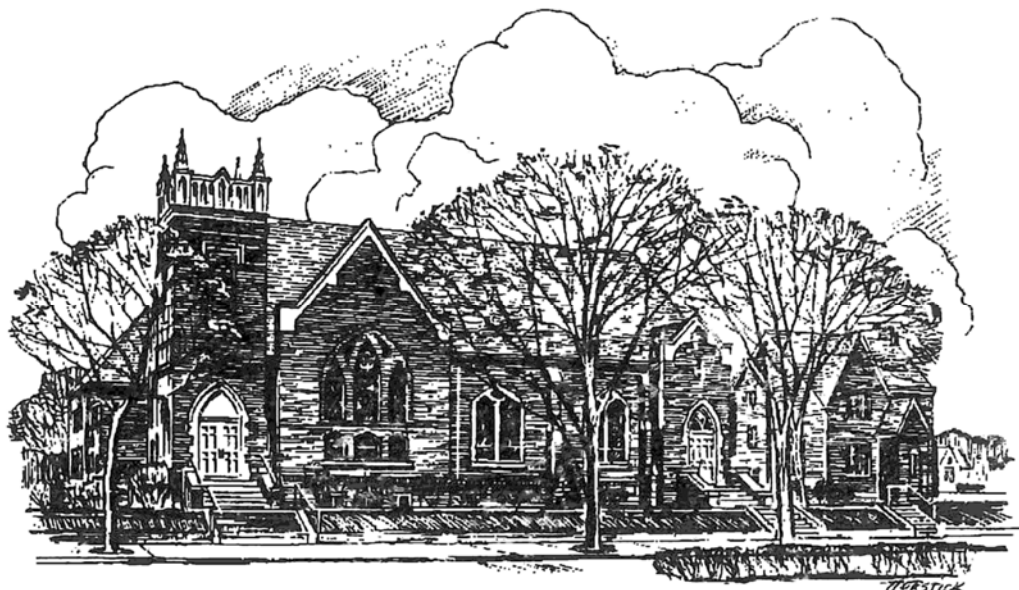


# **Ames United Church of Christ**

First Gathered in 1865  
as First Congregational Church



150th Anniversary Service  
Sunday, November 1, 2015



## **Ames United Church of Christ**

### **150th Anniversary Service**

Welcome to Ames UCC! Worship is the way we praise God and learn what it means to be a Christian. Services of worship are just that: a way that we serve the power that calls us together and sends us out to be the eyes, hands, and feet of justice in the world. We hope that you leave today feeling connected, renewed, and in relationship with the holy.

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.

**150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY BRASS FANFARE** “Fanfare for a Dignified Occasion” A. Bliss  
Collegiate Brass

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN** “God Is Here! As We Your People Meet” (Hymn 70)

## GREETINGS & PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Announcements are also in your bulletin and our weekly e-newsletter. To sign up, e-mail [office@amesucc.org](mailto:office@amesucc.org). Passing the Peace is an ancient Christian tradition in which we show we carry no weapons, only love.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*A formal, and mutual, invitation to move into the worship experience.*

One: There are many who have walked the path toward God before us, showing us the way with their lives.

**Many: We come to give thanks for them.**

One: As they were called, so are we called to live as Jesus did, answering the call of God, saying, “Here I am, send me!”

**Many: We come to ask for guidance and courage.**

One: We are, each of us, like those who have gone before us, a strange mixture of saint and sinner. God accepts us that way and fills us with the Spirit, who empowers us to act.

