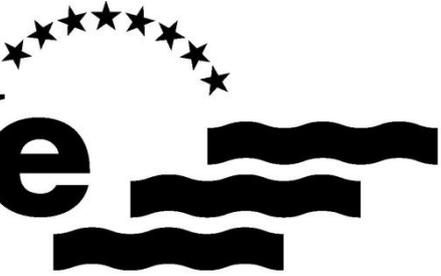


**The Homer Congregational Church
United Church of Christ**

January 15, 2017

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

10:30 am Worship

**“I H★Ve 
a DREAM...”**

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

Worship Service
Participants

Ushers and Greeters

Worship Leader
Belinda Burner

Liturgists

Acolytes

Flowers

Nursery Volunteers
Sherri Masterson,
Kathy McKenna

Fellowship
Bertram Family

Attendance
January 8: 47

Life in the Parish
Week of January 1

SUNDAY – January 15
10:30 am – Worship
7:00 pm – Youth Group

MONDAY – January 16
Office closed
7:30 pm – Al-Anon meets

TUESDAY – January 17
2:00 pm – Bridge Group
7:00 pm – Homer Brass rehearsal

WEDNESDAY – January 18
Newsletter Deadline
7:00 pm –Choir rehearsal

THURSDAY – January 19
11:30 am – Bible Study
4:30 pm – Endowment Committee
meets

FRIDAY – January 20
Office closed

SUNDAY – January 22
9:15 am – The Well
9:30 am – Sunday School
10:30 am – Worship
3:00 pm – Youth Group Game Night
at United Presbyterian Church

Service of Worship

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 15, 2017

10:30 AM

Our goal is to create a beloved community and this will
require a qualitative change in our souls
as well as a quantitative change in our lives.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

*those who are able, please stand.

GATHER AND PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Fairest Lord Jesus

Peeters

CHIMES

THE PEOPLE OF GOD GATHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Our Mother-Father God
has made us to be One Body with many members.

All: United and uniting. This is our calling.

One: God calls us to share our diverse gifts
activated by the one and same Spirit .

All: United and uniting. This is our redemption.

One: God longs for us to be united in love
and to manifest the Spirit in our different ways.

All: United and uniting. This is our worship.

One: Let us gather in this hour to offer praise and worship to our Holy God, who challenges us and calls us to create the Beloved Community.

***HYMN # # 680**

O God of Every Nation

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

O God, all people are your Beloved, across races, nationalities, religions, sexual orientations and all the ways we are distinctive from one another. We are all manifestations of your image. Let us know your presence among us now.

Let us delight in our diversity that offers glimpses of the mosaic of your beauty. Strengthen us with your steadfast love and transform our despairing fatigue into hope-filled action.

Under the shadow of your wings in this hour may we find rest and strength, renewal and hope. We ask this, inspired by the example of your disciple, Martin Luther King, Jr., and in Jesus' name. Amen.

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

One: Thank you, God for delighting in us even now, for forgiving us our slow action, our silence and our weariness, for empowering our work and inviting us once again to create with you the Beloved Community you long for.

All: Amen.

***MUSICAL RESPONSE #683 vs. 3**

O for a World

**We welcome one world family
and struggle with each choice that opens us to unity
and gives our vision voice.**

GOD'S WORD BOTH ANCIENT AND NEW

SCRIPTURE READING

Old Testament

Exodus 3:4-10

OT pg. 50

Gospel

John 1:29-42

NT pg. 92

ANTHEM

Go Down Moses

Trad. Spiritual

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

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

SERMON

*HYMN (*see musical page*)

Come! Live in the Light!

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

LITANY OF RESPONSE

One: A child once dreamed the Voice was calling his name... 'Samuel';

One: Fisherman once heard the Voice when a young man bid them follow;

And still the Voice beckons today... can you hear?

All: Here I am. Send me.

One: Moses protested vehemently as the Voice spoke at the burning bush;

One: Mary stood amazed as the Voice proclaimed impending birth;

And still the Voice beckons today... can you hear?

All: Here I am. Send me.

One: Rosa Parks followed the Voice to the front of the bus;

One: Martin Luther King, Jr. heard the Voice as the bullet shattered;

And still the Voice beckons today... can you hear?

All: Here I am. Send me.

One: The Voice beckons from humble places... in the tears of hungry children, in the cries of the frail and frightened elderly, in the pleas of those whose dreams have been too long deferred;

And still the Voice beckons today... can you hear?

All: Here I am. Send me.

One: A timid believer pauses to listen to the Voice;
A struggling church hears the Voice and turns;
And still the Voice beckons today... can you hear?

All: Here I am. Send me.

