

The Homer Congregational Church United Church of Christ

April 14, 2019

Palm Sunday

10:30 a.m. Worship



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

Homer Congregational United Church of Christ
a Stephen Ministry Congregation

Serving us in ministry today:

Joanne Cincotta ~ Deacon of the Month

Carol Costell Corbin, Anelia Corbin,
Tyler Hilts ~ ushers/greeters
Sherri Masterson ~ nursery
The Deacons ~ coffee hour

The flowers are given by Jan Jeffers
in loving memory of Peter Jeffers.

Today, we welcome our newest members:

Quinn Caldwell & Terry Howell
and their children, Asa & Asher

Shelly Hilts & Maureen Tarry-Hilts
and their son, Tyler

Peter Hoffmann (*Happy Birthday, Pete!*)

David Rutherford

Later today, join our Outreach Team in distributing bread within the community. This is also our way of inviting folks to our Easter service. See Bonnie Smith for details.

Attendance April 7: 100

Service of Worship

For Quiet Meditation

Give us a vision of your entry into our world as the Prince of Peace, changing hearts, changing *our* hearts, one by one, creating an army of peacemakers who say no to violence.

God of great deeds, open our hearts to be your heart, our hands to be your hands, our arms to be your loving arms for all who need your presence.

~ from *A Palm Sunday Prayer* by Carol Penner

WE GATHER

**those who are able, please stand*

Welcome

Prelude
Chimes

Lift Up Your Heads

Burkhardt

Call to Worship

One: We gather on this 6th Sunday in Lent because we need some Holy Time together.

Many: We gather today because we need God and we need one another.

One: This is Palm Sunday and so we will wave palm branches and shout Hosanna!

Many: This is also the day that we will welcome new members to our family of faith.

One: Let the celebrations begin!

*Hymn

Mantos y Palmas

insert

**Filled with excitement, all the happy throng
spread cloaks and branches on the city streets.
There in the distance they began to see,
riding on a donkey comes the Son of God.**

**From every corner a thousand voices sing
praises to him who comes in the name of God.
With one great shout of acclamation loud
triumphant song breaks forth:
Hosanna! Hosanna to the King!
Hosanna! Hosanna to the King!**

**As in that entrance to Jerusalem
We sing hosannas to the Christ, our King
To the living Savior who still calls today
asking us to follow Him with love and faith.**

Prayer of Honesty

**I am here to worship you, O God. Please take away
anything that distracts me from you. Amen.**

Silence is kept

Reception of New Members

When invited, the congregation will respond:

**In the name of God, we welcome you. We covenant
with you to fulfill our church's mission, written on
our walls:**

**to share God's love for all people through the
ministries of fellowship, worship, nurture, service
and mission, and**

**to welcome everyone, no matter who they are or
where they are on life's journey.**

GOD'S WORD BOTH ANCIENT AND NEW

Children's Time

Anthem Lift High the Palms

Scripture Luke 19:29-40

Sermon The Lord Needs It

OUR RESPONSE

Preparing to Pray

**When I pray, I feel my heart go deeper,
my heart go deeper into my God. (repeat)
Right here, right now. Right where I am, I pray.**

Silent Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Offering

Invitation to Give

Offertory Wondrous Love Eggert

*Doxology

**Praise God for blessings on this day.
Praise God for seekers of Christ's Way.
Praise God for grace beyond compare.
Praise God for hope and love and care.**

*Prayer of Dedication

**When we think like Jesus, we are able to see the
blessings we have. In his name, we give our gifts for
those who need God's grace, hope and love in their
lives. Amen.**

BLESSING

Announcements

*Hymn I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me #614
 I'm gonna live...
 I'm gonna pray...
 I'm gonna work...

*Benediction

*Postlude Ride On, Ride On In Majesty Hobby

This Holy Week:

Monday

4:45 Disciple I Bible Study
5:00 Disciple II Bible Study
6:30 Communications Committee

Tuesday

1:30 Mahjong Players
2:00 Bridge
5:00 Centering Prayer

Wednesday

5:30 Mystics Group watching Rob Bell's
 Nooma video called "Dust"
7:00 Choir Practice

Spring Break allows time for children, youth and many adults to join us for the dramatic conclusion to Lent:

Maundy Thursday

5:00 Setting the tables.

5:30 A simple meal including the foods that Jesus would have eaten with his friends.

6:15 We will move to the sanctuary for prayer.

Moms & Dads – bring the kids. We will conclude by 7.

Youth – bring yourselves for the whole event. Those of you in HS will stick around afterward to complete work on your Good Friday experience.

Good Friday

The Way of the Cross

Join the youth at 3 p.m. for this very meaningful service of contemplation and confession. There will be eight stations on our Green that focus on the difficult situations we all encounter in life and work/school. In the event of rain, the service will be in the sanctuary.

EASTER SUNDAY

The service is at 10:30

No Faith Formation, but our nursery WILL be available at 10:30.

Special music; joyous Alleluias; heartfelt prayers

Come and Celebrate God's Transformational Love

LENTEN HOMEWORK

based on writing by Nadia Bolz Weber

Monday: Talk to God about something that troubles you.

Tuesday: No sugar day – where else is there sweetness in your life?

Wednesday: Give a gift to a local non-profit

Thursday: Pray for your Pastors

Friday: Pray for peace

Saturday: Decide which of our homework exercises you will keep for good!

Welcome friends!

If you have any questions before the service, please see one of our 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, children in grade 1 and below 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

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