

The Homer Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

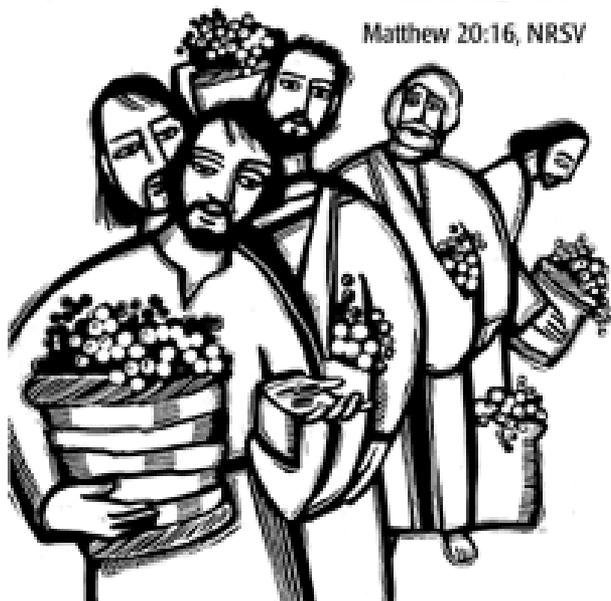
September 18, 2016

17th Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am Worship

So the **last**
will be **FIRST**,
and the
first
will be **LAST.**

Matthew 20:16, NRSV



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

Worship Service

Participants

Ushers and Greeters

Worship Leader

Joanne Cincotta

Liturgist

Carol Agate

Acolytes

Jack Bertram, Gwen Cappy

Flowers

Doris and Jeanne Brohard

Nursery Volunteer

Sherri Masterson

Fellowship

Kevin and Joem Cappy

Attendance

September 11:

Our giving 9/11/16:

Operations - \$2,289.50

Missions - \$479.00

Life in the Parish

Week of September 18

SUNDAY – September 18

10:30 am – Worship

11:45 am – Forum

MONDAY – September 19

7:30 pm – Al-Anon meets

TUESDAY – September 20

2:00 pm – Bridge Group

6:30 pm Trustees Meet

7:00 pm – Homer Brass rehearsal

WEDNESDAY – September 21

7:00 pm – Choir rehearsal

THURSDAY – September 22

11:30 am – Bible Study Group

FRIDAY – September 23

Office Closed

SUNDAY – September 25

9:15am The Well

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

Service of Worship
18th Sunday after Pentecost

September 18, 2016

10:30 AM

Sören Kierkegaard, 19th century
"Prayer does not change God,
but it changes the one who prays."

*those who are able, please stand.

GATHER AND PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *O Worship The King* Harmon
Chimes

THE PEOPLE OF GOD GATHER

CALL TO WORSHIP liturgy by Thom M. Shuman

One: In the prayers and the praise,
in the words and the wonder:

All: we are given enough joy to live each day.

One: In the justice for the oppressed,
in the unexpected generosity for the lost:

**All: we are given enough compassion
to use in service each day.**

One: In the promises made to all,
in the mercy offered to each:

**All: we are given enough grace to share each day.
Together let worship and give thanks to God.**

***HYMN # 90**

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

***PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS** (*let us pray together . . .*)

Gracious God, it seems we cannot decide. We say we will live to serve others, but end up meeting only our needs. We claim to live in a way that honors Christ, but we do not take him to work, school, or home. We believe that the gospel can transform lives, (at least, for those who need it – but surely, not us).

Forgive us.

Instead of grumblers,

may we be ambassadors of grace.

Instead of continual complaining,

may we carry compassion to the hurting.

Instead of whiners,

may we be workers with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, to reach out and bring the kingdom of God to everyone we meet.

A moment of silence . . .

***WORDS OF GOD’S ENDURING LOVE**

One: This is the good news: there is no ranking in God's kingdom. God graces everyone with the same gifts: mercy, restoration, new life.

All: We have been forgiven, we have been made new people. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*MUSICAL RESPONSE

We Are Forgiven

The musical score is written on three staves in treble clef, 3/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and repetitive. Chords are indicated above the notes: G, Am, D7, Gsus, G, C, G, Am7, Dsus, D, G, Am, D7, Gsus, G, C, G, Am7, D, G.

We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to
God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en.
We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

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LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament

Exodus 16:2-15

OT pg. 62

Dramatic Reading: The Parable of the vineyard workers"

Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

NT pg. 78

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

(Children may go to nursery following Children's Moment.)

*HYMN # 714

For the Fruit of All Creation

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

Covenant Share

SERMON

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

(The following is sung after "Hear our prayers.")

God of all grace, you have called to us.

We know your truth beat-ing in our souls.

Your word of pro-mise leads us on-to the road.

Thank you for jour-ney-ing with us. us.

The musical score is written in treble clef, 2/4 time, with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has chords D, A, and G. The second staff has chords D, A, Bm, and A. The third staff has chords D, A, G, and A. The fourth staff has chords C, G, and a first ending with chords A and A, followed by a second ending with chord D. The lyrics are: "God of all grace, you have called to us. We know your truth beat-ing in our souls. Your word of pro-mise leads us on-to the road. Thank you for jour-ney-ing with us. us."

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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

Offertory *God of Mercy, God of Grace,*

Davidson

*Musical Response

For the Life You Have Given

For the life that you have giv - en, for the love in

Christ made known, with these fruits of time and la - bor, with these

gifts that are your own: here we of - fer, Lord, our prais - es;

heart and mind and strength we bring; give us grace to

love and serve you, liv - ing what we pray and sing.

