

Service of Worship  
Second Sunday in Lent

February 21, 2016

10:30 AM

*"I know God will not give me anything I can't handle.  
I just wish [God] didn't trust me so much."*  
Mother Teresa

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**GATHER AND PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**      *Amazing Grace*      Lasky

**CHIMES**

**THE PEOPLE OF GOD GATHER**

**MUSICAL CALL TO WORSHIP**

① Come, come, who - ev - er you are, wan - der - er,  
② wor - ship - er, lov - er of leav - ing. Ours is no car - a - van  
③ of de - spair. Come, yet a - gain come.  
④

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**LITANY FOR OUR LENTEN JOURNEY**

One: Here is the journey,  
that moves beyond where we are now.  
Come, trust the God whose journey it is.  
Come, and trust in the steadfast love of God.  
This is Lent. This is the journey.  
**All: This is Lent. This is the journey.**

One: Here is the journey,  
for all who long to travel.  
Come, for God makes known love's path,  
and invites us to follow  
trusting in the steadfast love of God.  
This is Lent. This is the journey.  
**All: This is Lent. This is the journey.**

One: Here is the journey,  
for all those who want to know truth.  
Come, this is the way of salvation  
and we wait for God's call into steadfast love.  
This is Lent. This is the journey.  
**All: This is Lent. This is the journey.**

One: Here is the journey  
that takes us further than we have been before.  
Come, for God leads the humble  
into what is right,  
Surrounded by the steadfast love of God.  
This is Lent. This is the journey.  
**All: This is Lent. This is the journey.**

**\*HYMN # 180**    *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days*

**\*OPENING PRAYER** (*Let us pray together . . .*)

One: The journey is uncertain,  
the destination is known,  
and its outcome is challenging to body and soul,

**All: but we travel in your steadfast love, O God.  
Hold us.**

One: The story is not yet complete,  
the travelers not yet arrived,  
the horizon not yet crossed,

**All: but we trust your steadfast love, O God.  
Call us.**

One: The footprints are before us,  
the distance is far,  
yet there is light out front,

**All: and we live in your steadfast love, O God.  
Travel with us.**

**\*WORDS OF GOD'S ENDURING LOVE**

One: As we journey God says to us:

I am with you,  
I hold you,  
I know you,  
I care for you,  
I travel with you,  
I give myself to you,  
I am on this journey with you,  
and my steadfast love is with you always.  
Let us travel in peace.

**All: Amen.**

**\*MUSICAL RESPONSE**



1  
Come, come, who - ev - er you are, wan - der - er,  
2  
3  
wor - ship - er, lov - er of leav - ing. Ours is no car - a - van  
4  
of de - spair. Come, yet a - gain come.

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**LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

**THE GOSPEL** Luke 4:1-3

NT page 61

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

(*Children through second grade may go to the nursery.*)

**THE PSALTER** Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

OT page 548

**\*HYMN # 77**

*On Eagle's Wings*

**SERMON**

**PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION**

**Musical Introduction** (*Hymnal page 305*)

**Lord, listen to your children praying,**

**Lord, send your spirit in this place;**

**Lord, listen to your children praying,**

**Send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

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.**

### **GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND**

#### **OFFERING**

**Invitation**

**Choral Anthem** *What Does the Lord Require for Praise*

**\*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 . . . )*

**Held securely by your love, we seek to be an offering  
of love to the world and to have our spirits wing free  
to live again. Receive the gifts of our hands, and the  
desire of our hearts, using each in your unfolding  
ways. Amen.**

### **GOD'S PEOPLE DEPART TO SERVE**

**\*HYMN # 195** *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**CHIMES**

**POSTLUDE** *In The Cross of Christ* Bingham



**Please participate in one of  
HCC's Dream Teams**

As part of our effort to discern our *New Way Forward*, the Church Council and Transition Team would like you participate on a "Dream Team." Each Team would take one of the four areas identified by the Transition Team and, in consultation with appropriate Boards, Committees, and individuals, make specific and realistic goals for the developing the accomplishment of these endeavors.

Some goals may be scheduled to be completed immediately, some within the next year, some within the next three years (after new pastor starts) and although some goals may be identified, the Dream Team may determine that no action can be taken at this time. It is hoped that each Team can accomplish its task by the end of March so that a clear plan can be delineated as the Pastor Search Committee begins their search.