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

The Lord's Prayer (*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 Anthem *Free at Last* Spiritual, Arr. Amidon
(*The congregation is invited to join the choir in singing the refrain.*)

**Free at last, free at last,
I thank God I'm free at last.
Free at last, free at last,
I thank God I'm free at last.**

***Musical Response**
(*see musical page*)

For the Life You Have Given

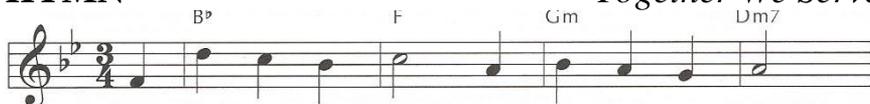
***Prayer of Dedication** (*let us pray together . . .*)

God, we come with an offering of our material and spiritual gifts. May they be used to build up the church and heal our world. Amen.

GOD'S PEOPLE DEPART TO SERVE

***HYMN**

Together We Serve



1 To - geth - er we serve, u - nit - ed by love,
 2 We seek to be - come a bea - con of hope,
 3 We wel - come the scarred, the wealth - y, the poor,
 4 To - geth - er, by grace, we wit - ness and work,



in - vit - ing God's world to the glo - ri - ous feast.
 a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.
 the bus - y, the lone - ly, and all who need care.
 re - mem - ber - ing Je - sus, in whom we grow strong.



We work and we pray through sor - row and joy,
 We learn, year by year, to let love shine through
 We of - fer a home to those who will come,
 To - geth - er we serve in Spir - it and truth,



ex - tend - ing God's love to the last and the least.
 un - til we see Christ in each per - son we meet.
 our hands quick to help, our hearts read - y to dare.
 re - mem - ber - ing love is the strength of our song.

(Text and Music: Daniel Charles Damon, 1996. ©1998 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License # A-725159.)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *All Glory Be To God On High* Albrecht

Excerpt from Letter from the Birmingham Jail

The following is an excerpt from an open letter written on April 16, 1963, by Martin Luther King Jr.. The letter defends the strategy of nonviolent resistance to racism.

I must make two honest confessions to you, my Christian and Jewish brothers. First, I must confess that over the last few years I have been gravely disappointed with the white moderate. I have almost reached the regrettable conclusion that the Negro's great stumbling block is not the White Citizen's Council-er or the Ku Klux Klanner, but the white moderate who is more devoted to "order" than to justice, who prefers a negative peace which is the absence of tension to a positive peace which is the presence of justice, who constantly says "I agree with you in the goal you seek, but I can't agree with your methods of direct action," who paternalistically believes that he can set the timetable for another's man's freedom.

749 Come! Live in the Light!

We Are Called



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that



joy and the love of the Lord! We are called
 mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called
 great day when all will be one! God will reign,



to be light for the king - dom, to live in the
 to be hope for the hope - less so ha - tred and
 and we'll walk with each oth - er as sis - ters and



free - dom of the cit - y of God.
 vio - lence will be no more.
 broth - ers u - nit - ed in love.



We are called to act with jus - tice; we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

The thematic and musical center of this hymn on the vocation of all believers is found in the refrain, which is based on the well-known challenge of Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

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

NOTES AND NOTICES

STEWARDSHIP

Thanks to all who have submitted **2017 pledge cards**. Pledges are still being accepted and available in the Russell Fellowship Room. To date \$ 95,565 has been pledged: \$ 82,257 Operating, \$ 13,308 Mission.

Envelopes for 2017 are also available in the Russell Fellowship Room. If you need to request envelopes, please contact Bev Berry at finsect@homercc.org.

ANNUAL MEETING

The First Religious Society in the Town of Homer and the Homer Congregational Church will hold their **Annual Meetings** on **Sunday, January 22, after Worship**. The purposes of this meeting are:

- Receiving annual reports for 2016
- Electing officers and members of the boards and committees
- Voting on the FRS Annual Budget for 2017
- Conducting any other business which may be necessary

TECH TEAM

Tech Team Developing! If you are interested in learning more about the sound technology in our sanctuary and possibly helping with the sound on Sunday mornings, please get in touch with Joe Ford at fordjosephd@gmail.com. Help us join the 21st century!

FUNDRAISER

CEM will be having their **Annual Submarine Sandwich Sale**, with sandwiches available on Super Bowl Sunday (February 5th) at 11:45am. Order forms are available in the pews during worship. Please leave order forms in the church office or call (607) 749-2604 and leave a message for Rachel Ditch. **Orders are due by Sunday, January 29.**

OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

The **United Presbyterian Church** is hosting a **Game Night** for youth in grades 4-12 on **Sunday, January 22, from 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm**. There will be more than 20 board games available and a light snack will be provided. Please contact Rachel if you plan on attending: email christianed@homercc.org or call/text (607) 221-0882.

Church Staff and Music Ministry

Rev. Dr. Kathleen Waters, Interim Minister
Lisa Clark, Homer Nursery School Director
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) 380-0744

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.

Contact the office to receive our mid-week email, *Weekday Words*.

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.