

Cicero
United Methodist Church
April 3, 2022



** Please stand as you are able*

***Prelude**

“Cornerstone”

Greeting

Young Children’s Time

Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Let us acknowledge our need to restore, repair, renew our Holy Vessels, especially this holy container of life on which we live–this very planet.

Life-giving God, in the beginning, you created this universe with a phrase, “Let it be...” and the waters and dry land, the sky and the creatures were formed.

You set humanity among these wonders and invited us to care and honor all things.

We have not successfully answered that call. Seeing the abundance as a feast that would never end, we gorged ourselves, taking more than we could replenish at a rate that could not be sustained.

We are beginning to comprehend the magnitude, beginning to see that things cannot just keep going “as usual” and not have dire consequences.

We are frightened, which is partly why we are slow to accept it. But we now are witnesses to the forces of a world more broken than when we inherited it: water, wind, and wave, fire, drought, and earthquake that signal it is time to pay attention and to make real change.

Too often we think there is nothing we can do—that the change required is too great. It all feels overwhelming and so we look away, sometimes even from the small things that could make a difference for our own community.

Help us, Healer. Show us our ability to chart a different course. Forgive our inaction. Move us to move one step at a time toward greater care for one another.

In this silence, we sense and acknowledge our yearning for wholeness.

Special Music: *“He Put a New Song In My Heart”* Performed By:
Chancel Choir, led by Nancy Congdon

Giving Time

Offertory *“God So Loved The World”* performed by Norma Tippett
*Doxology
*Dedication

Call to Prayer *“Lead me Home”* Sung By April Smith
“Make Us Holy Make Us Whole” P&W Group to lead Congregation

Our Concerns and God Sightings

Prayers of the People

Healer of our every ill, especially our fractured creation, we come before you to make our petitions known. Hear our cries for healing of body, mind, and spirit. We know that already you are at work among us, showing us the way to recovery from the toxicities and grief of our time.

You remind us that that you are in the boat with us in the midst of difficult times. We give you thanks for this path of following you, even when you call us to crossover from one way of life to another.

We pray especially for all who are impacted most by dwindling resources. We pray that we will continue to learn and see and know how our actions affect others, not just ourselves.

We give thanks for the wake up calls that our young people are sounding and we pray for the fortitude to move this journey forward alongside them.

We give thanks for the courage of activists and educators who help us wake up to this storm and to see that we have it within our power to calm that storm, to restore the earth's wholeness. We ask for courage and encouragement to re-evaluate how we as a church can join this effort now and into the future.

We pray this day for...

We come before you to make our petitions known.

Music to Welcome Scripture

"In The Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful"

****Please stand as you are able to honor the reading of God's word.***

***Scripture Matthew 8: 18-27**

Reader: Sue Pitonzo

Response to the reading:

The Word of God for us,
the beloved people of God.

Thanks be to God. AMEN

Message

"Restoration"

Rev. Susan Ranous

Prayer for God's Grace and Assurance

Assurance of Forgiveness

(unison)

**Jesus, lover of our souls,
we humbly accept the grace of forgiveness
that promises to make us whole and holy again.**

Thank you, Jesus.

Thank you, God. AMEN.

Sharing of Christ's peace

The Peace of all peace,
Jesus the Christ,
be with you all.

And also with you.

Music Of Invitation *" Spirit of the Living God"* **UMH 393**

Holy Communion

On this communion Sunday, Jesus Christ invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have

not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PARDON

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

ALL: Glory to God. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

This elements of this Communion Service were consecrated by Elder, Rev. Diane DiLuzio earlier, and are being served by Deacon, Rev. Susan Ranous.

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS: the body and blood of Christ, given for you. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord, may our hearts and minds and souls be filled with the grace and healing we receive at your table. In our service for you, in our discipleship of you, as we answer your call, may we help others know your presence and your blessing. Amen.

