

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!

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 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 "We Yearn, O Christ, for Wholeness"

arr.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Bring your hearts, wounded and hurting;

We come to God to be healed.

Bring your hearts, cynical and despairing;

We come to God to find hope.

Bring your hearts, hardened and resistant;

We come to God to be changed, to open and soften our hearts of stone,

and make them beat anew.

*OPENING SONG "We Yearn, O Christ, for Wholeness"

NCH 179

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*SUNG PRAYER "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 "When Is God's Birthday?" Hannah Hannover PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Open our hearts and minds by the power of your Spirit, O God, that we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says God, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt--a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says God. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says God: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No

longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says God; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

John 12:20-23

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Humanity to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say— 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

SERMON

"Knowing God by Heart" Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore

*SONG

"Spirit, Open My Heart"

Text: Ruth Duck, copyright 1996 The Pilgrim Press
Tune: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish Traditional Melody; arr. Arthur G. Clyde, 1997©1997 The Pilgrim Press

Commissioning of the Capital Campaign Team

Pastor: Paul said, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth." You who are here today enjoy the fruits from the seeds that were planted long ago.

All: The seeds were planted, the church emerged, the faith was shared and flourished here.

Pastor: Now we will do our part to water what grows here, to make sure that future generations have a place to gather—a place in which to welcome, serve and praise. Today, we commission a group of your fellow members, whose task it is to invite you to share what you have for the sake of this church's future ministry.

[To the Capital Campaign Team]:

Do you each dedicate yourself to working for the future God has in mind for this church?

Capital Campaign Team: We do.

Pastor: Will each of you give of yourself generously, and boldly encourage your fellow members to do the same?

Capital Campaign Team Members: We will.

Pastor: [To the congregation]: Will you honor the leadership of this team, receiving their requests with open hearts, and will you prayerfully consider how you will contribute out of the abundant gifts that God has given you?

Congregation: We will.

Pastor: Then let us pray.

Give us boldness of vision, O God, and generous hearts, so that this campaign may lead to extravagant welcome, generous service, and joyful praise that spills out into our community and into your world, both today and in the future. In Christ's name we ask it, for his church. Amen. **OFFERING** "Beloved, Let Us Love One Another" Pepper Choplin

UCC Chancel Choir

*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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lowell Mathison at Mary Greeley Hospital after a fall at home. Mitchell, brother-in-law of Greg Wool, ongoing health concerns. The family of LeAnne Johnson on the death of her grandmother. 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.

SUNG RESPONSE "Bread, Blessed and Broken" v.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.

CLOSING PRAYER

*SONG

"Justice Like a Base of Stone"

*BLESSING

*SENDING MUSIC

UCC CALENDAR

12:00p 150th Capital Campaign Executive Committee, Fellowship Hall

No Youth Group

Monday, March 23

6:00p Pastoral Search Committee Emergency Residence: Flora

Tuesday, March 24

12:00 p Men's Fellowship, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, March 25

NO Morning Bible Study

9:30a Wed. Morning Work Crew12:00p Women's Fellowship12:10p Peace Bell Ringers1:00p Assemble Newsletter

2:05p WAC

3:30p Theologian-in-Residence,
Office Conference rm.

5:45p Lent Soup Supper, Fellowship Hall

6:30p Taize Service, sanctuary

7:00p Chancel Choir rehearsal,

sanctuary

Saturday, March 28

Meals On Wheels - Dirks

Sunday, March 29 – Palm Sunday Holy Communion

9:30a Palm Sunday Workshop hosts breakfast followed by crafts for all, Fellowship Hall

10:45a Worship, sanctuary

Texts: Philippians 2:5-11 Mark 11:1-19 Cornelia Flora preaching

150th Capital Campaign Committee serves refreshments in the parlor after worship. Then, all will gather in the sanctuary for an opportunity to ask any questions or voice any concerns about our mission to "Welcome, Serve, Praise"

No Youth Group

Please remember during the week not to use the staff parking spots.

UCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers in the sanctuary are from the Kniker family in memory of Eleanor Kniker.

Learning Center, Sunday, March 29: Palm Sunday Intergenerational Workshop

The 150th Anniversary Capital Campaign Invites You All March 29th! On Palm Sunday, after we celebrate the joy, anticipation and hope of the day, the 150th Anniversary Capital Campaign Team invites you to join us after church for light refreshments in the parlor and then gather in the sanctuary for a conversation about how we seek to rejuvenate our worship space and reinvigorate our engagement beyond our walls. We shall review the approved projects, addressing how they will meet our needs; highlight our goal and how it will expand and enrich our ministry; identify who will benefit from the changes; and explain how the campaign will proceed. It is an opportunity to ask any remaining questions and voice any lingering concerns about our mission to "Welcome, Serve, Praise" as participants in the life of the Ames UCC. Child care will be provided.

Help Our Kids Collect Items for MICA!

Our Sunday School children are teaming up with the SOJO Team during Lent to collect items for MICA through Easter Sunday, April 5.

Wednesday Evening Soup Suppers and Taize Services

Each Wednesday through Lent 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 the 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!

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

March 29 Palm/Passion Sunday

10:45 a.m. at UCC

April 2 Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. at 1st Christian Church

April 3 Good Friday

Prayer Service

Noon at 1st United Methodist Church

Interactive Prayer Stations

12:30–3:30 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. (drop in) In sanctuary at UCC

Prayer Vigil

1:00 p.m.-Easter a.m. (sign up for times)
At 1st Christian Church

April 5 Easter Sunday

7:00 a.m. Early Service at UCC (jointly with FCC and FUMC) Breakfast after service in Fellowship Hall. 10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt 10:45 a.m. Faster Service at UCC **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:

Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore
Hannah Hannover
Lesley Lackore
Karen "Sunny" Stewart

Ministers of Worship & Hospitality:

Deacon	Ed Goedeken
UshersPeg	Powell, Kathryn Shields, Linda Shenk
Greeter	Ann D'Arcy
	Kim Spangler
Coffee	Ayisha Al-Hasson, Allison Anderson,
	Sharron Slinger
Welcome Table	Barbara & Bill Yungclas