

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

**March 8, 2020**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

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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:**

Carl Costell Corbin ~ Deacon of the Month

Daniel Ford and Asa Caldwell ~ Acolytes

David Rutherford ~ Trustee verifier

Adult Faith Formation ~ Greeters/Ushers

Jim/Kathy McKenna ~ Nursery

The Gumaer Family ~ Coffee Hour

**TODAY**

Noon Faith Formation Committee

6:00 Jr. High Youth at Preble

*Attendance March 1: 94*



# Service of Worship

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## For Quiet Meditation

...new life starts in the dark. Whether it is a seed in the ground, a baby in the womb, or Jesus in the tomb, it starts in the dark.

~ Barbara Brown Taylor  
*Learning to Walk in the Dark*

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## **WE GATHER**

*\*those who are able, please stand*

Welcome

Prelude

## **PROLOGUE**

ROMANS 12:1 – 2

\*Hymn      What Does the Lord Require of You?

Children's Time

## **ACT I**

CONFESSION

Choral Reflection

I Lift My Eyes Up

Honesty before God

Prayer

Our hope, our help, our peace, our joy ~ all come from God, the One who loved us, and the world so much, that Jesus came to embody grace in human form.

**Keeper of our souls, be with us;  
by day or by night, hear our questions  
and grant us peace. Amen.**

## **ACT II**

HEARING WHAT THE SPIRIT SAYS

Holy Writing                      John 3:1-21

Sermon                              Nowhere Man

## **ACT III**

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers

**When I pray, I feel my soul grow deeper,  
my soul grow deeper into my God.**

**Right here, right now, right where I am, I pray.**

Our Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Offering

Invitation to Give

Offertory

\*Doxology *sung to the tune "When I Survey the...Cross"*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise God, all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts.**

**Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

**We offer our gifts, O God:**

**gifts from the children in Faith Formation;**

**gifts of kindness, represented by sunflower seeds;**

**gifts of our time and treasure.**

**May our donations make vivid the love and grace  
that comes only from you. Amen.**

**FINALE**

**BLESSING**

Announcements

\*Hymn      Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley

**Jesus walked this lonesome valley;**

**He had to walk it by himself.**

**Oh, nobody else could walk it for him;**

**He had to walk it by himself.**

**As we walk our lonesome valley,**

**we do not walk it by ourselves.**

**For God's promised son will walk it with us.**

**We do not walk it by ourselves.**

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

## **THIS WEEK:**

Monday

4:45 Final meeting of Disciple I

Tuesday

2:00 Senior Fellowship

5:00 Centering Prayer – led by Joanne Cincotta

**NOTE – Deacons meeting moved to March 22 after worship**

Wednesday

9:30 Committee on Authorized Ministry

Thursday

1:30 Homer Nursery School Board

6:30 Grants Committee meeting

Saturday

11:00 Calling hours for Mariba Wright at HCC

12:30 Celebration of the Life of Mariba Wright

## **COMING UP:**

Next Sunday

9:30 Faith Formation for Adults & Children

10:30 Worship

Noon brief meeting of the Deacons

Tuesday, March 17

5:00 Centering Prayer – led by Jan Jeffers

6:30 Trustees meeting

Wednesday, March 18

4:30 Personnel Committee meets

Thursday, March 19

4:00 Endowment Committee meets

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

The **Forty Days of Lent** calendar is still available on the table outside the sanctuary. Join us as we spend the season of Lent offering kindnesses to various people. Since Sundays are not considered a part of Lent, we encourage you to bring donations for the **Homer Food Pantry**. Bring healthy snacks on March 15. Finally, as you enter the sanctuary, put a sunflower seed – one for each act of kindness – into the glass container. This visual symbol of our kindnesses will be brought forward with the offering.

Each Wednesday from now until April, Pastor Gary is leading a **Courageous Conversation about Race** for the wider community. It will be held from 6:30-7:30 at the Phillips Library. All are welcome.

Sunday, March 29 is a **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday** and we plan to put our **Faith in Action**. If you have housework that you would like to have done, there is a sign up in Russell Fellowship Room, or you can call the church office.

Sunday, March 29 at 3 pm **Festive Music for Trumpet and Organ** ~ Ralph Dudgeon, trumpet and Ken Herman, organist. A freewill offering will benefit an area food program.

Monday, March 30 our **Church Council** will meet at 6:30. If you chair a committee, team or board, you should plan to attend. Our moderator, Barb Wright convenes the Council.

## **Nowhere Man**

by John Lennon & Paul McCartney

He's a real nowhere man  
Sitting in his nowhere land  
Making all his nowhere plans for nobody

Doesn't have a point of view  
Knows not where he's going to  
Isn't he a bit like you and me?

Nowhere man please listen  
You don't know what you're missing  
Nowhere man, the world is at your command

He's as blind as he can be  
Just sees what he wants to see  
Nowhere man, can you see me at all

Nowhere man don't worry  
Take your time, don't hurry  
Leave it all 'til somebody else  
Lends you a hand