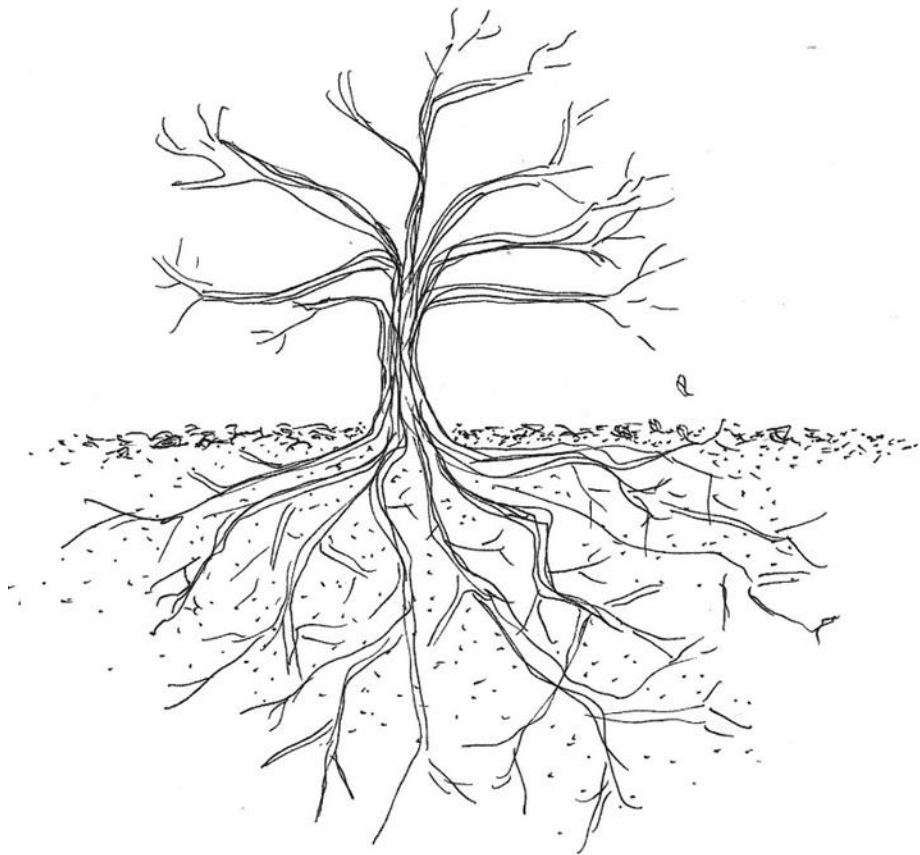


Cicero United Methodist Church
Seventh Sunday After Pentecost
July 24, 2022, 10:00 am



Prelude

Lighting the Altar Candles

Praise Song “Celebrate Jesus”

Responsive Psalm

Like a tree planted by the river,

We have sunk our roots in God’s love.

Like the leaves bouncing with ease,

We have danced in the breath of the Spirit.

Like the small nest in the crook of a branch,

We have found rest in the arms of God.

Like a bird pouring out sweet melodies,

We have raised our voices in praise.

Like the bright apple, like the brilliant orange,

We have lived as witnesses of God’s grace

Invocation (*Pastor*)

Lord’s Prayer (*spoken by all*)

Welcome/ Acknowledgements/ Announcements

Offering

Offertory Prayer

Young Children and Youth – VBS Dedication

Pastor: Our Discovery on Adventure Island VBS begins this week and an amazing group of leaders has volunteered to provide leadership. We want to recognize these volunteers. Will they please come forward? VBS leaders come forward.

From the Book of Isaiah we hear these words. "Arise! Shine! Your light has come; the LORD'S glory has shone upon you." These leaders are dedicating themselves to leading Explorers... to guide them to a deeper relationship with God through Jesus as they Arise and Shine with God's

VBS Leaders: We ask you to pray for us as we seek God's help. We ask you to pray for all those whose lives will be impacted by our efforts.

Pastor: We ask you to help us extend an invitation to neighbors, relatives, and friends to join us at Discovery on Adventure Island VBS.

Leaders: Your light of love has come; the LORD'S glory has shone upon you.

Pastor: Arise! Shine with Love!

Leaders: Your light of trust has come; the LORD'S glory has shone upon you.

Pastor: Arise! Shine with Trust!

Leaders: Your light of faith has come; the LORD'S glory has shone upon you.

