

# The Homer Congregational Church United Church of Christ

January 12, 2020

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

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10:30 a.m. Worship



*Gathered on the Green in 1801 -  
Still Growing Deeper as We Do God's Mission*

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

**Serving us in ministry today:**

Anne Wingard ~ Deacon of the Day  
Delanie & Jenna McConnell ~ Acolytes  
Bill & Sherri Masterson,  
Kurt & Lori Schmidt ~ Greeters/Ushers  
Cindy Stout ~ nursery  
Alex Faulkenbury ~ coffee hour

The flowers today are given by  
Kathy Alvord in loving memory of David Alvord

*Welcome and thank you,*  
**Rev. Barbara Rhudy**

**TODAY**

Noon Mission Lunch & Learn  
Join us for soups & breads as we  
hear about the progress being made in  
Honduras.  
Noon Faith Formation Meets  
6:00 Jr. High Youth Group at Preble

*Attendance January 5: 99*



# Service of Worship

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## For Quiet Meditation

Darkness cannot be dissipated with more darkness. More darkness will only make darkness thicker. Only light can dissipate darkness. Those of us who carry the light are called to shine the light, to share it so that the world will not sink into total darkness.

~ *Thich Nhat Hanh*

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### WE GATHER

*\*those who are able, please stand*

Welcome

Prelude                      Praise to Thee, Jesus Christ                      Bach  
Chimes

Call to Worship

Welcome to worship, family of faith.

**From pre-school to college,  
from working to retirement,  
we come seeking the light.**

Holy writing describes life and faith as a journey.

**When we were children,  
we thought and reasoned like children.  
We come seeking to grow and learn,  
as we become adults in faith.**

It is the season of Epiphany. We gather in starlight.

**Today we dance into God's Holy Presence.**

\*Hymn                      Angels from the Realms of Glory                      #149

Prayer of Presence

**GOD'S WORD BOTH ANCIENT AND NEW**  
Children's Time

Anthem            Break Forth O Beauteous Light

Scripture            Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon            Dancing with the Stars

**OUR RESPONSE**

*Silence is kept*

Preparing for Prayer

**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.**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Offering

Invitation to Give

Offertory

O Morning Star

Armsdorff

\*Doxology *sung to "What Child is This"*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts.  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

**May the gifts we offer bring food to the hungry,  
healing to the broken, community to the lonely, and  
light to those who live in the shadows of our time.  
Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

Announcements

*Hymn	As with Gladness	#173
*Benediction	Jesus, My Delight	Bach
*Postlude		

*Calling everyone to our Annual Meetings:  
**Sunday, January 26**  
after worship*

Homer Congregational Church,  
United Church of Christ  
*and*  
The First Religious Society  
in the Town of Homer, New York

***Be sure to pick up the written reports today!***

## **This Week:**

Monday

9:30 Staff Meeting  
4:45 Disciple I 5:15 Disciple II

Tuesday

2:00 Senior Fellowship – Bingo!  
5:00 Centering Prayer  
6:30 **Combined Meeting** of our  
Deacons & Trustees

Wednesday

7:00 Choir Practice

## **Coming Up:**

Next Sunday, January 19

9:30 a.m. Faith Formation for Children (K – 8<sup>th</sup>)

10:30 Worship  
*When I Became an Adult* continues.  
With Rev. Barb Wright preaching

Noon Outreach Team Meeting

Monday, January 20 MLK Monday

**Calling all sewers and their friends!** Observe this holiday in service – making reusable shopping bags. Bonnie Haaland has the pattern and will coach us in the project. Bring your machines (and extras if you have one). Come and join us at 10 a.m.

Sermon Series during Epiphany:

***When I Became an Adult***

Paul, writing to the people of Corinth, said:

*<sup>11</sup> When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. (I Corinthians 13:11)*

Beginning this Epiphany Sunday, eight people will offer examples and reflections about putting away “childish ways” as they grew in faith. Today, Pastor Vicki is reflecting on her journey in faith.

Upcoming speakers are:

January 19	Rev. Barb Wright
January 26	Gary Harrington
February 2	Rev. Gary Smith
February 9	Bonnie Smith
February 16	Carol Costell Corbin
February 23	Rev. Quinn Caldwell

Join us as these folks witness their journey in faith, describing the pivotal moments that helped them to become an adult in faith. Let your friends and neighbors know.

Poem ~ Mary Oliver

The spirit

likes to dress up like this:

ten fingers,

ten toes,

shoulders, and all the rest

at night

in the black branches,

in the morning

in the blue branches

of the world.

It could float, of course,

but would rather plumb rough matter.

Airy and shapeless thing,

it needs

the metaphor of the body,

lime and appetite,

the oceanic fluids;

it needs the body's world,

instinct

and imagination

and the dark hug of time,

sweetness

and tangibility,

to be understood,

to be more than pure light

that burns

where no one is – so it enters us-

in the morning

shines from brute comfort

like a stitch of lightning;

and at night

lights up the deep and wondrous

drownings of the body

like a star.