## 150<sup>TH</sup> CELEBRATION HYMN “Here We Reach Out (A Song for Disciples)” AMES 150

Text: Charles Kniker

Music: Lynn Ziegler

*Singing is one way to connect to God through our bodies. We stand up, breathe deep, and let loose. And as Augustine wrote, “(S)he who sings, prays twice.”*

*This is the world premiere of Lynn’s and Charles’ new hymn written to celebrate our 150th anniversary. Each verse describes one of four aspects of Ames United Church of Christ’s home for discipleship. Disciples welcome all persons, especially those with needs. In worship, disciples praise God and follow Jesus Christ. Worldwide, disciples commit themselves to learn throughout their lives. Last, disciples share the good news, serve others, and seek justice. The text references Psalm 100:2 and Ephesians 5:19.*

## HERE WE REACH OUT

(A Song for Disciples)

A joyful, lively tempo ♩ = 56

A strong interpretation of two beats per measure

### Verses



1. Here we reach out with joy to all, share dreams that turn to deeds. Here
2. Here songs will praise a Ho - ly One who loves and sets us free. Here
3. Here Word un - ites both young and old, with calls to learn and teach. Here
4. Here songs em-brace the cup and bread; move us to spread good news. Here

5



we af - firm with trust and care, to com - fort those with needs.  
songs re - veal a sav - ing Son who heals and helps us see.  
words pro - claim a past so bold, a pre - cious world to reach.  
Christ tells us all must be fed; seek jus - tice for all hues.

9 Refrain



Wel-come one, wel-come all; let's walk to - ge - ther. let's walk to - ge - ther.

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Text: Charles R. Kniker

Tune and Harmonization: Lynn J. Ziegler and Karen Stewart

Brass descant: Kevin Schilling

## CALL TO CONFESSION

*Confession has a long tradition in Christian history. It is a way to name our own brokenness and failing, sometimes generically and sometimes quite specifically, as a means to cleanse our hearts as we move through the service.*

One: God has told us that the heavenly realm is near. God calls to each of us to listen and act. Let us place ourselves before God and open our minds and our hearts to God's loving forgiveness.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: God, who has opened our eyes to life eternal, we come before you as humble people.

**Many: You give us many opportunities to serve, but we turn away.**

**Sometimes we think of ourselves before we think of others.**

**We take paths that lead away from you, not toward you.**

**We need you, God!**

One: Be with us on our journey. Help us to grow closer to you and to reach out to those in need.

**Many: Through God the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, we pray. Amen.**

## SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

*A brief moment to reflect on the prayer and your own heart and life. Silence is as important as noise in our dialogue with the divine.*

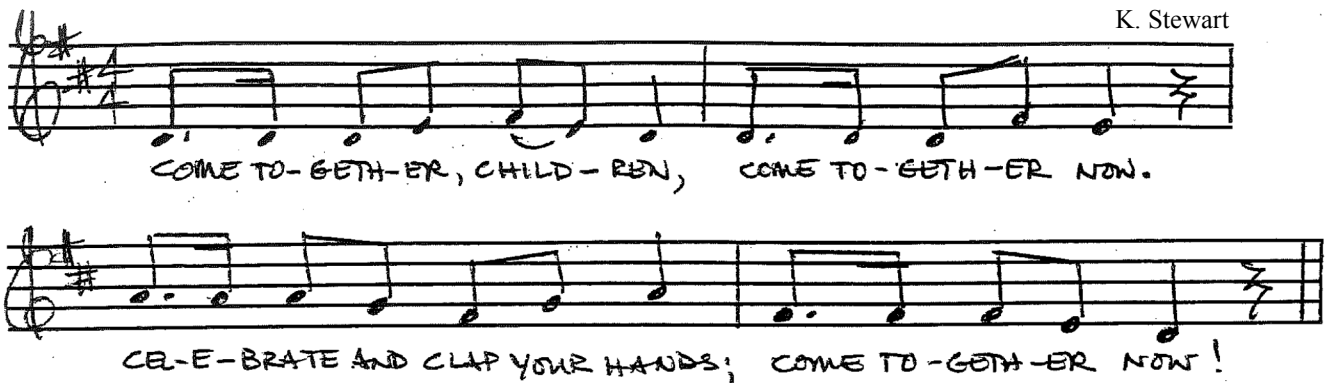
## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*As a people of Easter, there is always good news: when we die to our brokenness, we live again in hope.*

One: God's grace is sufficient for all. That which we regret is redeemed and we are given the courage to live new lives. Thanks be to God.

