GATHERING IN GOD’S NAME

After greeting your neighbors, please take a moment to quietly greet God.

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bruce Eaton, Church Council Chairperson

“We recommend that as of July 1 2018, the position of Pastor at Cornerstone Community Church be reduced to part-time as a significant cost-saving measure. The congregation will then begin the potentially lengthy process of a search of a Presbyterian minister.”

[recommendation approved at the January 28, 2018 meeting of the Congregation]

Cindy Ciabotte, Personnel Chairperson

Ruth Pierpont, Stewardship Chairperson

HYMN

“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service” – vss. 1, 2

PH 343

OPENING INVOCATION

(paraphrased from Isaiah 43:5, 18-19)

I am the Holy One, says God.
I am the Creator, your Creator.
It is God who has brought us through the deep waters;
It is God who has made a path for us through the turbulent seas.

‘❖’ you are invited to stand in body or spirit as you are able.
Forget all which binds us to the past, 
ignore the things which limit our imagination of the future.
It is God who gives us our breath; 
it is God who gives us the Spirit to walk across God’s creation.

I am about to do a new thing says our God. 
It is springing forth, do you not see it?
It is God who opens new paths in the wilderness; 
It is God who sets rivers of life to flow in the desert; 
It is God who leads us into our new future; 
It is God who is present with us this morning.

HYMN “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service” – vss. 3, 4 PH 343

A LITANY OF NEW BEGINNINGS
This is a time of transitions and new beginnings for the congregation at the Cornerstone Community Church.

We continue to anticipate, expect and hope that the ministries we’ve established and built together by the grace of God will continue to bring hope, promise and faith to us and our communities in the future.

We do not yet know what the future holds.
Nevertheless, we commit ourselves to God’s future, confident that God will be with us, certain that God will provide for us. We have faith in God’s ability to lead us toward greater wholeness, faithfulness and service.

We are all aware that this time of beginnings is also a time of the ending of old ways and patterns of life together.

We will endeavor, with God’s continued help, 
to accept what is past as past, 
to cherish what has been good, 
to forgive what has hurt, 
to continue what is useful, 
and to let go of what we no longer need.

With God’s continued help, I will continue to partner with you, share in your decisions, work with you through the common tasks and unknown futures, and assist you through this time of transition. I will work with you as you work to shape a new vision and understanding of your mission and ministry within our communities.

As we mutually end old patterns and ways of working together, I will remain as your pastor, standing with you as we journey into a new future of hope and promise together.

With God’s help, we will challenge and embrace our new future. As a congregation we will continue in mutual prayer, seek new ways of being the Church within our communities, and pray for you as our Interim Pastor, for those we elected for leadership among us, and for our congregation as a whole.

We welcome you to this new relationship as you continue to work in our midst as partner, leader and pastor.

PRAYING IN GOD’S SPIRIT

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS (responsively, as indicated)

Let us share our prayers... 
We pray as a community . . . God, hear our prayers

(A silence is kept for personal prayer and meditation)

Into Your hands, O God of grace and compassion, we offer up the people, needs, joys and concerns we bring before You today in prayer, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE

SHARING OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

We share our gifts, tithes, and offerings as a community of faith.

Our envelope and plate offering supports the ministry & mission of our congregation.
HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” PH 591

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (together, in unison)

Open our ears to the struggles around us;
open our voices to speak out for justice;
open our hearts to welcome the forgotten;
open our treasures so they may be used to care for all Your children.
This is an offering acceptable to You Sovereign God.
In the name of Jesus. Amen

HEARING GOD’S WORD

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (responsively, as indicated)

The Peace of the Risen Christ is with you . . . And also with you
Please greet each other in the name of the Christ

ANTHEM

GOD’S WORD FOR US – Genesis 12:1-9

YHWH said to Abram, “Leave your country, your people, and the home of your parents, and go to a place I will show you. 2 I will make of you a great people. I will bless you and make your name so great that it will be used in blessings. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse those who curse you. And all the people on the face of the earth will be blessed through you.”

4 Abram, who was 75 years old when he left Haran, began the journey as YHWH had instructed, and his nephew Lot went with them. 5 Abram took Sarai his spouse, Lot, all their possessions, and all the dependents they acquired in Haran, and set out for Canaan.

When they arrived in Canaan, 6 Abram and his family traveled through the land until they arrived at the sacred place at Shechem and came to the oak grove of Moreh. The Canaanites occupied the land at that time.

7 YHWH appeared to Abram and said, “I will give this land to your descendants.” Abram built an altar where YHWH appeared to him. 8 Then they moved off toward the hill country east of Bethel and set up camp, with Bethel toward the sea and Ai to the east. Abram built an altar to YHWH and invoked the Name of YHWH.

