

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

April 15, 2018

Third Sunday of Easter

10:30 a.m. Worship



Easter continues

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

Homer Congregational United Church of Christ

Sunday, April 15, 2018

Serving us in ministry today:

Tracy Bertram ~ Deacon of the Month

The Dentes Family ~ greeters

Carol Costell Corbin ~ Nursery

Janet Bertram & Terre Dennis ~ Coffee Hour

Today:

Noon Faith Formation

Sign up ***Faith in Action*** projects

Do you have a project for us? Look for the sign-up sheet and add your name/project. We look forward to putting our faith in *action* as teams of young (and old) people spend time on Sunday morning, April 22 doing yard work or other simple projects.

4:00 Disciple Bible Study

6:00 Youth Group
Bring your friends!

7:00 Hand Bells – all are welcome!

Attendance April 1: 70

Service of Worship

3rd Sunday of Easter

For Quiet Meditation

Paul learned everything he needed to know about resurrection in one blinding moment: that God has power beyond all human understanding, that life is stronger than death, that none of us can ever say for sure that everything is over for us. If God can raise the dead—and, just as important, if we believe God can raise the dead—then our despair will be temporary and our hope invincible, not because we know how to keep it alive but because God has never forgotten how to breathe life into piles of dust.

WE GATHER

**those who are able, please stand*

Welcome

Prelude Good Christian Friends, Rejoice Bender
Chimes

Call to Worship

One: Christ is risen!

Many: Christ is risen, indeed!

One: When fear and doubts stroll through our doors:

Many: God stands beside us, whispering of peace.

One: When we toss and turn late at night:

Many: God sits by our beds, singing lullabies of love.

One: When we stumble through the shadows of sin:

Many: God illuminates the paths of goodness and joy.

*Hymn Now the Green Blade Rises (vs. 3 & 4) #230

Prayer of Presence

Holy Presence: your love can change us from fearful people to children of grace. You can weed doubts from our hearts and plant seeds of joy in their place. You can silence the panic of our souls with the peace Jesus offers to each of us. In this time of worship, transform us into Easter people, through the power of Jesus Christ, the risen one. Amen.

GOD'S WORD BOTH ANCIENT AND NEW

Children's Moment

Anthem

Scripture Luke 24:36 – 48

Sermon Got Anything to Eat?

OUR RESPONSE

Silence is kept

*Hymn Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race #485

Prayers of the People

Our Lord's Prayer (*debts/debtors*)

Offering

An Invitation to Give

Offertory This Joyful Eastertide Biery

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

*Prayer of Dedication

What will be done with the gifts we offer in these moments has not been revealed to us, Holy One, but knowing you through Jesus, and trusting in you by the power of the Holy Spirit, we do know they will be used to bring hope, to bring healing, to bring justice to all those people and places who long for these blessings. And so we offer these gifts with gratitude to you, in Jesus' name. Amen.

BLESSING

Announcements

*Hymn Shalom to You Now #436

*Benediction

*Postlude Sons and Daughters of the King Willan

*The call to worship and prayers used this day
were originally created by Thom Shuman.*

Calendar for this Week:

Tuesday at 4:40 Homer Nursery School Board

Tuesday at 6:30 Trustees' meeting

Wed. at 7:30 Men's Choir Rehearsal

Next Week:

Sunday, April 22 We are *leaving* the building...

It's Earth Day! What better way to celebrate than to put our ***Faith in Action*** as our young people spend faith formation time outside? Children, youth and adults will spend the morning doing yard work and other small projects around the community. Do you have a project? Tell Pastor Gary, or sign-up today.

Coming Up:

Sunday, April 29 Peter Wright, guest preacher

The Spring Meeting of the Susquehanna Association will be in Greene. Pastor Vicki is the moderator of the Association, and Pastor Gary, as an authorized minister, is responsible to attend. **Peter Wright** has graciously agreed to preach so that our clergy may be in Greene that Sunday.

We will celebrate the sacrament of baptism in the near future (date to be determined). If you are interested, please see Pastor Vicki.

Do you know of a young person in our congregation that will be graduating this year? If so, please contact Anne Wingard in the church office so we can be certain to honor them on Dads and Grads Sunday.

Reaching Out:

We are collecting diapers for CAPCO to distribute to their mothers during their Baby Shower in May. Diapers may be left in the Pack n Play located in the Russell Fellowship Room. How many times can we fill it?

Small Group Opportunities:

SOFTBALL – do you play? We have a team, and we need players! It is mixed gender and open to many ages. Check with Head Coach Darci Gumaer or Pastor Vicki if you are interested.

HANDBELLS – even if you don't play...Jan Jeffers will teach you! Rehearsals are Sunday evening at 7. Seriously, Jan will teach you to play. Don't be shy!

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 head to our nursery, where we provide trained caregivers and a fruit snack for the wee ones.

Ministry Team with contacts:

Rev. Vicki Burtson, Senior Pastor

pastor@homercc.org

607.624.9940 (cell)

Rev. Gary Smith, Associate Pastor for Faith Formation

associatepastor@homercc.org

607.423.6456 (cell)

Anne Wingard, Office Administrator

office@homercc.org

607.749.2604 (O)

Joseph Ford, Director of Music

James Shultes, Organist

Bev Berry, Financial Secretary

Jan Jeffers, Chapel Bells

Andrea Herzog, Treasurer

Gary Harrington, Sexton

Our office is open Monday – Thursday from 9 am – noon
web site: homercc.com

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.