of the reality and significance of the resurrection, and free us  
from all manner of fears and phobias.

Give us courage in the face of death, knowing that this is the gateway to  
new resurrected life for those who trust in Christ.

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

Be with your church throughout the world so that its preaching and works  
of love may continue to testify to our Lord’s resurrection.

Wherever your church is faithless and lacking in courage to do the work  
that Jesus has given, visit it and build it up with your Spirit.

Be with all our pastors so that they may listen well and then speak with  
Christ’s authority.

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

Bring peace to all parts of the earth.

Wherever nations are at war and people are divided, visit and bring true reconciliation.

Especially protect all Christian people in these embattled nations, and help them to influence their country for the good of all.

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

Wherever homes are disrupted by anger and bitterness, and wherever relationships are distorted and dulled, visit and bring peace and harmony.

Wherever young people are gathered in your name, visit and guide them with your holy word and wisdom.

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

Visit and comfort the sick and suffering too, dear Lord. Heal and strengthen weak bodies, calm and correct confused minds.

Soon we will offer our petitions and share our joys, support them all with your great love and mercy.

Heavenly Father, we present these prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is risen from the dead, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

— adapted from the Lutheran Church of Australia's [LCA Worship Planning Page](#).

### ***Our Petitions and Celebrations***

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:** *Our Father, who art in heaven..... Amen*

**\*MUSIC TO WELCOME SCRIPTURE**

*"Days of Elijah"*

*\*Please remain standing to honor the reading of God's word.*

**\*SCRIPTURE**

**Acts 5:17-32**

**Reader:**

**Sue Pitonzo**

**Response to the reading:** The Word of God for us,  
the beloved people of God.

**Thanks be to God. AMEN**

**MESSAGE**

**PRAYERS FOR GRACE AND ASSURANCE**

*Let us pray together:*

God of empty tombs and empty people:  
when we hesitate to speak of your hope,  
forgive us, and give us voice.

When we find it difficult to love another,  
forgive us, and give us new compassion.

When we want to stand with the high and mighty,  
forgive us, and put us next to the poor and oppressed.

When we stay locked behind our fears and doubts,  
forgive us, and send us out to share your grace.

When we cannot believe your Word of new life,  
forgive us, and fill us with your joy.

*~ silent reflection ~*

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

Christ comes into every shadowed corner of our lives  
with the light of Easter.

Christ comes into the locked rooms of our faults,

and gifts us with grace and hope.  
Christ comes, to fill us with peace,  
that we may proclaim the good news  
of mercy and forgiveness.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Christ has come to us. Amen.**

~ written by Thom Shuman, and posted on **Lectionary Liturgies**. <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/>

### **Sharing of Christ's peace**

The peace of Christ *IS* with you.

**And also with you.**

**\*CLOSING SONG**      *"Lord of the Dance"*      *UMH #261*

**\*CLOSING PRAYER** *(together)*

O living Christ,

As the good news of Easter  
energized your first disciples  
to establish dynamic Christian communities,  
so energize us to dynamic life  
within our congregation.

As your Spirit gave them courage  
to stand tall before the powers of this world,  
so empower us to proclaim your gospel  
and struggle for justice and peace.

By your presence with us now,  
make us one in love and mission. Amen.

**\*BLESSING**

**\*SENDING MUSIC**      *"I Raise an Alleluia"*

## **Pastor's Office Hours**

Pastor Diane's office hours are Wednesday's 10:30-1:00.

Appointments are appreciated but not necessary. Cell: 315-532-3354

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## **ANNOUNCING OUR MISSION FIELD OPPORTUNITIES**

Refugee Resettlement Ministry – sign-up sheets in the Welcome Center.

Teen CanTeen – See Diane Ilaqua for how you can help

UMCOR for Ukraine - By check made out to Global Ministries/**UMCOR** with "Advance #982450-**Ukraine**" written on the memo line, either mailed and addressed to Global Ministries/**UMCOR**, GPO, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068 or given at or through any United Methodist church; One hundred percent of all Advance contributions go to the designated cause.

