

Service of Worship
6th Sunday of Easter

May 1, 2016

10:30 AM

*Welcome to this service of Worship and Holy Communion.
The Lord's Table is open to all who come seeking the
presence and peace of Christ. The cup contains
unfermented juice, and we serve gluten-free bread.*

GATHER AND PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Rhosymedre* Vaughan Williams

THE PEOPLE OF GOD GATHER

CALL TO WORSHIP (*adapted from Psalm 67*)

One: O God, be gracious to us and bless us and make
your face to shine upon us,

All: that your way may be known upon earth, your
saving power among all nations.

One: Let the people praise you, oh God; let all the
peoples praise you.

All: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you
judge the peoples with equity and guide the
nations upon earth.

One: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the
peoples praise you.

All: **The earth has yielded its increase; God our
God, has blessed us.**

One: May God continue to bless us;

All: **let all the ends of the earth revere God.**

One: Come, let us worship God.

***HYMN # 100**

When Morning Gilds the Skies

***OPENING PRAYER** (*let us pray together . . .*)

**O Shepherd of all who put their trust in you,
restore our souls in this time of worship, for we are
tired and needy. Comfort us in death's dark valley
and take away our fears. Feed us and anoint us
with your Almighty and everlasting God, you have
brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us
with your mighty power, that we may not fall into
sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do,
direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(silence)

***MUSICAL RESPONSE**

ALLELUIA

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

(Tune: CELTIC ALLELUIA, music: Fintan O'Carroll, 1981, harm. Christopher Walker, 1985. Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll & Christopher Walker, Publ. by OCP. OneLicense.net License # A-713031).

LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE *Acts 16:9-15* NT pg 136

SCRIPTURE *John 14:23-29* NT pg 109

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

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

*HYMN # 530 *I've Got Peace Like a River*

SERMON *Begging the Question* Rev. Cowles

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

OFFERING

Invitation

(offerings not in an envelope will be used by the Deacons)

Choral Anthem *We Gather At Your Table, Lord*
Trad. Irish, Arr. W. Ehret.

*Doxology *(page 49 in hymnal)* *LASST UNS ERFREUEN*

From all that dwell below the skies

Let the Creator's praise arise:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the Redeemer's name be sung

Through every land, in every tongue.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

Lord God, we bring to you the ordinary things of life – food and drink and money – and with them we bring ourselves. Take us, and our gifts of money, to do your work in the world. take this food and drink from our tables and feed us from your table with your love. Accept the praise we offer; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN # 420 (vs. 1-3) *I Come With Joy*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(see insert)

GOD'S PEOPLE DEPART TO SERVE

*HYMN # 458 *Ours the Journey*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Festive Trumpet Tune* German

++++
The Prayer of Dedication and liturgical prayers for the Sacrament of Holy Communion are taken from the Chalice Worship book, published by Chalice Press. Prayers are used with the permission of Chalice Press.

We welcome the Reverend **Rick Cowles**, former pastor of Homer Congregational Church. After completing his work at HCC Rick served as an Associate Conference minister here in the New York Conference, and most recently as interim Conference Minister in the Maine Conference. Welcome Rick!

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

COMMUNION PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *with the Lord's Prayer*

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.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

(You are invited to come forward, take a piece of bread, dip it into the cup, eat and return to your seat. The elements can be brought to you if you wish. All are welcome!)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(Let us pray together.)*

With grateful hearts we praise you, O God, for your great goodness in the gift of Christ. Through sacred memory Christ has come to us and fed us at his table. Strengthen us by your grace to fellowship with Christ each day. Stir us to share Christ's cross in daily sacrificial service. Amen.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

You are invited to share a sign of peace with others.

Notes and Notices (continued)

THANK YOU!!

A big thank you from the senior high Sunday school class for all of the support they received for the Coffee House Benefit!!! Together with the Homer Methodist Food Pantry, we were able to help feed local families in need through your generosity!!

SNACK & CHAT

Karen Dudgeon and Jim McKenna continue to hold *Snack & Chats* following worship on communion Sundays. Stop in and bring your questions, concerns and joys. They want to hear from you!

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Preparations for Holiday in Homer (July 16th) and an open church event with the Landmark Society (June 17th and 18th) are under way and we would appreciate any help you can provide. See Paula Harrington, Kevin Cappy, or any of the Trustees.

PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Pastor Search Committee met last week for the first time and appreciate the support and prayers of the congregation. Committee members are:

Chuck Feiszli (chair)	Tracy Bertram
Dorothy Hopkins (vice chair)	Miles Dudgeon
Bev Berry (secretary)	Kathy McKenna
Lori Schmidt	Jim Ulrich

Worship Service
Participants

Ushers and Greeters

Worship Leaders
Tracy Bertram

Liturgist
Jean Cadwallader

Acolytes
Kyle Wright,
Jack Bertram

Flowers
Becky Jones

in honor of Dora Jones' birthday
(April 19) and John and
Florence Palm's anniversary
(April 25)

Nursery Volunteers
Sheila Shea and Phil Zollweg,
Grace Wright

Coffee Hour
Dora Jones and Becky Jones

Attendance
April 27 – 64

Year-to-date financials will be
in next month's newsletter.

Life in the Parish
Week of May 1

SUNDAY – May 1

10:30 am – Worship service
11:45 am – Snack & Chat
11:45 am – Christian Education
Ministry meets
12:30-3:00 pm – Steven Ministry
meets
2:00 pm – Brewster House
worship service

MONDAY – May 2

7:30 pm – Al-Anon meets

TUESDAY – May 3

2:00 pm – Bridge group
7:00 pm – Homer Brass rehearsal

WEDNESDAY – May 4

6:00 pm – Pastor Search
Committee meets
7:00 pm – Choir rehearsal

THURSDAY – May 5

12:00 pm – Bible Study Group

SATURDAY – May 7

9:30 am-3:00 pm – Steven
Ministry meets

SUNDAY – May 8

9:15 am – Sunday School, The
Well
10:30 am – Worship service

NOTES AND NOTICES

If you know someone who is graduating from high school, trade school, or college, please let us know. We'd love to hear about their plans and share them in next month's newsletter. The Deacons will honor all graduates in worship on June 19. Please contact Donna in the office by Sunday May 15 by phone: 749-2604 or by email: office@homercc.org.

Due to Donna's upcoming retirement, we will publish the June newsletter a week earlier than usual. Deadline is Thursday, May 12, and we will mail the following week.

Donna Piotti and Sherri Masterson have announced their retirement at the end of May. Plans are developing to honor them with a special celebration on May 22. More details to come. See the following information regarding filling the administrative position.

The Homer Congregational Church, seeks a Church Administrator. Responsibilities include: provide communication and administrative support to an active congregation; interface with numerous groups using the facilities; provide office support to the pastor. Normal duties are performed in the church facility but some duties may require local travel. This is a part-time position, hourly wage based on experience. Average 12 hours per week. Qualifications: Extensive knowledge of Microsoft Office and the ability to learn and use current computer applications; competent in the use of social media; aptitude to efficiently use office resources; ability to multitask and prioritize responsibilities; have excellent organizational and communication skills; handle sensitive information in a confidential manner; valid driver's license; comfortable with working in a Christian environment and willing to learn the governance of the United Church of Christ. Send résumé to resumes@homercc.org by May 10, 2016. Job description available on our web site at www.homercc.com.