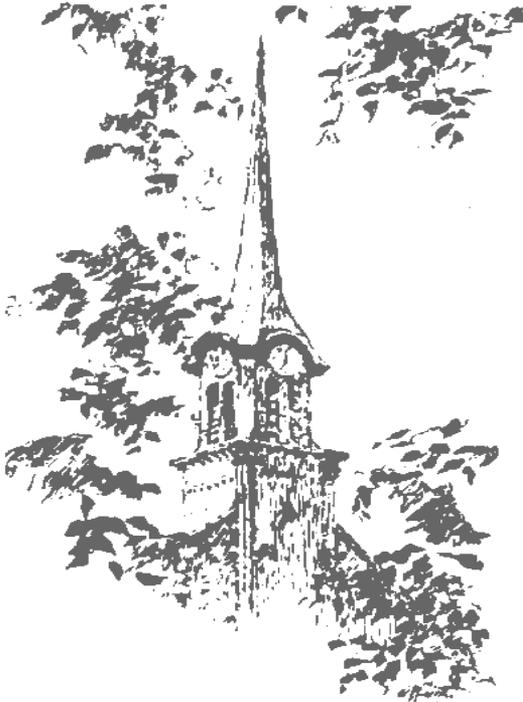


The Homer Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

October 23, 2016

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am Worship



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

Worship Service
Participants

Ushers and Greeters
Bonnie & Elijah Smith,
Joanne Cincotta,
Sherri Masterson

Worship Leader
Bill Masterson

Liturgist
Jim McKenna

Acolytes
Alex Bertram, Jack Bertram

Flowers
Sylvia Hammond &
Dale Halstead
in memory of Jennie Halstead
and Fred Hammond

Nursery Volunteer
Anne Wingard

Fellowship
Ingrid Fox, Tracy Bertram

Attendance
October 16: 78

Our giving 10/16/16:

Operations - \$1,241.36
Missions - \$234.00

Life in the Parish
Week of October 23

SUNDAY – October 23
10:30 am – Worship
11:30 am – Nursery School
Open House
1:00 pm – Crop Walk

MONDAY – October 24
7:30 pm – Al-Anon meets

TUESDAY – October 25
2:00 pm – Bridge Group
6:00 pm - Worship Cmte meets
7:00 pm – Homer Brass rehearsal

WEDNESDAY – October 26
7:00 pm – Choir rehearsal

THURSDAY – October 27
11:30 am – Bible Study Group

FRIDAY – October 28
Office Closed

SATURDAY – October 29
5:00 pm – Roast Pork Dinner

SUNDAY – October 30
8:30 am – Prayer Service
9:15 am – The Well
9:30 am – Sunday School
10:30 am – Worship

Service of Worship
23rd Sunday after Pentecost

October 23, 2016

10:30 AM

Henri J.M. Nouwen, 20th century

"As long as we continue to live as if we are what we do, what we have, and what other people think about us, we will remain filled with judgments, opinions, evaluations, and condemnations. We will remain addicted to putting people and things in their 'right' place."

Richard Rohr, 20th century

"It's not addition that makes one holy but subtraction: stripping the illusions, letting go of pretense, exposing the false self, breaking open the heart and the understanding, not taking my private self too seriously."

Mother Teresa, 20th century

"If you judge people, you have no time to love them."

*those who are able, please stand.

GATHER AND PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Let The Bright Seraphim* Handel
Chimes

THE PEOPLE OF GOD GATHER

The musical score is written on three staves in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is marked with circled numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4. The lyrics 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.'

(© Music: Lynn A. Ungar, 1963, Words: adapt. from Rumi, 1207-1273. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License # A-713031)

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is the day the Lord has made:

**All: a day for praise and prayer;
a day for gratitude and generosity.**

One: This is the time God has given us:

**All: a time for singing and silence;
a time for speaking and listening.**

One: This is the life to which God calls us:

**All: a life of humility and service;
a life of faith and trust.**

One: Come, let us worship God.

*HYMN # 284

Gather Us In

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

Watching God, like the Pharisee, we think we can stick our thumbs into life, pull out a prayer, and congratulate ourselves for being such good Christians. Then, we remember the harsh words we have spoken this week, the

hurt we have inflicted on someone we loved, the lack of compassion we failed to offer to someone who needed our help.

Forgive us, God of Grace, and deal gently with us. May we become more like the tax collector - humble, penitent, acknowledging our faults. Then, may we receive the mercy promised to us through Jesus Christ.

A moment of silence . . .

***WORDS OF GOD’S ENDURING LOVE**

One: Forgiven and healed, we open ourselves to the grace, the peace, the hope offered to us through our loving God. This is the good news we have received!

All: **Graced and blessed, we are able to live our lives for others. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

***MUSICAL RESPONSE**

We Are Forgiven

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. It consists of three staves of music with lyrics underneath. Chord symbols are placed above the notes.

Staff 1: G Am D7 Gsus G C
We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to

Staff 2: G Am7 Dsus D G Am
God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en.

Staff 3: D7 Gsus G C G Am7 D G
We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE

New Testament 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 NT pg. 213
Gospel Luke 18:9-14 NT pg. 81

***HYMN # 453** *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

(Children through grade two may go to nursery following the Children's Moment.)

SERMON

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Following "God of all,"
the congregation responds: "**hear our 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.**

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Karen Dudgeon

OFFERING

Invitation

Musical Presentation

***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 . . .*)

We come to you, Holy God, with gifts to share with your people. Thank you for the riches you place in our lives each day. Lead us to see your gracious hand in all that we are and all that we have. Amen.

