

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

February 24, 2019

7th Sunday after Epiphany

10:30 a.m. Worship



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

Homer Congregational United Church of Christ

Serving us in ministry today:

Evan Faulkenbury ~ Deacon of the Month
Carol Costell Corbin & Anelia Corbin
Jack Carr & Bry Meyka ~ ushers/greeters
Anne Wingard ~ nursery
Gwen Hayne ~ coffee hour

The flowers today are given by Phyllis Adams
in loving memory of Fred Adams
who passed on February 18, 2015

TODAY

Noon Outreach Team meets

4:00 Prayer Service in Binghamton

Building Unity: A Service of Prayer to End Racism

Location: First Congregational UCC

30 Main Street, Binghamton

*Let's support Pastor Gary's work by
attending this service. For carpooling,
gather at church by 2:45 and we will
depart just before 3.*

Service of Worship

For Quiet Meditation

Almost as much as it is the story of how Israel was saved from famine and extinction, it is the story of how Joseph was saved as a human being. It would be interesting to know which of the two achievements cost God the greater effort and which was the one God was prouder of.

~ from *Peculiar Treasures* by Frederick Buechner

WE GATHER

**those who are able, please stand*

Welcome

Prelude
Chimes

Pastorale

Bach

following the prelude, we allow some silence

Call to Worship

One: Welcome friends! There is good news today.

All: God transforms our lives.

One: If you are tired or feeling stress or deeply sad, there is good news today.

All: God transforms our lives.

One: If you are feeling blessed, but still uncertain about your purpose in life, there is good news today.

All: God transforms our lives.

One: If you feel overwhelmed by your current circumstances, there is good news today.

All: God transforms our lives.

*Hymn Joseph Was His Father's Favorite insert
by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette; sung to the tune: Hyfrodol

Joseph was his father's favorite
out of all his family there,
And his brothers did not like it
when he got his coat to wear.
It was different from the others —
brighter, bolder than the rest.
So he bragged to all his brothers
that his father loved him best.

Joseph's nights were filled with dreaming;
in his mind, he'd always win.
Soon his brothers started scheming
so they could get rid of him.
In a pit they took and threw him,
then they sold him. Who could save?
To a land where no one knew him,
he was taken as a slave.

Joseph, dreamer, there in prison
saw a famine on the way.
So his wondrous gift of vision
set him free and saved the day.
When his brothers came in hunger,
begging, "Help us! Give us food,"
Joseph told them, "Weep no longer!
God intended this for good."

Invocation

**Bend your ear this way, Holy One. Hear us as we sing.
Listen as we pray. Inspire the ones who lead.
Transform our lives, for we await your Presence.
Amen.**

GOD'S WORD BOTH ANCIENT AND NEW

Children's Moment

Anthem It Is Well With My Soul

Scripture Genesis 45:3-15

Sermon Ah-HA!

OUR RESPONSE

Silence is kept

*Hymn In My Life Lord, Be Glorified

In our prayers, Lord....

In our work, Lord...

In your church, Lord...

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer (debt/debtors)

Offering

Invitation to Give

Offertory

Musette

Bach

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*Prayer of Dedication

God of Grace, we offer these gifts for multiple use:

to keep the lights on and our building heated;

to provide pastoral leadership;

to plant seeds of faith in our children;

to care for the poor and the poor in spirit;

to reach beyond our doors, in your name.

Bless these gifts and the lives that are changed because of them. Amen.

BLESSING

Announcements

*Hymn Joseph Was His Father's Favorite
 sung to the tune: Hyfrodol

Joseph's family reunited; so began new, joyful days.

And through Joseph, we're reminded

 God can work in wondrous ways.

God, we trust in you to guide us

 when we cannot see your plans.

Always, always you're beside us;

 all of life is in your hands.

*Benediction

*Postlude Prelude and Fugue Bach

THIS WEEK:

Monday

4:45 Disciple I 5:00 Disciple II

Tuesday

5:00 Centering Prayer in the Upper Room

Wednesday

5:00 What Mystics Know at 3 Lil' Birds

7:00 Choir

Saturday

8:30 – 2:30 Deacons' Retreat

COMING UP:

Sunday, March 3

9:30 **Our children** will gather at 9:30 and walk over to the IGA. Using their offering from last fall, they are going to buy food for the Food Pantry, and deliver it to the UMC. **Meanwhile...our adults** resume discussing *The Gifts of Imperfection*.

10:30 Worship ~ Holy Communion

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Tuesday, March 5 at 5:30

Shrove Tuesday Mardi Gras Spud Fest

Join us for a baked potato bar and lots of toppings. We will play some games, get Mardi Gras beads and prepare for the season of Lent.

Wednesday, March 6 at 7:00

Ash Wednesday Service

Together with Jesus, we begin our journey through Lent. Last year's palms become this year's ashes.

Welcome friends!

If you have any questions before the service, please see one of the greeters. After the service, join us for refreshments in the room behind the sanctuary that we call the Russell Fellowship Room.

We celebrate children of all ages. After the Children's Time, pre-school children may head to our nursery, where we provide trained caregivers. A "busy bag" is available for the older siblings.

Individual listening headsets are available to provide hearing assistance to anyone in need. Ask our greeters for help.

MINISTRY TEAM WITH CONTACTS:

Rev. Vicki Burtson, Senior Pastor

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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
Find our web-home: homercc.com