9 After that they traveled in stages toward the Negev.

LEAVING TO SERVE IN GOD’S NAME

HYMN

“The God of Abraham Praise”— vss. 1, 3 PH 488

WORDS OF DISMISSAL AND BENEDICTION (responsively, as indicated)

CLOSING HYMN

“Go with Us, Lord” PH 535

POSTLUDE

The Corner Shoppe

The Corner Shoppe is open Thursday & Saturday 9 am - 1 pm. We have an enormous inventory of clothing for the entire family. Also available-linen, purses, housewares, books, jewelry, etc. We've had some generous donations of baby and kids clothing- just in time for back to school. Please continue to donate your next-to-new items to keep our shoppe going!

On a side note - we will be needing the following for the Holiday Bazaar--LARGE bags (larger than grocery size), jewelry boxes and tabs that earrings are displayed on.

Save the dates - Fri., Nov 2nd and Sat., Nov 3rd. More info to follow.

There will be a meeting to discuss The Corner Shoppe on Sunday, Sept. 30th immediately following worship. All Shoppe volunteers are urged to attend and bring any questions, issues or new ideas. Thanks, Laurel
### CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Today</td>
<td>9/16</td>
<td>10:00am Worship &amp; Sunday School</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Private event in Fellowship Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>9/18</td>
<td>9:00am-12:00pm The Church Office and Food Pantry will be open</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>9/19</td>
<td>6:30pm Cub Scout Pack 5 meets - basement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur</td>
<td>9/20</td>
<td>9:00am-1:00pm The Corner Shoppe is open</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>9/21</td>
<td>9:00am-12:00pm The Church Office will be open</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
<td>Narcotics Anonymous - Fellowship Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>9/22</td>
<td>9:00am-1:00pm The Corner Shoppe is open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>9/23</td>
<td><strong>HOMECOMING SUNDAY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Worship &amp; Sunday School</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Scripture focus: Gen. 28:10-19a / Jacob’s Dream</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Special Offering: Military Mom in Action</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td>Pancake Breakfast sponsored by the Sun. School (admission: 1 (or so) canned good(s))</td>
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### Ahead

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>9/25</td>
<td>6:30pm Board of Trustees meeting - Lounge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>9/27</td>
<td>6:30pm Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>9/30</td>
<td>11:00am Corner Shoppe meeting following worship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>10/15</td>
<td>12:00pm Cornerstone United Women meet at Forty One Sports Bar &amp; Grill, 41 112th St, Troy</td>
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### OUR PRAYER LIST:

- **Denominational leadership**
  - Upper New York UM Resident Bishop, the Rev. Mark Webb
  - UM Albany District Superintendent, the Rev. Richard Weiheing
  - Albany Presbytery Stated Clerk, Elder Daniel Rogers
  - Albany Presbytery Moderator, Elder Arthur Fullerton

- **Nursing Homes & Care Facilities (They'd love a card or two!!)**
  - **Diamond Rock Terrace**, 11 Gurley Ave, 12182
    - Leila Crier
  - The Terrace at Eddy Memorial, 2256 Burdett Ave, Troy NY 12180
    - Catherine Rinn
  - **Van Rensselaer Manor**, 85 Bloomingrove Dr., Troy 12180
    - Virginia Finkle

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**CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF LANSINGBURGH**

570 3rd Ave., Troy, NY 12182 • Ph 518-235-3851

The Rev. E. Allen Siebold, Pastor • Cell Phone: 518-429-7073

Nancy Butler, Church Secretary • Cindy Ciabotte, Music Director

Bruce Eaton, Council Chairperson • Bruce Eaton, Trustee Chairperson

Jan Eden, Treasurer • Mary Friedel, Financial Secretary

Gary Miller, Custodian

Visit us at [www.cornerstoneccl.org](http://www.cornerstoneccl.org)

or on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CornerstoneChurchintheBurgh](http://www.facebook.com/CornerstoneChurchintheBurgh)

Email us at [office@cornerstoneccl.org](mailto:office@cornerstoneccl.org)

or [pastor@cornerstoneccl.org](mailto:pastor@cornerstoneccl.org)

**Church Office Hours**

Tuesday and Friday - 9:00am-12:00noon

**Food Pantry Hours**

Tuesday - 9:00am-12:00noon

**The Corner Shoppe Hours**

Thursday & Saturday – 9:00am - 1:00pm

[www.facebook.com/TheCornerShoppeintheBurgh](http://www.facebook.com/TheCornerShoppeintheBurgh)

**Our vision is...**

- . . . to experience the good news of God's love in Jesus Christ through worship and Christian education for all ages;
- . . . to offer true spiritual sanctuary wherein all people can find forgiveness, grace, faith, and renewal in Christ;
- . . . to use these gifts to strengthen our mission presence in the worldwide community.

We warmly welcome all people of every age, race, ethnic or religious background, gender, sexual orientation, mental or physical ability, economic or family status.

**On First Sundays we share in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.**

We observe an Open Table at which any person who seeks God’s grace and blessing is welcome.