

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

**April 2, 2017**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

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**10:30 am Worship**

FIFTH SUNDAY IN

LENT

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

**Worship Service**  
**Participants**

***Worship Leader***  
Kathy McKenna

***Ushers & Greeters***  
Bill & Sherri Masterson,  
Anne Wingard, Bev Berry

***Nursery Volunteer***  
Jim McKenna

***Attendance***  
March 26: 72

**Our giving 3/26/17:**

Operations - \$1,705.09  
Missions - \$244.00

**Life in the Parish**  
**Week of April 2**

**Sunday – April 2**  
10:30 am – Worship  
*Holy Communion*  
11:30 Mission lunch  
(after worship)  
2:00 pm – Brewster House

**Monday – April 3**  
7:00 am – Mondays at the  
manse (grades 7-12)  
7:30 pm – Al-Anon meets

**Tuesday – April 4**  
2:00 pm – Bridge Group  
7:00 pm – Homer Brass  
rehearsal

**Wednesday – April 5**  
7:00 am – Early communion  
at the manse  
2:00 pm – Ladies Literary  
7:00 pm – Choir rehearsal

**Thursday – April 6**  
11:30 am – Bible Study Group

**Friday – April 7**  
Office Closed

**Saturday – April 8**  
9:30 am – Stephen Ministry  
meets

**Sunday – April 9**  
9:15 am – The Well  
9:30 am – Sunday School  
10:30 am – Worship  
*Palm Sunday*  
*One Great Hour of Sharing*

Service of Worship  
Fifth Sunday in Lent  
April 2, 2017 10:30 am

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For Quiet Meditation

Community is a fellowship of people who do not hide their joys and sorrows but make them visible to each other in a gesture of hope.

~ Henri Nowen

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*\*those who are able, please stand.*

## THE PEOPLE OF GOD GATHER

### Welcome & Announcements

Prelude      Out Of The Deep I Cry To Thee      Scheidt  
Chimes

### Call to Worship

One: Whether you slept well last night, or you were up half the night,

**Many: now is the time for worship.**

One: If you cup is half empty or your cup is half full,

**Many: now is the time to worship.**

One: If you are a long-time member or new among us; if you have been in ministry for over 25 years, or you are newly ordained,

**Many: now is the time to worship. Welcome one and all!**

\*Hymn                      Welcome!                      Mark Miller  
*Our choir will provide the verses.*

Refrain: **All are welcome, welcome to this place.**

**You're invited to come and know God's grace.**

**All are welcome, the love of God to share,**

**'Cause all of us are welcome here;**

**All are welcome in this place.**

Prayer of Preparation & Honesty

**Generous God, there are times when the weight of our past is like carrying a heavy sack on our backs. We stay awake at night, unable to find rest. We long for someone to set us free. Yet, there in every corner of our lives, in every shadow we fear, into the cold embrace of death itself, you come, Steadfast Love. You break the bonds of sin, giving us new strength and hope for the journey, and calling us to new life through the love and sacrifice of your Son, Jesus the Christ. And so we sing...**

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

Peace be with You!

Scripture

Psalm 130

Sermon

A Cure for Insomnia

## **GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND**

Silence is kept

Offering

Invitation

Offertory Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word

-Pachelbel

\*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

**We bring these gifts, Holy One. We pray that they may be used to provide food, comfort or hope in the lives of our siblings around the globe. Amen.**

\*Hymn

Spirit Song

#352

Liturgy of Communion

Shared Prayers

Invitation

Communion Prayer

Breaking the Bread and Pouring the Cup

The Lord's Prayer

**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 God's Holy Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**God of grace and love, we give thanks that you have fed us at your table, and nurtured us in Spirit. By your sharing we are strengthened for service and encouraged to help your church to**



Burtsons at the manse for a very simple breakfast and communion.

Sun., April 9      **One Great Hour of Sharing**  
(during worship) OGHS works to provide clean water, food, education, health care, small business micro credit, emergency relief and advocacy/resettlement for refugees and displaced persons. It also supports disaster preparedness and response. We hope that you will prayerfully consider a generous contribution. For more information visit [ucc.org/OGHS](http://ucc.org/OGHS)

### **Announcements:**

- **Pastor Vicki is preparing to welcome new members to our congregation.** If you are not currently a member, why not begin to think and pray about this? If you are interested in officially joining our congregation, please let Pastor Vicki know. We will meet for a membership class (no tests!) and then we'll anticipate welcoming new members in June on Pentecost Sunday. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!
- **April newsletters are ready for pickup!** If you've requested a printed copy, they are available in the Russell Fellowship Room, near the sanctuary entrance.
- **There will be a men's choir forming** to present a musical gift to the church for Mother's Day, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Please see Joe Ford ([fordjosephd@gmail.com](mailto:fordjosephd@gmail.com)) if you are interested.