### **Church Fundraisers:**

Book sale and Luncheon is now scheduled for Friday May 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday May 21<sup>st</sup>

Book sale 9:30am-2:00pm,

Lunch served 11:30am-1:00pm.

YOUR Help is much needed and will be greatly appreciated.

We are NOW accepting donations of books, CDs, DVDs, and puzzles. Please bring donations to church and leave in room 7 in the Sunday school wing.

Jan Cerimeli or Nancy Congdon for more information

### Chicken BBQ with a twist!

We will be offering a Chicken BBQ on April 30th at 11:30 until sold out Chicken will be prepared by Dave's Finger Lickin' Chicken. The dinner menu is 1/2 chicken, salt potatoes, beans, coleslaw and a cookie for \$12.00.

Pre-order your BBQ after service!

**Medical Equipment:** If you need a wheelchair or other medical equipment, please give Norm Barkley a call at (315) 699-4155. Norm will be happy to meet you at the church storage area off the parking lot to see what medical equipment is available for loan.

**Outreach Information:** Please remember to pick up a jar of peanut butter, box of macaroni and cheese, canned pasta, or any nonperishable food for our hungry brothers and sisters. These items can be put in the grocery cart in the Narthex which will go to Brown Memorial or Mission Central's blessing box. Many blessings and thank you!

**Confirmation Class:** Young persons in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and above are invited to participate in our formal and informal Confirmation Program leading to church membership. Confirmands are matched with adult mentors for group learning sessions, community activities and one-to-one experiences. Contact Sue Bonspille through the church office for more information.

### **Red Bird Mission Trip Youth and Adult Trip Planned for August 6 - 13**

Youth and adults are invited to join the seven folks already signed up for a trip to the Red Bird Mission in Kentucky this summer! Red Bird Mission offers a chance to learn new skills, make new friends and stretch our faith in taking on repair projects for nearby residents and at the Mission itself. The busy week will include the actual repair work selected for our group plus evening programs, worship, music, Biblical messages, and daily devotions. We leave on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup>, overnight along the way and begin our work on Sunday through Friday. We get back on Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup>. Planning meetings and fundraisers will be held throughout the period leading up to the trip. The registration is \$425 although fundraising is planned to lower that amount. Contact Sue Bonspille or Mike Irwin through the church office for more information on this remarkable, life-changing opportunity!

**VBS** - July 25-29<sup>th</sup> Island of Adventure



# OUR WORSHIP MINISTRY PARTNERS

## **Worship is prepared and staffed by:**

Music Ministry Team: Nancy Congdon, Ben Shearer, Sue Pitonzo, Ken Hinman, April Smith

Camera Operator: Joe Finch

Sound Technician: Tim Gauthier; Rick Rudmann

Tech consultant: Rob Smith

Worship Team: Deb Irwin, Nancy Congdon, April Smith, Jan Cerimeli, Jeanette Elwood, Cindy Brink, Sue Werner

Administrative Assistant: Mary Slack-Nolan

## **Sunday School is staffed by:**

Sue Bonspille, *director*; Vicky Moore, Linda Bouwens, Christine Burton, Rachel Panek, Sarah Jones, Alyssa Dunsmoor, Stephanie Lotts, Larry Bonspille, Emily Bush, Susan Coulter, *teachers*.

## **The Nursery is staffed by:**

Jennifer George & Jennifer Meyer

## ***Interim Co-pastors***

Rev. Diane DiLuzio  
[dianediluzio@unyumc.org](mailto:dianediluzio@unyumc.org)  
Cell: 315-532-3354

Rev. Susan Ranous  
[susanranous@unyumc.org](mailto:susanranous@unyumc.org)  
Cell: 315-427-3668

Find us: **Website:** [www.ciceroumchurch.org](http://www.ciceroumchurch.org) **Email:** [ciceroumchurch@gmail.com](mailto:ciceroumchurch@gmail.com)

-Exit off I-81 at Cicero, take Rt 31 West to Rt 11 North-  
8416 Brewerton Rd. Cicero NY 13039 (315)-699-2731  
We are handicap accessible with ample parking near each entrance.  
Our greeters will gladly provide directions.