***Closing Song "Lift High the Cross" UMH 159**

*Commission and Blessing

*Sending Music *"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"*

*Holy Vessels: A season of Recovery, by Marcia McFee, et al from the
Worship Design Studio.com*

PRAYER

Your Discipleship Team invites you to pray:

- For the future mission and ministries of the Cicero United Methodist Church
- For our new settled pastor, Rev. Jefferson Niles, and his family, as they transition to his appointment here on July 1st
- For the community, the country and the world
- For our Interim Co-Pastors, Rev. Diane DiLuzio and Rev. Susan Ranous, as they transition from their service with us

[If you have other prayers that you would like to add to this prayer list, please let the office of one of the pastors know!]

Continue to tie a colored string on our prayer cross as you pray for people and situations. As prayers are answered, please tie a white string on the prayer cross. The prayer cross is located in the front of the sanctuary.

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

March 6-April 3 @ 10:00 a.m.

Lent Worship Series: Holy Vessels: A Season of Recovery

Palm Sunday April 10 @ 10:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday April 14 @ 7:00 pm Live streamed and in-person

Good Friday April 15 @ 7:00 pm Live streamed and in-person

Easter Sunday April 17

8:30 a.m. Service - not live-streamed

11:00 a.m. Service – live-streamed

(NOTE: As of this writing we still need to accommodate cleaning of the sanctuary between services. We have also learned that people prefer to worship in the Sanctuary rather than watch it on the screen in Fellowship Hall.)

Eastertide

April 24 – May 29 - Services will be 10:00 a.m.

Pentecost

June 5

Upcoming Book and Luncheon Fundraiser. (Date and future info to follow)

If you or anyone you may know has books, DVDs, CDs or puzzles to donate, we would love to take them! All proceeds from this fundraiser will go to support the many programs our church offers. Please come enjoy the fellowship of this in person fundraiser, which have been greatly missed. You can leave all donations in room #7 of the Sunday school wing. Please direct any questions you have to either Jan Cerimeli or Nancy Congdon.

Ukraine

The United Methodist Church is active in world crises! You can help the Ukraine in the midst of war's atrocities. Individuals can give directly to the Ukrainian people through local church offerings by writing a check to the Upper New York Conference with Advance [#14053A](#) in the memo line of the checks. These checks can either be collected by church and mailed in, or mailed directly to the conference office: UNY Conference Center, 7481 Henry Clay Blvd. Liverpool, NY 13088.

The Ukraine UMC has created a crisis committee that will oversee all the global support that is coming in through UMCOR's Advance [#14053A](#) "Eurasia In Mission Together - Ukraine and Moldova." The money channeled through this Advance fund will go to the Ukraine UMC church account and decisions on how this will be used will be considered by the crisis committee, which includes pastors as well as lay leaders.

UMCOR also offers other opportunities for more specific giving to Ukrainian refugees in Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, and Romania. You can designate giving by stating it is for "Ukrainian Refugee support" to the following Advance numbers.

- Hungary In Mission Together (Advance # 00175A)
- Poland In Mission Together (Advance # 00408A)
- Romania In Mission Together (Advance [#00211A](#))
- Slovakia In Mission Together (Advance # 00236A)

Donations for Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia should be mailed directly to UMCOR Mission Together Advances at 458 Ponce De Leon Ave NE, Atlanta, GA 30308.

OUR WORSHIP MINISTRY PARTNERS

Worship is prepared and staffed by:

Music Ministry Team: Nancy Congdon, Ben Shearer, Praise Singers

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, Danni Gauthier, Norm and Judy Barkley, *teachers*.

The Nursery is staffed by:

Jennifer George; Jennifer Meyer

Interim Co-pastors

Rev. Diane DiLuzio
dianediluzio@unyumc.org
Cell: 315-532-3354

Rev. Susan Ranous
susanranous@unyumc.org
Cell: 315-427-3668

Find us: **Website:** www.ciceroumchurch.org **Email:** 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.