## CHILDREN'S CELEBRATION WITH NEW CHURCH BANNER

*Children are very important to our church. Each service they come forward for a special lesson just for them. We want all children to know they are welcome everywhere in our sanctuary, even – especially – at the very front. We sing the song below as they come forward and as they return to their seats.*



## HEBREW BIBLE

1 Kings 12:1-17 (Good News Translation)

*We use “Hebrew Bible” instead of “Old Testament” out of respect for our Jewish sisters and brothers (it isn’t old to them) and acknowledgement of the living voice still found in these ancient stories.*

Rehoboam went to Shechem, where all the people of northern Israel had gathered to make him king. When Jeroboam son of Nebat, who had gone to Egypt to escape from King Solomon, heard this news, he returned from Egypt. The people of the northern tribes sent for him, and then they all went together to Rehoboam and said to him, “Your father Solomon treated us harshly and placed heavy burdens on us. If you make these burdens lighter and make life easier for us, we will be your loyal subjects.”

“Come back in three days and I will give you my answer,” he replied. So they left.

King Rehoboam consulted the older men who had served as his father Solomon's advisers.

“What answer do you advise me to give these people?” he asked.

They replied, “If you want to serve this people well, give a favorable answer to their request, and they will always serve you loyally.”

But he ignored the advice of the older men and went instead to the young men who had grown up with him and who were now his advisers. “What do you advise me to do?” he asked. “What shall I say to the people who are asking me to make their burdens lighter?”

They replied, “This is what you should tell them: ‘My little finger is thicker than my father's waist!’ Tell them, ‘My father placed heavy burdens on you; I will make them even heavier. He beat you with whips; I'll flog you with bullwhips!’”

Three days later Jeroboam and all the people returned to King Rehoboam, as he had instructed them. The king ignored the advice of the older men and spoke harshly to the people, as the younger men had advised. He said, “My father placed heavy burdens on you; I will make them even heavier. He beat you with whips; I'll flog you with bullwhips!” It was the will of the LORD to bring about what he had spoken to Jeroboam son of Nebat through the prophet Ahijah from Shiloh. This is why the king did not pay any attention to the people.

When the people saw that the king would not listen to them, they shouted, “Down with David and his family! What have they ever done for us? People of Israel, let's go home! Let Rehoboam look out for himself!”

So the people of Israel rebelled, leaving Rehoboam as king only of the people who lived in the territory of Judah.

## SERMON

# REMEMBRANCE OF OUR SAINTS WITH RINGING OF THE HISTORIC BELL

## CHORAL REFLECTION

“Listen with Your Heart (God is Still Speaking)”

Text: Roger Thornhill

Music: Brad Nix

Chancel Choir and Liz Morse, Flute

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

### PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

*The basics of the Lord’s Prayer appear in Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4. It may be familiar to you in this form, or with “sins” or “trespasses” toward the end. We also support the use of traditional or contemporary language for addressing the holy and naming the holy’s realm.*

**Our Father/Creator who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom/kin-dom 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom/kin-dom, the power, and the glory, for ever, Amen.**

## OFFERING

“Fantasia of Praise”

arr. P. Anderson

*Thank you for giving what you can. All cash gifts will go to supporting our community justice partners like Food at First.*

## CHORAL PRAYER OF DEDICATION

“Sevenfold Amen”

J. Stainer

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

“When the Saints Go Marching In”

arr. S. Key

## **BENEDICTION**

*From the Latin of “well” and “to speak,” this is one final good word to send us off. Thank you for joining us today – if you have any questions or concerns, please contact any one of our pastors or members of staff.*

## **POSTLUDE**

“Postludium”

G. Young

Collegiate Brass

*Thank you for joining us today. If you purchased a ticket for our 150th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon, please join us in the Fellowship Hall.*

## **SPECIAL THANKS TO PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S SERVICE**

Our worship leaders today are Jenna Buechle, prayers; Eileen Gebbie, sermon; Charles Kniker, scripture; Barbara Yungclas, ringer of historic bell.

