

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

September 23, 2018

18th Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 a.m. Worship



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

Homer Congregational United Church of Christ

Sunday, September 23, 2018

Serving us in ministry today:

Anne Wingard ~ Deacon of the Day

Shelley Hilts, Maureen Terry-Hilts ~ Usher/ Greeters

Joanne Cincotta ~ Nursery

The Deacons ~ Coffee Hour

Today:

Our youth will enjoy a Corn Maze.

Attendance September 9: 81

Service of Worship

For Quiet Meditation

All grown-ups were once children. . .
but only a few of them remember it.

~ from *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint Exupéry

WE GATHER

**those who are able, please stand*

Welcome

Prelude
Chimes

O God of Bethel

Lovelace

Call to Worship

One: Welcome friends! You look beautiful today.

Many: Today is special. We washed our faces and put on our going-to-Church clothes.

One: It is a special day. Today we celebrate baptism.

Many: Today, dear ones will be showered by God's grace received through the water in the font.

ALL: Hallelujah!

*Hymn

We Enter Your Church, Lord

Sung to "Away in a Manger"

**We enter your church, Lord,
through welcoming doors.**

We enter it, too, where you claim us as yours.

It's here at the font that you offer a sign:

You tell us, "My children, you're baptized!

You're mine!"

**O God, you have called us, inviting us in;
You've made us your household
and freed us from sin.
From youngest to oldest, we find in this place
Your waters of welcome, your family,
your grace.**

Invocation

**Holy Parent, we come before you as your children,
seeking you and your care. We come to worship, to
praise you, but also to hear from you afresh. We
bring ourselves as we are, asking you to draw close
to us. May your power be at work within us and
around us, transforming us into your likeness. Amen.**

GOD'S WORD BOTH ANCIENT AND NEW

Children's Moment

If you are visiting, we welcome parents to come forward with your children & stay with them so that they can participate comfortably.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Presentation of Candidates for Baptism

Questions of Faith

Congregational Assent

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Gift of Baptism

Prayer after Baptism

**God of wonder and grace, we thank you for your love
revealed this day as we make our covenant promises.
We pray that we will have the grace to uphold the
promises made here, providing a safe shelter of your
love in which all children may grow and play. May
these dear ones be filled with joy and may they never
be ashamed to confess faith in you. Give them**

strength for life's journey, courage in time of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life in Jesus our Christ, who makes us one. Amen.

Song after the baptisms Lover of the Children
Steve Jones, soloist

Scripture Mark 9:30-37

Sermon The Problem with Grown-ups

Anthem Where is Love?
Kaitlyn Clune, soloist

OUR RESPONSE

Silence is kept

*Hymn I Was There... #75

Prayers of the People
The Lord's Prayer (*debts/debtors*)

Offering
An Invitation to Give
Offertory Pastorale Purvis

*Doxology hymn tune: *O Waly, Waly*

**Praise God who hears our heart-felt songs,
Praise Christ when grace wins over wrong.
Praise Spirit's fire that makes us wise,
To God-in-Three our thanks arise.**

*Prayer of Dedication
**Generous God, for your gifts to us of water, grace,
blessing and love, we give you thanks. We now offer
you our gifts of time, talent and treasure. Amen.**

BLESSING

Announcements

*Hymn

**We've heard here your welcome, & also your call;
Your Spirit inspires us to share Christ with all.
The life we receive here is life we can share;
We'll carry your message of love everywhere.**

*Benediction

*Postlude

Fanfare for Daily Living

Ore

Congratulations to our newly baptized siblings in faith:

Amelia Rose Cornwell

Brian Henry Cornwell

Evelyn Naomi Cornwell

Henry Nolan Cornwell

Whitney Morgan Duffy

Scarlet Jean Duffy

Delanie Karen McConnell

Jenna Kathleen McConnell

Reid John McConnell

Are you interested in becoming a member of Homer Congregational UCC? We will be receiving **new members** on Sunday, October 21. Please let Pastor Vicki know if you are interested in joining our church family.

THIS WEEK:

Tuesday at 6 Pastoral Relations

Wednesday 5:30 *What Mystics Know*
at Three Little Birds

NO Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, 7 PM Centering Prayer
led by Rev. Leslie Smith

COMING UP:

Sun., Sept. 30 *Mind, Body, Spirit* at 9:30 AM
Carl Lentz: A New Generation of Spiritual Seekers
(podcast originally aired Feb. 19, 2018)

10:30 5th Sunday Worship

2:00 Fall Association Meeting at Ithaca

Wed., Oct. 3 *What the Mystics Know* at 5:30 PM
meeting at Three Little Birds

Thurs., Oct. 4 Homer Nursery School Open House
6:30 – 7:30

Tues., Oct. 9 Senior Fellowship viewing of
Stand by Me

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.

We believe children of all ages have a place here. After the Children's Time, small children may head to our nursery, where we provide trained caregivers. One of our greeters can bring you a children's bulletin and a "busy bag" for the older siblings.

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)
Belinda Burtson, Stephen Ministry Leader	cortlandburtners@gmail.com	607.756.2454 (cell)
Bill Masterson, Stephen Ministry Leader	wjmofcortland@gmail.com	607.345.4874 (cell)
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.