



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!

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 22, 2015

*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

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

From the waters of baptism Christ was sent to the wilderness,
the outermost reaches where the Spirit moves.

**So we, too, must follow God's call,
from the centers of comfort to the edges of the unknown.**

***LITANY OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God, we confess to you and to one another that we have sinned in thought, word and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart, mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God, to be the people you call to us to be.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

***SUNG RESPONSE** “Take, O Take Me as I am” (2x)

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

***SHARING CHRIST’S PEACE**

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

And also with you.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The Rev. Dr. Charles Knicker

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

based on Psalm 25:4-5

Make us to know your ways, O God; teach us your paths. Lead us in your truth, and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation.

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:1-15

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight" ',

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the

Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tested by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.’

SERMON

“Faith on the Fringes”
Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore

***SONG**

“We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky”
Ruth Duck

NCH 563

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

Lowell Mathison at home (no visits yet).

Mitchell, brother-in-law of Greg Wool, ongoing health concerns.

Caregivers

The Pastor Search Committee

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Please pray the following, or a version 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

“Lord, Make Me Know Thy Ways”
UCC Chancel Choir

William Byrd

***SUNG RESPONSE**

“Bread, Blessed and Broken” vs. 1

COMMUNION PRAYER *beginning with:*

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

***SUNG RESPONSE** “Bread, Blessed and Broken” vs. 2

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP *All are welcome at this Table. The bread is free of gluten, soy, and dairy; the cup contains grape juice.*

***SONG** “I Want Jesus to Go with Me” NCH 490

***BLESSING**

***SENDING MUSIC**

UCC CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, February 22

12:00p 150th Executive Team (FH)
No Youth Group

Monday, February 23

12:00p AMOS Housing Group, parlor
6:00p Pastoral Search Committee,
rm 104

Emergency Residence: Breitman

Tuesday, February 24

12:00p Men's Fellowship

Wednesday, February 25

NO Morning Bible Study

9:30a Thursday AM Work Crew
12:00p Women's Fellowship
12:10p Peace Bell Ringers
No WAC
5:45p Lent Soup Supper
6:30p Worship
7:00p Chancel Choir rehearsal,
sanctuary

Thursday, February 26

3:00p INSIGHT Study Group,
rm 104

Saturday, February 28

Theologian-in-Residence Weekend
9:30 – 3:00p
Ruth Duck, Cynthia Wilson

MOW – Chase

Sunday, March 1

Theologian-in-Residence Weekend
Ruth Duck, Cynthia Wilson

9:00a Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
9:30a Learning Center:
Theologian-in-Residence
Speaker, Fellowship Hall
9:30a Sunday School
10:45a Worship, sanctuary
Texts: 1 Corinthians 2:6-13
2 Corinthians 3:17-18
Sermon: Ruth Duck preaching
"By the Spirit Stirred"
No Youth Group

UCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Who’s Coming to TIR?” February 28-March 1, 2015

Movie buffs remember a classic movie entitled “Who’s Coming to Dinner?” Like the previous 30 years the Ames UCC has offered the Theologian-in-Residence program, our members and the wider community want to know more about the person chosen as the theologian. Our bulletin board, previous Courier articles, and a new brochure give some of the background of Ruth Duck and Cynthia Wilson. These theologians have impressive credentials that should give you a reason to attend at least one of the three Saturday sessions (yes, we know some want to go to the ISU women’s basketball game).

Ruth is a “living legend.” Recently she was named a “fellow” in the prestigious Hymn Society of the United States and Canada for her hymn text writing. Frequently, ten to twenty of her texts are found in recent hymnals. As our congregation is involved in calling a new minister and contemplate potential changes in our worship service, we would do well to read Chapter 14 -- “Vital Worship for the Twenty-first Century” – in her book, *Worship for the Whole People of God*.

While Cynthia is known as a composer (Best Female Gospel Singer) and performer extraordinaire, her scholarly work is being recognized. Her dissertation research on the history of African-American music is cited in an Emmy-winning documentary, *Reflect, Reclaim, Rejoice*. One of the songs she has written was nominated for a Grammy award.

What a privilege it will be for us to have dinner (make that Saturday lunch) with these delightful and inspiring Theologians-in-Residence. You’all come now!

Learning Center, March 1 – Theologian-in-Residence speaker

Learning Center, March 8 – Ann Reinhart will be here to bring us up to date on Pilgrim Heights.

Our Sunday School children are teaming up with the SOJO Team during Lent to collect items for MICA. The items that have been identified as needs include: calendars, paperback books (adult, young adult, children), greeting cards, and toiletry items (small bottles from hotels work great!). We will collect these items Sunday, February 15 through Easter Sunday, April 5. Our Wednesday Afternoon Club children will deliver the items to MICA as they are collected.

Beginning Wednesday, February 25 we will have our soup suppers and Lenten services here at Ames UCC. The soup supper begins at 5:45 p.m. and the worship service at 6:30 p.m. During Lent Chancel Choir will begin at 7:00 p.m. Our Youth Group will be cleaning up following the soup supper again this year to raise money for their summer mission projects and fun. Come enjoy the soup, fellowship, and support our youth!

We have our **Winter Congregational Dinners** right around the corner! This time the dinners will be happening the weekends of March 6, 7, 8 and March 13, 14, 15. These are a great way to get to know members and friends of our congregational more personally! If you are interested in hosting a dinner, please contact Hannah at hannah@amesucc.org.

Sign-Up Online to Help with Sunday Mornings or with Soup Suppers

Want to help with Sunday mornings? We always need readers, ushers, coffee servers, deacons, and greeters.

Or do you want to bring some soup to a Lenten Soup Supper, or help with set-up?

Either way, just go to the church website (amesucc.org), click on the "Members" tab at the top of the page, and you will see a place on the left side of the page where you can sign up. Easy-peasy, and oh-so-helpful!

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
Music Director.....Lesley Lackore
Keyboardist.....Karen “Sunny” Stewart

Ministers of Worship & Hospitality:

Deacon.....Tom Meyer
Ushers.....Gary Deal, Rich Fellingham, Paul Lasley
Greeter.....Sue Lamont
Liturgist.....Enrique Hernandez
Coffee.....Lynette Spicer, Jennifer Gelwick-Luecke
& Greg Luecke