

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

**September 8, 2019**

**13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

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10:30 a.m. Worship

Rally  
SUNDAY



*Still Being Transformed as We Do God's Mission*

**Homer Congregational United Church of Christ**  
*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

**Serving us in ministry today:**

Gary Harrington ~ Deacon of the Month

Evan & Alex Faulkenbury,  
Russ & Terry Pedersen ~ ushers/greeters  
Lori Schmidt ~ nursery  
The Trustees ~ coffee hour

The flowers today are given by  
Pete and Doris Hoffman  
in celebration of Doris's birthday

**CHOOSE  
LIFE**

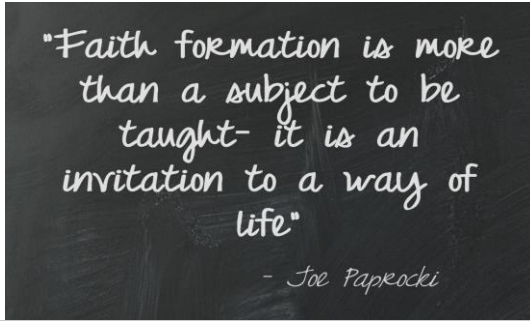
*Attendance September 1: 63*



# Service of Worship

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## For Quiet Meditation



### **WE GATHER**

*\*those who are able, please stand*

Welcome

Prelude  
Chimes

Gather Us In

Behnke

Call to Worship

One: See, I've set before you life and death. Choose life!

**All: We choose the way of covenant with God— connection with the Divine around and among us.**

One: I have set before you life and death. Choose life!

**All: We choose the way of justice and compassion— exhorted by prophets and exemplified in Jesus.**

One: I have set before you life and death. Choose life!

**All: We choose the way of relationship—even though it's sometimes messy and means we must grow, we recognize our interconnection with all.**

One: I have set before you life and death. Choose life!

**All: We choose life! We choose to follow the way of our God for the blessing of all creation!**

Prayer of Preparation

**All: As we walk through our days, O Spirit, help us to consider what legacy we may leave this world. Help us to search out the best paths and reveal our commitment to your Way in every choice we make. You have set before us many options, so be in our minds and hearts as we choose. Amen.**

## **GOD'S WORD BOTH ANCIENT AND NEW**

Children's Time of Blessing

Anthem      How Can I Keep From Singing?      arr. Gilpin

Scripture              Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Sermon              The Journey of Faith Formation  
*Words of Wisdom from Rev. Barb Wright, Peter Wright,  
and Carol Costell Corbin*

## **OUR RESPONSE**

*Silence is kept*

Offering

Invitation to Give

Offertory      Draw Us In The Spirit's Tether      Callahan

\*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts.  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

**God of Life, we thank you for the sustenance you give for our journey. Bless the gifts we bring to your service. May they be more than a symbol of our choice to live fully in you. May they be a tangible way we offer you to the world. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

Announcements

\*Hymn                      Fill the World with Love                      #467

\*Benediction

\*Postlude              They'll Know We Are Christians              Held

### **This Week:**

Tuesday, September 10

2 p.m.      Senior Fellowship – Jan Jeffers will teach us how to play hand bells.

5:00      Centering Prayer

6:30      Deacons meeting

Wednesday

9:30      Committee on Authorized Ministry

7:00      Choir Practice

The Burtsons have been in the Pacific Northwest all week, and are now heading to visit family in California. They return on the 17<sup>th</sup> with Pastor Vicki back in the office on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

## Coming Up:

Sunday, September 15

9:30 a.m. Faith Formation

10:30 Worship – Pastor Gary preaching

Tuesday, September 17

5:00 Centering Prayer

6:30 Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, September 18

7:00 Choir Practice

Thursday, September 19

4:00 Endowment Committee Meeting

Sunday, September 22

9:30 a.m. Faith Formation

10:30 Worship

Rev. Quinn Caldwell preaching

Monday, September 23

4:45 **Disciple I Bible Study** – we begin the  
New Testament

5:00 **Disciple II** – studying Luke/Acts.

Monday, September 30

6:30 Church Council meets

## **Mark Your Calendars for CROP WALK!!!**

**Sunday, October 27**

This year is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this vital grassroots fundraising effort that seeks to end hunger at home and around the world. To celebrate this historic anniversary, we would like to have at least 50 walkers from Homer Congregational Church who will raise at least \$50 per walker. Be part of our team as we bring God's love to the world! To register for our team and to donate, please visit: <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/cortlandny/Team/View/108215/Homer-Congregational-Church>

### **Food Pantry Needs**

Spaghetti, Spaghetti Sauce, Instant Potatoes, Pasta Sides, Condensed Soups, Chunky Soups, Canned Pineapple, Applesauce, Canned Vegetables, Pasta, Cereal, Kidney Beans, Pork & Beans, Jelly, Diced Tomatoes, Baked Beans, Ramen Noodles, Kids Snacks and Canned Meats

The Little York Walkers (Dora Jones, Becky Jones and Keith Palm) will be participating in the Walk to End Alzheimer's in Syracuse on Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause, you can go online to [www.alz.org/walk](http://www.alz.org/walk), or you can give a cash donation or a check made out to Alzheimer's Association and give to one of these walkers. Thank you so much for your support.

Essence from the album *Happiness Is the Road*  
by Marillion

'Tell you what I want...Essence  
'Tell you what I need...Essence  
What I'm looking for...Essence

Sit in silence close your eyes,  
feel the magic everywhere inside you  
Fingers toes head heart and soul,  
connected deep to every living thing  
Not just the taste, the touch, the smell  
Or the face you know so well  
Not the 400 word description  
The book, the film, the faithful depiction  
Get out of here  
Get out while you can  
Choose life, strive for essence

Choose life, choose living...choose life, choose living  
Go digging, go digging...go digging, go digging  
Go digging for essence for Essence...for Essence

Sit in silence and watch the sky  
Feel the magic deep inside you  
Every woman and every man  
Turn off your mind and you'll understand  
Sit in silence and watch the sky yeah  
Feel the energy inside outside  
Ain't one darn thing means a thing in this life  
'til you get close to Essence, 'til you try  
Every man and woman listen to me, hey  
Live in the moment or you'll never be free

Essence...Essence...Essence...choose life, choose essence.