Our Chancel Choir includes Judy Blair, Laura Deal, Jennifer Gelwick-Luecke, Dinah Kerk sieck, Greg Lamont, Mary Mulford, Laurie Olk, Terry Potter, Kristin Shields, Bill Slinger, Carol Smith, Pat Spangler, David White, Richard White, Greg Wool, and Bill Yungclas.

The 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee includes Ellen Barnhart, Jan Bauer, Jan Breitman, Jim Dickson, Irene Dohrmann, Cornelia Flora, Dinah Kerk sieck, Charles Kniker, Tom Meyer, Laurie Olk, and Peg Powell.

The 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration displays and book were written and designed by Charles Kniker and Janet Binder.

The 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration banner was sewn by Deb Hanson, Dinah Kerk sieck, Laurie Peake, Ginny Shenk, Kristin Shields, and Pat Spangler.

A special thank you to the members of Collegiate Brass for helping to make this day so special: Bion Pierson, trumpet; David Stephenson, trumpet; Stephani Scherbart, horn; Max Morris, trombone; Paul Anderson, tuba.

The brass descant played by Collegiate Brass during “Here We Reach Out” was written by Kevin Schilling.



# THE LIFE AND HISTORY OF AMES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Historical tidbits from the 150 year history of our church.

Did you know...

Who holds the longest ministry in our congregation's history, i.e., the number of years served as a pastor? Rev. Henry K. Hawley, who served from 1915-1935.

That there was a national sorority for young women who belonged to churches in the Congregational denomination? A chapter of Sigma Eta Chi was formed at Iowa State in 1944; its first president was Meg Speer.

That Frisbie House was opened in 1916? Who or what was a frisbie? Congregational State Conference of Iowa named the building in honor of a long-time pastor of Plymouth Congregational Church of Des Moines. The First Congregational Church of Ames supplied many "student pastors" and "associate pastors" to work with Iowa State students. Frisbie House was the first college student center in Ames.

In the late 1920s the congregation planned on building a NEW church building? But due to the Depression, the First Congregational Church instead extensively remodeled the sanctuary and education rooms in 1930 for \$72,000 (approximately \$750,000 today). The new organ cost \$7,000.

The Women's Auxiliary during the 1930s to 1950s had a membership of 300 women? That they had 9 "divisions," each with 20 or more members?

At the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the congregation in 1940 that someone promised a gift of an "illuminated cross"? Was it ever given?

At a Men's Work Committee meeting pancakes were served that somehow had a piece of cloth mixed in the batter? Some discomfort but no casualties reported.

In 1957 the Congregational-Christian denomination merged with the Evangelical and Reformed Church? This merger created today's United Church of Christ.

When our congregation debated between 1957 (the date of the merger of the Congregational Christian and Evangelical & Reformed Church) and 1964 if its name should be changed, the Pilgrim Fellowship/Youth Fellowship asked, "Why should we quibble over a name?"

The concept for joint services with the First Christian Church began in the early 1960s in conversations between Rev. Roy Key of First Christian Church and Rev. Russell Fate of the First Congregational Church?

# Celebrating 150 Years of Ministry & Ministers (1865—2015)

John White • Simeon Gilbert • A.A. Baker  
George G. Perkins • William P. Bennett  
E.C. Moulton • J. D. Wells • F.J. Douglas  
H. Paul Douglass • Charles H. Seccombe  
Horace D. Herr • William J. Minchin  
Henry K. Hawley • Arthur R. McLaughlin  
W. Murray Allan • Russell L. Fate  
Henry Campbell • Joe M. Hendrixson  
Michael Montgomery & Peggy McClanahan  
Stephen McDuff • Jonathan Page  
Sharon Eileen Gebbie

