

*The Homer Congregational Church*  
*United Church of Christ*

**September 27, 2015**

**18th Sunday after Pentecost**

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Church Staff and Music Ministry

Rev. Dr. Kathleen Waters, Interim Minister  
Sherri Masterson, Youth Fellowship Coordinator  
Joseph Ford, Director of Music  
James N. Shultes, Organist  
Jan Jeffers, Chapel Bells  
Gary Harrington, Sexton  
Donna Piotti, Church Secretary

Church Office Hours:

Mondays through Thursdays, 9am-Noon, closed Friday.

Pastor Hours:

At Church, typically, Sundays through Thursdays  
Available, when needed, at 315-380-0744

HCC website - [homercc.com](http://homercc.com)

Follow Homer Congregational Church on facebook!

To receive our mid-week email, *Weekday Words*,  
please email the office

Welcome - We are glad that you have chosen to join us for worship this morning. If you would like additional information about HCC please speak to the pastor or worship leader and plan to join us for refreshments and community time after the service.

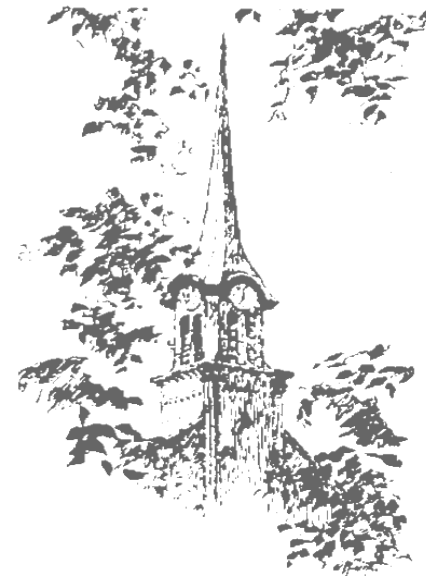
Children - We believe children of all ages have a place in worship and in the life of the church. A children's bulletin and supplies are available at the entrance to the sanctuary. Nursery care is available.

Prayer request sheets are placed at each entrance. Prayers will be offered later in today's service.

Accessibility - Individual listening headsets are available to provide hearing assistance to any in need. Contact one of the ushers for help.

Miss a Sunday and want to review the bulletin? You can find weekly bulletins at our website:<http://www.homercc.com/resources/>. Share with a friend.

**10:30 am Worship**



*Gathered on the Green in 1801- Still Gathered Doing God's Mission*

# Service of Worship

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2015

10:30 am

## GATHER AND PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*Minuet*

Handel

CHIMES

## THE PEOPLE OF GOD GATHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

*Come, Come, Whoever You Are*



Come, come, who - ev - er you are, wan - der - er,



wor - ship - er, lov - er of leav - ing. Ours is no car - a - van



of de - spair. Come, yet a - gain come.

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## OPENING WORDS OF WELCOME

One: Do you remember who first invited you to worship?

**All: We come in thanksgiving for those who brought us here.**

One: Do you remember the first community of faithful

ones you joined?

A nursery class who welcomed you with care and open arms?

A youth group who accompanied you with energy and open minds?

A small group who met in someone's home?

A congregation, large or small, rural or urban, quiet folk or rowdy ones?

**All: We come in thanksgiving for those who meet and receive us here.**

One: Do you remember the God you have come to worship?

the Maker of Earth and Sky;

the Ground of all Being;

the God of Jesus;

**All: We come to worship God in remembrance that leads to hope.**

**\*HYMN # 538**

*Hope of the World*

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*let us pray together . . .*)

**Forgive us, God, when we forget you, speaking and acting and organizing as though you are not here.**

**Forgive us, O God, when we forget you: failing to see you in our neighbor, failing to care for you in creation, failing to recognize your Spirit in our own being.**

**Forgive us, O God. Amen.**

A moment of silence . . .

**\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

One: You, O God, are the one who remembers – and in doing so, You are the one who re-members us. You

re-member us with love, that puts us back together – within and with others. You re-member us with grace, that closes the door on fear and opens our lives to welcome. You, O God, are the one who re-mem-bers us back to life

**All: Amen.**

**\*MUSICAL RESPONSE**

*Alleluia*

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

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**MUSICAL PRESENTATION** *His Eye Is on the Sparrow*  
Words: Civilla Martin, 1905 *sung by Sheila Shea*  
Music: Charles Gabriel, 1905

**GOD'S WORD BOTH ANCIENT AND NEW**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Old Testament	Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22	pg.448
New Testament	James 5:13-20	pg. 231
Gospel	Mark 9:38-50	pg. 45

**CHILDREN’S MOMENT**

*(Children may go to the nursery following the Children’s Moment.)*

**HYMN # 534** *When Our Confidence Is Shaken*

**SERMON**

**GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND**

**OF THE CONGREGATION**

**The Lord’s Prayer** *(in unison)*

**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.**

**OFFERING**

**Invitation**

**Offertory**

*Adagio*

Albinoni

**\*Doxology** *(page 48 in hymnal) tune: TALLIS’ CANON*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ all creatures here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
One God triune, whom we adore. Amen.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication** *(let us pray together . . .)*

