

Manistee First Congregational Church UCC with Rev. Elizabeth Hoy
In person worship: 412 4th Street Manistee MI
Virtual Worship uccmanistee.org
Second Sunday of Easter (Earth Day Sunday): April 24, 2022

+ Indicates when to stand
Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

+ Call to Worship (based on Psalm 18)

One: Like Job in the Whirlwind, or Jonah in the storm at sea, we come before you in awe of your power, God. We recognize that today's storms and whirlwinds are not your judgment on your people, but the distortion of natural systems through our own sin and hubris.

All: **As the storms and whirlwinds of the climate crisis accelerate around us, may our sanctuary be a place of refuge and resilience, where all of God's creation might be protected and sustained, and from which we People of God might be sent forth to bring healing and justice.**

One: I love you, O God, my strength. The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer. My God, my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

All: **The earth reeled and rocked; the foundations also of the mountains trembled. In my distress I called upon God. From the temple God heard my focus and my cry to God reached God's ears.**

One: God reached down from on high, God took me; and drew me out of mighty waters
God delivered me, because God delighted in me.

All: **This God's way is perfect; God is a shield for all who take refuge.**

+ Opening Hymn For The Beauty Of The Earth #54

Prayer of Confession

One: Let us join our voices in a prayer of confession:

All: **Our beautiful blue and green home is an awesome, awesome gift. Yet we trade clean air for the power of convenience, clean water for easy waste disposal, and wilderness for elbowroom. We marvel more at our inventions than over your creations. Share your wisdom and teach us how to protect the best, and restore the rest of your rivers and mountains, seas and prairies, wetlands and forests. Guide us in living sustainably, being satisfied that "enough" is enough of a feast, and not consuming more than we need. Guide us to repair and replace your Very Good: our habitat, climate, and food web. Send your spirit over the waters again; stir us to action, justice, and wise choices. We pray we can be a part of bringing back creation to glory and peace. Amen**

Words of Assurance

Passing of the Peace

Story for All Generations (Borrowed from <https://www.abc.net.au/> writer unknown)

First Reading Romans 8:18-25

Special Music

Second Reading Revelation 21:1-5

Sermon

+ Hymn: God of Earth and Sea and Heaven #455

Prayers of the People

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering



This QR code makes it possible for you to donate using your phone and a Paypal account .

+ The Doxology

Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
And song today with one accord.
The life laid down, the life restored;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

+ Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Every part of nature is connected. Every gift we receive comes from you. Every moment of time is pregnant with creation. We return this offering to you in wonder and gratitude. Amen

+ Closing Hymn: Mountain Brook with Rushing Waters #522

Benediction:

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

One: May the Spirit move us to protect the Very Good that God has made.

All: **May our Creator show us the way to live more gently, and restore our home.**

One: Christ all creature of earth, sea, and sky

All: **We will work to make a healthy space for all, until our Risen Savior returns and makes all things new. And let God again say: "it is Very Good!"**

Postlude

In Our Prayers... Please keep these members and friends in your prayers this coming week. **If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please speak with Liz or contact the church office @ 723-5361 or officemfucc@gmail.com**

- **Bob & Pat Sluis**, Ron's brother & sister in law.
 - **Quinn**, granddaughter & **Rachel**, daughter of Susan Flarity.
 - **Rianna Hof**, David & Marcia Vande Vusse's Daughter.
 - **Mike Zimmerman**, Church Member.
 - Our homebound and care center members and friends:
 - Al Mahler, Margaret Johnson, Greg Gamache & Tootie Rowell
 - Members and Friends serving in the military.
- 1st Congregational Church of Alpena**

Weekly Financial Update

Offering April 17 (Pledges/Unpledged/Plate)		\$ 3,306
Offering (Budget) Goal per Week		\$ 2,155
Offering Total for April		\$ 7,867
Offering (Budget) Goal for April (4 Sunday's)		\$ 8,620
Offering Total YTD	16 Weeks	\$29,067
Offering Goal YTD	16 Weeks	\$34,480

Year to Date Stewardship Goal (Shortage) or Overage \$ (5,413)

2022 Pledge Update: Pledge Cards Received 23 totalling \$75,600

This Week at Church

Newsletter Articles Due Monday April 25th
Craft Group Wednesday April 27 9-12

Coming up:

Craft Group Wednesday May 4, 9-12

Outreach Committee Monthly Mission:

Razors and Shaving Cream (For ECHO's Family Life Center)

Please put into the collection tub in the Fellowship Hall

Signups in the Fellowship Hall for

- **Coffee Hour**
- **Greeters**

NU2U is doing a drive for Ukraine. They are collecting; blankets, bedding (pillows and sheets), towels, OTC medicine for children and adults (not expired), MRE (Meal ready to eat)- type food (not expired), toiletries for children and adults, hygiene items for women, stationery items, and diapers for children and adults. Please drop off at the NU2U store located at 353 River St. Manistee, Tuesday-Sunday 10am-6pm.