

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

February 9, 2020

5th Sunday after Epiphany

10:30 a.m. Worship



All of creation teaches us some form of prayer.

*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:

Belinda Burtson ~ Deacon of the Month
Anelia Corbin and Daniel Ford ~ Acolytes

Members of Disciple II Bible Study ~ Greeters/Ushers
Sherri Masterson ~ Nursery

Jennifer and Don VanSlyke ~ Coffee Hour

The flowers today are given by Ashley Cornwell
in loving memory of Evelyn Sparling

Welcome and thank you,
Bonnie Ellison Smith

TODAY

Noon Faith Formation Committee
6:00 Jr. High Youth at HCC

Attendance February 2: 100



Service of Worship

For Quiet Meditation

Remember that silence is sometimes how God sings; there is meaning and purpose even in what seems like no answer.

~ Molly Baskette

WE GATHER

**those who are able, please stand*

Welcome

Prelude
Chimes

Maestoso

Schroeder

Call to Worship

Welcome to worship, family of faith.

We have come seeking the light.

When we were children, we thought and reasoned like children.

We have come seeking to be adults in faith.

It is the season of Epiphany. God was made manifest by a star, through an infant, in the descent of a dove.

**In our lives, even the mundane can reveal a
Holy Presence at work in our lives.**

*Hymn

When I Pray

1. **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.

2. **When I pray, I feel my soul go deeper...**

3. **When I pray, I feel my love go deeper...**

Prayer of Presence

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

Anthem As the Deer Jack Carr, soloist

Scripture I Thessalonians 5:14-24
 Romans 8:25-28

Sermon Now What?

OUR RESPONSE

Silence is kept

Preparing for Prayer

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

Pasticcio

Langlais

*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 Open My Eyes, Lord
**Open my eyes, Lord, help me to see your face.
Open my eyes, Lord. Help me to see.**

**Open my ears, Lord, help me to hear your voice.
Open my ears, Lord. Help me to hear.**

**Open my heart, Lord, help me to love like you.
Open my heart, Lord. Help me to love.**

**And the first shall be last,
and our eyes are opened;
And we'll hear like never before,
And we'll speak in new ways,
and we'll see God's face
in places we've never known.**

**I live within you. Deep in your heart, O Lord.
I live within you. Rest now in me.**

*Benediction Prelude in G Minor Rohlig

*Postlude

THIS WEEK:

Monday

4:45 Disciple I 5:15 Disciple II

6:30 Council of Churches – Chautauqua Com.

Tuesday

5:00 Centering Prayer

6:30 Deacons meeting

Wednesday

5:15 Mystics Group & Friends

This is the last of the four conversations about Islam. Led by Pastor Gary, this week we will look at Christianity and Islam.

Saturday

9:30 Stephen Ministers meeting

COMING UP:

Next Sunday, February 16

9:30 Faith Formation for Children (K – 8th)
Adults will be on a two-week break.

10:30 Worship ~ *When I Became an Adult*

Paul, writing to the people of Corinth, said:

¹¹ 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)

Carol Costell Corbin preaching.

February 23 ~ Rev. Quinn Caldwell finishes the series.

If you are interested in joining Homer Congregational Church, please see Pastor Vicki today. We will be receiving new members on Sunday, February 23.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

February 25 is Shrove Tuesday. Plan to join us for our **Mardi Gras Spud Fest**. The spuds will be ready when you arrive. Plan to enjoy a baked potato with an array of toppings. The Faith Formation Committee will supply butter and sour cream. If you wish, you may contribute another topping to share. Don't miss this festive celebration just before...

February 26 ~ **Ash Wednesday**

We walk with Jesus through this season of remembering our humanity. The service will be appropriate for the whole family as we remember the sacred words that *we are dust, and to dust we shall return*.

February 29 ~ **Retreat for the Deacons & Trustees**

March 1 ~ **Adult Faith Formation** will begin discussing Brené Brown's *Daring Greatly*. The class will be led by Belinda Burtson and Bonnie Smith. Books are available today.

People of faith report epiphanies,
revelations of God's word to them,
sometimes by way of miraculous interventions
or otherwise inexplicable happenings,
but often and also
through the mundane made holy
due to timing and perception.

The note from a friend arrived with the right words,
just when encouragement seemed utterly absent.
A deer appeared as if out of nowhere,
after a prayer for an answer.

Often it is in hindsight
that God's providence becomes recognizable
and events previously considered mundane
become evidence of God's presence
and work in our lives.

The question for us becomes:

Do we have the eyes to see God's near presence?

Do we have ears to hear the word of the Lord,
spoken in a multitude of ways and languages?

Will we open ourselves to the holy
not only in heaven, but also on earth
and right in front of us?

Can we allow everyday objects
to remind us to stay awake and pay attention?

-Jill Duffield, *Lent in Plain Sight*