

**The Homer Congregational Church
United Church of Christ**
March 5, 2017 **First Sunday in Lent**

10:30 am Worship

FIRST SUNDAY IN
LENT



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

Worship Service
Participants

Worship Leaders

Tracy Bertram

Liturgist

Jack Bertram

Nursery Volunteer

Anne Wingard

Coffee Hour

Kathy Alvord

Attendance

February 26: 71

Life in the Parish
Week of March 5

Sunday – March 5

10:30 am – Worship

12:00 pm – Manse tour

(after worship)

Monday – March 6

7:30 pm – Al-Anon meets

Tuesday – March 7

2:00 pm – Bridge group

7:00 pm – Homer Brass

rehearsal

Wednesday – March 8

7:00 am – Early communion

at the manse

9:30 am – CAM meets

6:00 pm – Worship and Music

Committee meets

7:00 pm – Choir rehearsal

Thursday – March 9

11:30 am – Bible Study Group

4:30 pm – Endowment

Committee meets

Friday – March 10

Office Closed

Sunday – March 12

9:15 am – The Well

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

2:30 pm – Ecclesiastical Council

for Becky West at Preble UCC

Service of Worship
First Sunday in Lent
March 5, 2017 10:30 am

For Quiet Meditation

In many cultures, there is an ancient custom of giving a tenth of each year's income to some holy use. For Christians, to observe the forty days of Lent is do the same thing with roughly a tenth of each year's days. After being baptized by John in the river Jordan, Jesus went off alone into the wilderness where he spent forty days asking himself what it meant to be Jesus. During Lent, Christians are supposed to ask one way or another what it means to be themselves.

~ Frederick Buechner

*those who are able, please stand.

THE PEOPLE OF GOD GATHER

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude Christ, The life of All the Living Peeters
Chimes

Call to Worship

One: Today is the first Sunday during Lent. Some of you have come from Cancun or South America or Florida or your driveway in Homer. Welcome dear friends!

Many: We are glad to be here today!

One: As we travel into the season of Lent, where will we find the strength for our journey?

**Many: We will find the food we need right here,
at this table of grace.**

ALL: Thanks be to God!

*Hymn Holy Ground #112

Unison Prayer You Were Like Me, Jesus #178

Marking our Journey through Lent

*Each Sunday during Lent, we will add some sand
to the container, providing visual evidence of our
40-day passage.*

**Jesus, remember me,
when you come into your kingdom. (repeat)**

GOD'S WORD BOTH ANCIENT AND NEW

Children's Moment Psalm 32:1

Scripture Psalm 32

Sermon Lighten Up!

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

Silence is kept

*Hymn Just As I Am (vs. 2 & 3) #339

Offering

Invitation

Offertory Deck Thyself with Joy & Gladness Peeters

*Doxology

Praise God throughout these forty days.
Praise Christ our Lord whom God will raise.
And praise the Spirit, who imparts
God's gracious love into our hearts.

*Prayer of Dedication

Bless, O God, these gifts and the givers.

**Reconcile us, we pray, as we share your
peace with one another and the world.**

Amen.

Peace is shared

Shared Prayers

Communion Prayer

Breaking the Bread and Pouring the Cup

Receiving Grace for the Journey

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Friend of all travelers,

**because we have sought to be honest with
you and with one another,**

**because we have given and received
reconciling words of peace,**

**because we have been given the broken
bread and the cup of your new
covenant**

**we offer our thanksgiving for the grace
we have received.**

In response to your great gifts,

**we pledge to offer extravagant welcome
and compassion to all who we meet.**

Amen.

GOD'S PEOPLE DEPART TO SERVE

*Hymn

Just as I Am (vs. 4)

#339

*Benediction

*Chimes

*Postlude

Trumpet Tune

Peeters

NOTES AND NOTICES

TODAY

(after worship)

Walkthrough of manse

You are invited to see the manse and all its new improvements.

COMING UP...

Tuesdays

during Lent

Book Discussion at Homer UMC at 11 am and 7 pm

Join Rev. Rachel Ann Morse for a community book discussion program at Homer First United Methodist Church. You are invited to read the selected book and join in a 90-minute discussion about the book. Each Tuesday throughout Lent, we will be reading *Between the World and Me*, a book by Ta-Nehisi Coates that is heralded as one of the most important and profound books on radical compassion.

Beginning

Wed., Mar. 8

Early Communion at 7 am

Adults! Each Wednesday morning during Lent, you are invited to join the Burtsons at the manse for a very simple breakfast and communion.

Beginning

Mon., Mar. 13

Mondays at the Manse (for grades 7-12) at 7 am

Each Monday during Lent, students in grades 7-12 are invited to join Vicki and Belinda for a light breakfast and devotions. Feel free to bring a friend, but let them know by text:

607.624.9940.

Sun., March 26 **Rachel Ditch is being ordained!
at 3 PM**

Don't miss this important day in the life of Homer Congregational Church! Members of the Council of Churches, the Susquehanna Association and the New York Conference will join us for the service. Rachel will be ordained and installed as our DCE and as Campus Minister/Executive Director of the Council of Churches. In addition, Pastor Vicki will be installed as our settled pastor. The Rev. Barbara Rhudy will preach. This will be a day of great celebration, special music and joy.

Throughout the season of Lent, we will welcome various musicians who will accent our worship. On March 19, Jeanine Rose and Nan Pasquarello will offer flute music. At other times you may hear recorders, trumpets, clarinets, trombones and saxophones.

We are inviting everyone to lend their voices to some special musical projects. Plan to sing the Hallelujah Chorus on Easter Sunday. Men, Joe will be conducting a special Men's Choir for Mother's Day. Women, your choir will be conducted by Pastor Vicki for Father's Day!

Welcome friends!

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us. If you would like more information about our church, please let Pastor Vicki, the worship leader, or one of the greeters know. We hope you will choose to stay for refreshments and conversation following our service.

You should also know that we believe children of all ages have a place here. One of our greeters can bring you a children's bulletin and a "busy bag". After the Children's Time, small children may want to head to our nursery, where we provide trained caregivers and a fruit snack for the wee ones.

We want you to know...

Rev. Vicki Burtson, Pastor [607.624.9940](tel:607.624.9940) (cell/text)
pastor@homercc.org
Rachel Ditch, Christian Nurture christianed@homercc.org
Joseph Ford, Director of Music
James Shultes, Organist
Jan Jeffers, Chapel Bells
Gary Harrington, Sexton
Sheila Shea, Office Administrator office@homercc.org

Our office is open Monday – Thursday from 9 am – noon

Phone: [607.749.2604](tel:607.749.2604) web site: homercc.com

Our digital calendar is at homercc.com/calendar

Service information

- Individual listening headsets are available to provide hearing assistance to anyone in need. Ask our greeters for help.
- Prayer request sheets are at each entrance. Your prayers will be offered later in today's service.