***HYMN**

Guide My Feet



1 Guide my feet while I run this race, guide my feet
2 Hold my hand while I run this race, hold my hand
3 I'm your child while I run this race, I'm your child
4 Stand by me while I run this race, stand by me

Yes, my God.



while I run this race, guide my feet while I run this race,
while I run this race, hold my hand while I run this race,
while I run this race, I'm your child while I run this race,
while I run this race, stand by me while I run this race,

Yes, my God.



For I don't want to run this race in vain.

(African-American traditional, arranged by Joyce Finch Johnson, 1992, found in The New Century Hymnal ©1995. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net, License # A-725159.)

***COMMISSIONING OF CROP WALKERS**

One: As we prepare for our CROP Walk, let us recall those for whom we walk.

All: We walk for those who are hungry, for refugees and the homeless. We walk for women, who nurture their families against all odds, for children, who look to adults for care and protection.

One: May you walk safely and may you be a witness of caring to our community. Let us pray together:

All: Gracious God, bless our feet, our hands, our hearts. May we not be afraid to take a stand for what is right. Give us the strength to reach out to those in need, whether near or far. Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

One: We have offered praise and prayer to our God,

All: who sends us out to offer peace and hope to others.

One: We have heard the call of Jesus in the silence and singing,

All: and we will join him is speaking for the voiceless.

One: Filled by the Spirit with faith and trust,

All: we go to serve others, humbly and lovingly.

POSTLUDE

Allegro

Handel

+++++

Portion of this liturgy from Thum Shumann.

Join us **next Sunday** (a Fifth Sunday) and expect the unexpected. On the eve of the presidential election we will explore the impact of taking sides and building walls. We will also celebrate the baptism of Gavin Shea Zollweg.

NOTES AND NOTICES

The staff of **Homer Nursery School** will have an open house for the congregation **after worship today**. Please plan to stop in and greet the staff and see the lovely improvements to the space.

The **Homer Nursery School** is looking to a Teacher's Aide, approximately 9 hrs. per week, Tues, Wed, and Thurs. mornings. The description is on homercc.com. To apply, please send resumes to lclark82@twcny.rr.com. For more info, call (607) 749-6753.

Those participating in the **CROP Walk** meet **today at 1 pm**. We are gathering at the United Presbyterian Church of Cortland, 25 Church St. Cortland. Donations will be received following today's worship service. You can register and join the team at: <http://bit.ly/hcccropwalk2016>. Online donations can be made at <http://bit.ly/hcccropwalkdonate>.

Coat and Winter Gear Drive: The Outreach Team is collecting new and gently used coats and winter gear items to support Cortland County Community Action Program's (CAPCO) drive. Coats, hats, scarves, gloves/mittens, boots, and snow pants accepted. If it has been your tradition to donate to Homer Congregational Church's Mitten Tree at Christmas time, we ask that you shift your donation to this drive. Items can be dropped off in the box in the Russell Fellowship Room **today**. CAPCO will distribute items on October 29, ensuring items get to those in need before winter.

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. Come hear Dr. Spitzer give an authoritative and unbiased analysis of our election landscape. This is one event you won't want to miss!

DINNER

Roast Pork Dinner with all "the fixin's" Saturday, **October 29, 5 -7 pm**. Continuous serving – No reservations needed. Take-out orders available. \$12 Adult • \$5 Children 6-10 • 5 and under Free.

The **Spaghetti Dinner and Time & Talent Auction**, hosted by the Youth group and Sunday School children from grades 3 and up, will be on **November 12 at 5 PM**. Please see the signup sheet in the Russell Fellowship Room for needed donations. CEM will host the annual Time and Talent auction after the Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, Nov. 12. Please consider donating an item to be auctioned -- handmade items, homemade dinners, or donations of time to clean/paint/teach a new skill! Contact Carol Costell Corbin with any questions: carol.costellcorbin@gmail.com (607) 351-5757.

STEWARDSHIP

The United Church of Christ's theme for **Stewardship in 2016** is "Go And Do The Same" (Luke10:37). This theme is "a powerful reminder of our commitment to be genuine followers of the gospel" (UCC website). As the Stewardship Committee coordinates providing monthly Stewardship Moments during our worship service, please prayerfully consider how you can "go and do the same" for our church. Remember the date, **November 13th**. This will be our church's dedicated Stewardship Sunday. Yours in Christ, The Stewardship Committee.

To assist in the stewardship process both Boards have put together a draft of their **2017 budgets**. Copies are available in the Russell Fellowship Room. For questions regarding the Board of Deacons' contact Karen Dudgeon. For questions regarding the Board of Trustees' budget contact Jim McKenna.

OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

The **Elizabeth Brewster House** will be having their annual **Soup's On** event on **October 27th from 12:00 PM-1:00 PM** at 41 S. Main Street, Homer. They will serve soup, chili, cornbread, a variety of sweet breads, and apple cake. Their speaker will be Executive Director Michael Kilmer, on "How to plan ahead for long-term care living." RSVP by October 24 at (607) 749-2442.

The **Homer Teachers Association** (HTA) is presenting **Comedy Night, November 10th at 7 pm**, featuring comedians from Comedy Central. For tickets, call (607) 749-4900 or contact Terry Pedersen.

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!

Monthly newsletters can be found at each entrance to the sanctuary and online at homercc.com/resources.

Our digital calendar can be viewed at homercc.com/calendar.

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.