Pastor: Arise! Shine with Faith!

Leaders: Your light of joy has come; the LORD'S glory has shone upon you.

Pastor: Arise! Shine with Joy!

Leaders: Your light of hope has come; the LORD'S glory has shone upon you.

Pastor: Arise! Shine with Hope!

Congregation: We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and direct your steps. We pray that Explorers who attend VBS sense the presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives and will be endowed with gifts that God provides.

Leaders: May God's light shine on us during these days and use us to light the way for our Explorers.

Pastor: Gracious God, thank you for these people you have called to your service. Give each leader a kind and compassionate heart for each child and youth. Fill their hearts with love. Help them be a blessing to all who take part in our Discovery on Adventure Island VBS program

Scripture Reading Colossians 2:6-19 (MSG)

My counsel for you is simple and straightforward: Just go ahead with what you've been given. You received Christ Jesus, the Master; now *live* him. You're deeply rooted in him. You're well constructed upon him. You know your way around the faith. Now do what you've been taught. School's out; quit studying the subject and start *living* it! And let your living spill over into thanksgiving.

Watch out for people who try to dazzle you with big words and intellectual double-talk. They want to drag you off into endless arguments that never amount to anything. They spread their ideas through the empty traditions of human beings and the empty superstitions of spirit beings. But that's not the way of Christ. Everything of God gets expressed in him, so you can see and hear him clearly. You don't need a telescope, a microscope, or a horoscope to realize the fullness of Christ, and the emptiness of the universe without him. When you come to him, that fullness comes together for you, too. His power extends over everything.

Entering into this fullness is not something you figure out or achieve. It's not a matter of being circumcised or keeping a long list of laws. No, you're already *in*—insiders—not through some secretive initiation rite but rather

through what Christ has already gone through for you, destroying the power of sin. If it's an initiation ritual you're after, you've already been through it by submitting to baptism. Going under the water was a burial of your old life; coming up out of it was a resurrection, God raising you from the dead as he did Christ. When you were stuck in your old sin-dead life, you were incapable of responding to God. God brought you alive—right along with Christ! Think of it! All sins forgiven, the slate wiped clean, that old arrest warrant canceled and nailed to Christ's cross. He stripped all the spiritual tyrants in the universe of their sham authority at the Cross and marched them naked through the streets.

So don't put up with anyone pressuring you in details of diet, worship services, or holy days. All those things are mere shadows cast before what was to come; the substance is Christ.

Don't tolerate people who try to run your life, ordering you to bow and scrape, insisting that you join their obsession with angels and that you seek out visions. They're a lot of hot air, that's all they are. They're completely out of touch with the source of life, Christ, who puts us together in one piece, whose very breath and blood flow through us. He is the Head and we are the body. We can grow up healthy in God only as he nourishes us.

Hymn *"It Is Well With My Soul"* UMH 377

Message *"Being Rooted"*

Special Music *"His Eye Is on the Sparrow"* Performed by David Kesel

Prayers of Intercession

Song /Hymn *"Oh for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"* UMH 57

Benediction (Pastor)

Postlude *"If We're Honest"* (Battistelli)

ANNOUNCING OUR MISSION FIELD OPPORTUNITIES

Outreach Committee

- Outreach is looking for the following items to support our neighbors who need a hand up.
- Blessing Box @ Mission Central needs non-perishable food items.
- School supplies--1 and 3 subject notebooks; loose leaf paper; 2-pocket folders; 24-pack of crayons; #2 pencils; blue and/or black pens
- Place all items in the school bus outside the office.
- Christmas card kits for Meals on Wheels may be picked up and dropped off in the Welcome Center. Please return all kits by July 31st.
- Watch for the return of Love's Laundry coming soon.

The people of the community and Outreach thank you.

The **Canteen Program** is collecting for the summer day trip program Juice boxes, cookies and trail mix. If you want to help with donating these items, please bring them to the church office M-F 8:30 to 2pm and give them to Mary. Thank you.

Cookies for Sunday

Anyone wishing to donate cookies for Sunday Morning coffee can leave them in the Welcome Center Kitchen or See Roberta (Bobbi or Carolyn)

OUR WORSHIP MINISTRY PARTNERS

Pastor Rev. Jefferson Niles

315-699-2731

pastor@ciceroumchurch.org

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

IT director: 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, Danni Gauthier.

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

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.