*Sign up today in the Russell Fellowship Room*

*The Four Teams*

***We are seeking to be a community . . .***

- ▶ ***caring for each other.*** (Belinda Burtner)
- ▶ ***growing in our faith.*** (Gary Harrington)
- ▶ ***participating in outreach.*** (Bonnie Smith)
- ▶ ***maximizing our resources.*** (Jim McKenna)

## Pastoral Search Committee to Form

We are making progress!!!

Now that the Transition Team has completed the first phase of study, the Church Council is preparing to name a Search Committee to continue the process of finding our next pastor. We need your help! Your input will be greatly appreciated.

The Search Committee will:

1. Utilize the information gathered from the Transition Team's mission study to create a church profile that describes who we are, where we want to be, and what sort of pastoral leadership we are seeking.
2. Meet with Rev. Marsha Williams, our Associate Conference Minister, and in consultation with her...
3. ...Receive and read the ministerial profiles of pastoral candidates.
4. Interview promising-looking candidates.
5. Keep those profiles completely confidential until a candidate or candidates are chosen to present to the congregation for the final decision.

The Search Committee will consist of seven to nine people who represent the demographics of our congregation. You must be willing and able to meet regularly and work for consensus. This is vitally important work, and although the task may seem daunting, the rewards are great.

If you would like to volunteer yourself or recommend someone else (church members only) to serve on the Search Committee, please complete and return the following form to the church office, Barbara Wright, moderator, or Kathleen Waters, interim pastor by **February 15**. Thank you.

Barbara Wright, Moderator (revbarbwright@gmail.com or 607-423-0400)

### Homer Congregational Church Search Committee Nominations Please consider the following person(s) to serve on the Search Committee

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information including email address

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information including email address

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information including email address

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## NOTES AND NOTICES

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### Worship Service Participants

#### *Ushers and Greeters*

**Worship Leader**  
Joanne Cincotta

**Acolyte**  
Grace Wright

#### *Flowers*

**Nursery Volunteers**  
the Dudgeon family,  
Jenelle Pedersen

**Coffee Hour**  
Kathy McKenna

**Attendance**  
February 14 - cancelled  
due to weather

### Life in the Parish Week of February 21

#### **TODAY – February 21**

*No Sunday School classes*

9:15 am – The Well  
10:30 am – Worship service  
12:00 pm-3:00 pm – Stephen  
Ministry meets

#### **MONDAY – February 22**

7:30 pm – Al-Anon meets in  
Russell Fellowship Room

#### **TUESDAY – February 23**

2:00 pm – Bridge Group meets  
6:30 pm – Church Council meets  
7:00 pm – Homer Brass  
rehearsal

#### **WEDNESDAY – February 24**

6:00 pm – Lenten worship with  
Communion  
7:00 pm – Choir rehearsal

#### **THURSDAY – February 25**

9:30 am – Newsletter Collating  
Committee meets  
12:00 pm – Bible Study Group

#### **SUNDAY – February 28**

9:15 am – The Well  
10:30 am – Worship service

The adult discussion group, **The Well**, met this Sunday and will continue to meet Sundays at 9:15 am.

The Cortland County Council of Churches is one of the organizations supported by us. **Today**, Rev. Vicki Johnson will offer a **Mission Moment** about the Council's ministry. She will also be available during coffee hour to answer questions. This should be a great opportunity to hear about the "return" we receive for our financial investment in the Council of Churches. This will be the first of several "mission moments" to help us understand that, through our support, we are very much in ministry beyond our own walls.

For hundreds of years, Christians have set aside Lent as a special time for prayer, reflection and a deepening of their spiritual life. Join us during this Lenten Season for a brief gathering in the sanctuary each **Wednesday evening from 6:00 – 6:30 pm** (February 24, March 2, 9, 16) for quiet reflection, simple music and Holy Communion. Together we can deepen our community, renew our faith and strengthen our hope. All are welcome.

The **Newsletter Collating Committee** meets **Thursday at 9:30 am**. All are welcome to come join the fun.

The **Bible Study Group** will begin meeting again, starting **Thursday at noon** for lunch, discussion at 12:30 pm. All are welcome.

The **Youth Group Games Tournament**, scheduled for February 28, has been postponed until April. Date to be announced.

**Church Directory Update Coming:** We are updating our Church Contact Directory for 2016. If you have new contact information, please let the office know. If you would like to list your email address and/or cell phone number, also please contact the office.

