



Just Peace, Open & Affirming

217 – 6th Street | Ames, Iowa
office@amesucc.org | 515.232.9323
www.AmesUCC.org

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 21, 2014

*Those who are able please stand

Songs: NCH – *New Century Hymnal*; SPP – *Sing, Prayer & Praise*

Bold face indicates where the congregation is invited to join in saying the words

RINGING THE BELL

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

CENTERING MUSIC

“Gather Us In”

M. Haugen/ arr. J. Cotter

Allow the music to help focus your soul for worship as you listen in silence.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

God sends manna in the wilderness, water in the desert;

the table is spread, the cup overflows;

God has grace for the sinner, a place for the wanderer;

the table is spread, the cup overflows.

Whoever you are, however you've come,

this meal is for you, God welcomes you home.

***GATHERING SONG**

“Gather Us In”

continued on next page

***SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

***SUNG RESPONSE**

“Empty Jar”

vv. 1 & 3

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

***SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE**

The peace of our Savior Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Please share Christ's peace with one another.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

"What is Fair?"

Hannah Hannover

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION "Open Our Hearts"

SPP 28

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 16:2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

Matthew 20:1-16

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers

for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

SERMON *"Laborer Negotiations in the Kingdom of Heaven"*

Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore

***SONG** "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

NCH 23

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

beginning with

“In Our Prayers”

SPP 125

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Please pray the following, or whatever version is most meaningful to you:

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.

OFFERING OF GIFTS

“One at the Feast”

UCC Chancel Choir

Craig Courtney

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to our gracious God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right to give you thanks and praise, O God...

The Words of Institution

... and may go forth to live with his open-hearted, open-handed grace. **Amen.**

SUNG RESPONSE

“Come and Fill”

Taize

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

Alleluia!

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

All are invited to share in this meal. The bread is free of gluten and soy; the cup contains grape juice. To receive, tear off a piece of bread, then dip into the juice before eating. If it is difficult for you to come forward, remain seated and the elements will be brought to you.

CLOSING PRAYER

***SONG**

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

see insert

***BLESSING**

***SENDING MUSIC**

IN OUR PRAYERS...

- ✚ For **Becky**, office secretary, as she continues to recover from a broken ankle & as she returns to the church office this coming Monday.
- ✚ For **Pauletti**, recovering from a car accident
- ✚ For **David**, as he recovers from surgery
- ✚ For **Nancy**, as she regains her strength
- ✚ For **Kaiden**, young cousin of Diana McHenry, undergoing treatment for leukemia, and for his sister **Ashlyn**, who broke her arm last week
- ✚ For **Mitchell**, brother-in-law of Greg Wool, in ongoing health concerns

UCC CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, September 21

- 9:00a Breakfast, *Fellowship Hall*
- 9:30a Learning Center, *Fellowship Hall*
- 9:30a Sunday School
- 10:45a Worship (Holy Communion), *sanctuary*
“*Laborer Negotiations in the Kingdom of Heaven*”
Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore
Matthew 20:1-16
- 12:00p LGBTQA Fellowship, *3108 Cottontail Ln.*
Congregational Dinners

Monday, September 22

- 6:00p Pastoral Search Committee, *rm 104*
ERP – Flora

Tuesday, September 23

- 12:00p Men’s Fellowship, *Fellowship Hall*
- 7:30p Students for Progressive Christianity,
Jeff’s Pizza Shop, Lincoln Way & Stanton

Wednesday, September 24

- 8:30a Morning Bible Study, *Fellowship Hall*
- 9:00a Wednesday AM Work Crew
- 12:10p Peace Bell Ringers, *bell tower*
- 1:00p Assemble Newsletter, *conference rm*
- 2:05p Wednesday Afternoon Club
- 6:45p Chancel Choir Rehearsal, *music rm*