(Words by Carl P. Daw Jr., 1987. Music: Leavitt's Christina Lyre, 1830/31. Text ©1990 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net, License # A-725159.)

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

Generous God, we are grateful for all that we have. We are especially thankful for opportunities to share, to grow, and to be part of a love bigger than ourselves. Bless these gifts given today that they might be a comforting balm to those in need; that they might expand your Just Peace. Amen.

***HYMN # 450**

God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

You Shall Go Out With Joy

Wagner

WELCOME

We welcome today the Rev. Dr. Marjorie Purnine as our guest preacher. She is the Associate Conference Ministry for Leadership. She provides staff support as well as search and call assistance to local church search committees. In addition she oversees the administration of the New York School of the New York Conference. She is also the liaison between the New York School of Ministry and MESA (Ministerial Excellence, Support, and Authorization Ministry Team). Plan to stay after our worship service today as Marjorie will be sharing more about her work throughout the NY Conference during a forum in Russell Fellowship Hall.

NOTES AND NOTICES

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Additional Weekly Worship opportunity offered

Beginning **October 2**, World Communion Sunday, a short Sunday morning Prayer Service will be offered in the sanctuary from 8:30 - 9:00 AM. It will be led by Pastor Kathleen and the first Sunday of the month will provide the celebration of Holy Communion. All are welcome.

Sunday School Update

Our Sunday School classes began today with classes for all ages. Two children and youth classes are offered in Jones Hall as well a nursery for our younger children. Our Adult Class is held in the Board Room. If you would like more information, to volunteer to help, or to complete a registration form, please contact Rachel Ditch.

A big **thanks** to our Sunday School teachers:

K-2nd Grade - Carol Costell Corbin

3rd - 6th Grade - Tracy Bertram

7th - 12th - Rachel Ditch

Adult Class - Pastor Kathleen and Barbara Wright

Youth invitation - are you between grades 7 and 12? Are you eager to learn more about God and your faith alongside other fun and interesting people? Can you come on Sunday mornings (even if it's every other week)? If you answered yes to any of these questions, come on Sunday mornings as we will have outstanding conversation (and even food). Come join us and be part of the questioning and conversation!

Adult class invitation (The Well) - a new offering for our adults will take place each Sunday morning in the Board room from 9:15 - 10:15. During this time we will explore the focus texts of the morning worship service and reflect on how we might apply principles contained in those texts to our daily life experiences. All are welcome. Pastor Kathleen and the Rev. Barbara Wright will be guiding the class.

HCC Forum - Plan now to stay after the worship service on **October 30th** as **Dr. Robert (Bob) Spitzer**, Distinguished Professor and Chair of the Political Science Department at SUNY Cortland, will come to speak about the factors at stake in the upcoming November election. Dr. Spitzer has written four books on the United States Presidency, and has been cited or offered commentary on multiple news media sources, including, Spitzer is often quoted and interviewed by American and international news outlets, including The Today Show, Good Morning America, ABC Nightly News, PBS's News Hour with Jim Lehrer, CNN, NPR's Fresh Air with Terry Gross, the Wall Street Journal, USA Today, Time Magazine, Newsweek, and Politico, among others. Come hear Dr. Spitzer give an authoritative and unbiased analysis of our election landscape. This is one event you won't want to miss!

OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

The Cortland Memory Cafe, located at the Susquehanna Railroad Station in Cortland, will celebrate their one-year anniversary on Tuesday, September 20, from 10:30 am - 12:00 pm. If you have a family member, or know someone caring for a loved one with memory loss, this is a place to enjoy social activities, get support, or just relax. For more information, please contact Bill Hopkins at williamhopkins@cortland.edu.

Walk to End Alzheimer's: Please consider either walking on October 1st, at Long Branch Park in Syracuse, making an individual donation, or giving to one of our teams, Little York Walkers (Dora and Becky Jones), or Team Brave Dave (Bonnie Smith and her family) towards this worthy goal of working to end Alzheimer's. You can access the web site at <http://www.alz.org> and then search for **Walk to End Alzheimer's**. Any participation or donation is very much appreciated.

Blood Drive The **United Methodist Church** in Homer is hosting a **blood drive** on September 24 from 8 am - 11 am. Those who wish to donate, should make an appointment by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS or visiting redcrossblood.org on the web. While folks with appointments are given priority, walk-ins are always welcome!

The Drew Theological School Fall 2016 webinar: **Confronting White Privilege in Our Mission for Justice**, led by Katey Zeh and Bill Medford. will be presented at Tully United Community Church, 5872 Meetinghouse Rd. Tully, NY; Wednesdays, Sept. 21, 28 and Oct. 5 @3:00-4:30pm. The Tully viewings will be hosted by Rev. Doug Mackey. This four-part series will discuss what the missional engagement of the church looks like in a highly racialized context on both a national and a local level.

COMMUNICATION

New mailing address: The church has added a mailbox to the grounds and is now receiving mail here. Our PO box will be discontinued. Please use our street address for all future communication: 28 South Main Street, Homer, NY 13077.

Church Staff and Music Ministry

Rev. Dr. Kathleen Waters, Interim Minister
Rachel Ditch, Director of Christian Education
Joseph Ford, Director of Music
James N. Shultes, Organist
Jan Jeffers, Chapel Bells
Gary Harrington, Sexton
Sheila Shea, Church Administrator

Church Office Hours:

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

Pastor Kathleen's time in the office varies each week, but she is available to visit those with special needs or to meet for any other reason. Please feel free to contact her via email: pastor@homercc.org or via her cell phone: (315) 380-0774

HCC website - 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 "Busy Bags" 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.