**May these tangible gifts and all the intangible gifts we share among us make known to the world that God is within us and among us. Amen.**

**GOD'S PEOPLE DEPART TO SERVE**

**HYMN # 533**

*We’ve Come This Far by Faith*

*The congregation is invited to sing the refrain as found in the hymnal while the choir sings the verses.*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Allegro*

Handel

*\*those who are able, please stand*

## NOTES AND NOTICES

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### Worship Service Participants

#### *Ushers and Greeters*

*Worship Leader*  
Kathy McKenna

*Nursery Volunteers*  
Terry Pedersen,  
Jenelle Pedersen

*Flowers*  
Doris Brohard and family  
*In memory of Bill*

*Coffee Hour*  
Bonnie Smith

*Attendance*  
September 20 - 85

### Life in the Parish Week of September 27

#### **TODAY – September 27**

9:15 am – The Well  
9:30 am – Children's Program  
10:30 am – Worship service

#### **MONDAY – September 28**

7:00 pm – WWIC meets  
7:30 pm – Al-Anon meets

#### **TUESDAY – September 29**

2:00 pm – Bridge group meets

#### **THURSDAY – October 1**

Noon – Bible Study Group  
6:30 pm – Choir rehearsal

#### **SUNDAY – October 4**

10:30 am – Worship service  
11:45 am – All Church meeting  
4:30 pm – Youth Group mini  
golf at Ship Wreck Mini Golf

*Please note: The Methodist Food Pantry sent a message that they desperately need: Manwich, macaroni & cheese, margarine, jello, pudding, pasta/rice sides, rice, Hamburger Helper, Cream of Mushroom soup, peaches, and baked beans.*

The Christian Education Ministry committee is trying to keep our **Sunday School** going while the deacons continue to search for a Director of Christian Education. We need people to teach at all different levels. We will offer curriculum and training. If you would like to teach, co-teach or sub we would love to have your help. Please contact Terry Pedersen at 749-7540 or [trpedersen@hotmail.com](mailto:trpedersen@hotmail.com) if you would be willing to help keep this worthwhile ministry going. We can't do it without you!

Please pick up your **contribution statements** for January through August 2015 to help us save postage. They are on the small table in the Russell Fellowship Room.

**The US Congregational Life Survey:** As the Transition Team continues its process of Discernment and Reflection of who we are and where we are going, all worshippers are invited to help us in the completion of a brief survey. Those who were not able to complete the survey last week are invited to go to the Board Room following the service where Gary Harrington will have surveys available for completion. Surveys must be returned to the office no later than Monday.

**Next Sunday is World Communion Sunday**, which was begun on November 1, 1936 by a group of ministers who viewed Holy Communion as an opportunity to unite Christians throughout the world. The Reverend Vicki Johnson will be the guest preacher. Lectionary Scripture: Job 1:1;2:1-10; Psalm 26; Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16.

*Dora and Becky Jones plan to raise money for the annual Alzheimer's Walk, a 3-4 mile walk on Saturday, October 3rd at Long Branch Park in Syracuse, NY. It is a fun event and we are looking for people to walk with us, or donate money to the Alzheimer's Association through us, or donate on their own. Any support that you can give is appreciated.*

### **A Call For A Special Church Meeting**

This is to notify the congregation that the Board of Trustees has scheduled a Special Meeting of the First Religious Society for **Sunday, October 4**, after coffee hour. The purpose of meeting is to approve a change to the by-laws. Rationale and wording below:

From minutes of August 24, 2014 First Religious Society Meeting:

*Jean Cadwallader made a motion to take the necessary funds for the boilers and the pavement work out of the checking account. Elaine Olson seconded the motion.*

*Miles Dudgeon proposed amending the motion to take money from the checking account that is needed this week for the boilers and pavement from the money earmarked for the Steeple and Steps Campaign Fund. Then have a meeting in two weeks regarding using Endowment Funds for these expenses. Kevin Cappy seconded the amendment to the motion. There was discussion about the necessary repairs. Vote to modify the amendment passed. There was further discussion about possible amending the motion to pay the full bill that will be due, but no additional changes were made. The amended motion passed.*

The Trustees of the First Religious Society now ask the First Religious Society to vote on a one time change to ARTICLE V, paragraph 4, of our Society's by-laws. This will only allow the Trustees to take up to \$30,000 from the Permanent (Endowment) Fund to only cover the replacement of the center steps and railings in front of the sanctuary. The total received from the Steeple and Steps Campaign to date is \$30,135, including interest. The project will take place in the Fall of 2015 or warm months of 2016, depending on scheduling with contractor Tom Kile.

The actual wording of this motion is in bold and italics: Article V, paragraph 4, "Members of the Committee are members of the Society elected by the Society. They shall have the care and custody of the Permanent Fund of the Society, making careful investments from the Fund and disbursing from the Fund toward the budget for the following year 5% of the average value of the Fund over the preceding twenty quarters as of September 30 of the current year. Funds will be transferred to the Treasurer of the Society on instructions from the Board of Trustees. ***In addition to this disbursement a onetime withdrawal of up to \$30,000 shall be allowed to cover the replacement of the center steps and railings in front of the sanctuary.***"