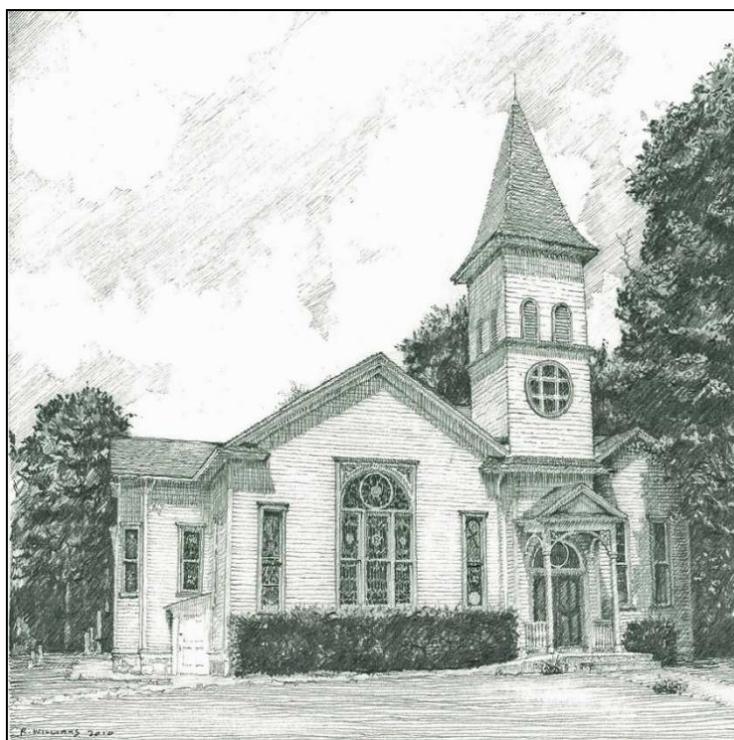


**GERMONDS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**39 Germonds Road ♦ New City, New York 10956**

September 9, 2018

Ten-thirty o'clock

**HOMECOMING**



CORE VALUES OF GERMONDS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We answer Christ's call by:

*Worshiping God*

*Welcoming All*

*Caring for Human Dignity*

*Serving in the World*

*A warm welcome to all, especially to those of you who are visiting with us today. We invite you to join us for today's festivities. Enjoy the fellowship and let us get to know you. If you are thinking about joining a church, we are happy to tell you more about Germonds Presbyterian Church.*

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*(Thank you for silencing your cell phones for worship)*

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Modern Day Beatitudes (adapted from John D. Alexander, S.J.)

- *Blessed are those who “recognize their need for God,” who acknowledge their dependence on God and God's gifts to them.*
- *Blessed are those who though they are blessed with fine families and friends are still very concerned with the pain and suffering of others, either nearby or at a distance. These others are their human brothers and sisters.*
- *Blessed are the generous people who give of their love, their time, their money, and somehow keep on giving despite disillusionment and disappointment in seeing their efforts at times go wasted.*
- *Blessed are the “big people” who can forgive those who are petty, angry, rude, or neurotic, and seek to find and delight in the good qualities of the people around them.*
- *Blessed are those who respect a person as an individual and do not prejudge him or her because of race, color, ethnic, or economic background or sexual identity. They do not, therefore, reduce that individual's many good qualities to one rather unessential characteristic.*
- *Blessed are those men and women who in the September of their lives still wonder how they can serve God and others better. In their cheerful acceptance of pain and inconvenience, they give witness to a strong belief in a loving God.*
- *Blessed are those people who are most sensitive to pain and injustice around them. They help us to keep our vision clear. By this example they help us to be patient, loving, and forgiving. They inspire us to keep putting one foot in front of the other in our attempts to walk the path of Christ in following the ideals of these beatitudes.*
- *Lastly, and on a lighthearted note, blessed are those selfless people who throw parties that get families and friends together.*

PRELUDE

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INTROIT

*Church in the Wildwood*

William Pitts

## LIFE IN THE CHURCH

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We call out to you Lord, a shout of celebration!

**People: Today is a good day, full of beauty and light.**

Leader: Bring peace to the chaos of our everyday journey.

**People: Teach us to do good works and share Your love with our neighbor.**

Leader: Let us worship the Lord together this day.

**People: Lord, make us a blessing to our community, our city, our nation, and world.**

### \*HYMN

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

GG: 475

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**Gracious God, we come before You today knowing that we often fall short of Your call to love one another well. We allow ourselves to be blinded by focusing on our own comfort and concerns. We ignore those around us who suffer injustice, poverty, and rejection and loneliness. We tune out the cries of the poor and those on the edges of our communities. Help us to see Your great generosity, hear Your word of mercy, and feel Your great love for all who are struggling in this world. Strengthen us to reach out in service to our neighbors and to those who are in need. Make us aware of those outside our own church walls and cliques, that we may see them as your precious children and serve them in humility and joy. May we continue to grow in grace as we learn how to love and serve You, and love and serve our neighbor.**

*(A time of silent confession)*

*Amen.*

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: We have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God.

**People: May we understand the grace and forgiveness bestowed upon us by God, that others may find the Kingdom within us and among us.**

### \*RESPONSE

*We Are One in the Spirit*

GG: 300

**All: *We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord.***

***We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,***

***And we pray that all unity may one day be restored:***

***And they'll know we are Christians by our***

***love, by our love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.***

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

HEARING THE WORD

ANTHEM

*I See The Morning Breaking*

Bill Staines

TIME WITH CHILDREN

\*HYMN

*Come to the Table of Grace*

GG: 507

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:1-16

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-11

ONE: This is the Word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*Seek the Welfare of the City*

Rev. Abbie Huff

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*When the Lord Redeems the Very Least*

text: Sylvia Dunstan, tune: Albert Brumley

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

ONE: The Lord be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

ONE: Lift up your hearts.

**ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.**

ONE: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

ONE: It is truly right and our greatest joy...Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution  
Communion of the People  
Prayer after Communion

GOING OUT INTO THE WORLD

\*HYMN

*We Are One in the Spirit*

GG: 300

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

\*All who are able, please stand. \*\*\*Latecomers seated.

Thank you to Kenn Hamilton and Rob Trawick for their gift of music today.

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