Thursday, September 25

- 3:00p INSIGHT Study Group, *rm 104*

Friday, September 26

- Congregational Dinners*

Saturday, September 27

- MOW – Dirks*
- Congregational Dinners*

Sunday, September 28

- 9:00a Breakfast, *Fellowship Hall*
- 9:30a Learning Center, *Fellowship Hall*
- 9:30a Sunday School
- 9:30a Bible Study, *library*
- 10:45a Worship (Presentation of Bibles), *sanctuary*
Hannah Hannover preaching
Matthew 21:23-32
- Congregational Dinners*

UCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Learning Center, September 21 – Linda Hanson and Ames UCC youth will talk about their experiences and revelations from their mission trip to Heifer Ranch, an educational 1,200-acre farm in rural Perryville, Arkansas.

Learning Center, September 28 - As Ames UCC approaches its 150th birthday, it's time to learn about the olden days. Allen Trenkle will lead a discussion about attending one-room schools. Allen attended a one-room school in western Nebraska.

Neighbors in Need (NIN) offering is coming up on Sunday October 5th. It is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Please help support this very good cause. See insert for more details.

WAC (Wednesday Afternoon Club) is in full swing! This past week we learned that God is like...water! Next week we will learn how God is like...a rescue worker! If you have time on Wednesday afternoons and would like to help pick up the children from their elementary schools and bring them to the church building for WAC, or be here to volunteer with the children, please let Hannah know!

Moments of Gratitude – Diana McHenry is collecting church memories and moments for a project! If you have a moment or memory that you are grateful for relating to the church and it can be described in a few minutes, she would love to talk with you! Please contact Diana at dianasmchenry@gmail.com or via phone at 515.337.1140. They don't need to be huge or spectacular, although they can be; just something that moved you or that caused you to be grateful for your church. Thank you!

Providing an Extravagant Welcome

Interested in helping warmly welcome your fellow church-goers? The church office is now taking volunteers for worship assistance (ushers, greeters, liturgists & Deacons) for the **remainder of the year**. Time commitment is minimal and it's a wonderful way to get to know your fellow Ames UCCers! Contact the office for more details.

Welcome! Whether you are passing through, attending with a friend or relative, searching for a church home, or seeking answers to life’s questions, we are glad you are with us today. Please introduce yourself to the minister following the service and stay for refreshments so others in our fellowship may meet you. If you want to know more about our church, please tell the minister or indicate this on our fellowship pads.

In keeping with the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, we joyfully and unconditionally welcome all people of any age, gender, race, culture, ability, sexual orientation, or gender identity into our community of faith and affirm the worth of all people as unique individuals made in God’s image. We are open to the special gifts that each person brings and invite each one to participate in the life of our church.

Nursery Care: We welcome children to stay during our worship service...in fact, we enjoy it! However, if you or your child(ren) would like to use our nursery, there are qualified childcare providers during worship for infants and children through kindergarten. Our nursery is located on the second floor on the east side of the church building. A parent or guardian will be required to sign their child in and out. Please feel free to use this service.

Communion: Jesus included everyone present in the meals he shared, and so do we. The bread we use is free of gluten, soy, and dairy products (it does contain eggs); and the wine is unfermented (aka “juice”). In our theological understanding, it is not the bread or the wine that is changed in Communion, but we who are changed in the sharing of it. If you are here on a Communion Sunday, we hope you will join us in this transformative meal.

Bell Ringing for Peace: Join us every Wednesday at 12:10 p.m. in the bell tower to ring the bell for peace and pray for worldwide peace. Ames UCC is a just peace church.

To contact the Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore: During regular office hours, if the matter is not urgent, please call the church office or email Terry at terry@amesucc.org. If your situation is an emergency, don’t hesitate to call her cell phone at 415.686.4799.



Program Staff:

Interim Minister.....Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore
Minister to Children & Families.....Hannah Hannover
Youth Minister.....Linda Hanson
Music Director.....Lesley Lackore
Keyboardist.....Karen “Sunny” Stewart