



**Ames United Church of Christ  
Sunday, November 8, 2015**

*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.*

## **GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Most announcements are also in your bulletin and our weekly e-newsletter. To sign up, e-mail [office@amesucc.org](mailto:office@amesucc.org).*

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*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: O great God, who are you?

**Many: O great God, where are you?**

One: O great God, show yourself to us in this place, at this time.

**Many: We are listening for you.**

One: We are here because we want to know you more fully.

**Many: Let us listen and sing and pray together!**

**HYMN** "Come, All You People" (insert)

*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."*

## **INVOKING THE HOLY**

*God is always with us, so this "invoking" or invitation to God, is really an invitation to our own selves to become aware of that constant presence.*

One: God of the Christmas baby, the wandering Jesus, the rising Christ, and the universal Spirit: hear our prayer.

## PRAYER OF 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.

**Many: Jesus was ever an outsider among many,  
yet we struggle with those who are not like us, the alien among.  
We know we are to have no other god before you,  
yet we understand that to love our neighbor as ourselves  
we must not shun or disparage those whose god sounds different than you.  
Help us to understand your presence as both insider and outsider.  
Help us to live into the paradox of your grace.**

## 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: In giving up control and certainty, we plant our feet firmly on The Way, encountering strangers and at times being strange ourselves. God is in each step. Amen.

## CHILDREN'S CELEBRATION

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.

K. Stewart

COME TO-GETH-ER, CHILD-REN, COME TO-GETH-ER NOW.

CE-LE-BRATE AND CLAP YOUR HANDS; COME TO-GETH-ER NOW!

## HEBREW BIBLE 1 Kings 18:20-39 (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.

So Ahab summoned all the Israelites and the prophets of Baal to meet at Mount Carmel. Elijah went up to the people and said, "How much longer will it take you to make up your minds? If the LORD is God, worship him; but if Baal is God, worship him!" But the people didn't say a word. Then Elijah said, "I am the only prophet of the LORD still left, but there are 450 prophets of Baal. Bring two bulls; let the prophets of Baal take one, kill it, cut it in pieces, and put it on the wood—but don't light the fire. I will do the same with the other bull. Then let the prophets of Baal pray to their god, and I will pray to the LORD, and the one who answers by sending fire—he is God." The people shouted their approval.

Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Since there are so many of you, you take a bull and prepare it first. Pray to your god, but don't set fire to the wood."

They took the bull that was brought to them, prepared it, and prayed to Baal until noon. They shouted, "Answer us, Baal!" and kept dancing around the altar they had built. But no answer came.

At noon Elijah started making fun of them: "Pray louder! He is a god! Maybe he is day-dreaming or relieving himself, or perhaps he's gone off on a trip! Or maybe he's sleeping, and you've got to wake him up!" So the prophets prayed louder and cut themselves with knives and daggers, according to their ritual, until blood flowed. They kept on ranting and raving until the middle of the afternoon; but no answer came, not a sound was heard.

Then Elijah said to the people, "Come closer to me," and they all gathered around him. He set about repairing the altar of the LORD which had been torn down. He took twelve stones, one for each of the twelve tribes named for the sons of Jacob, the man to whom the LORD had given the name Israel. With these stones he rebuilt the altar for the worship of the LORD. He dug a trench around it, large enough to hold about four gallons of water. Then he placed the wood on the altar, cut the bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood. He said, "Fill four jars with water and pour it on the offering and the wood." They did so, and he said, "Do it again"—and they did. "Do it once more," he said—and they did. The water ran down around the altar and filled the trench.

At the hour of the afternoon sacrifice the prophet Elijah approached the altar and prayed, “O LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, prove now that you are the God of Israel and that I am your servant and have done all this at your command. Answer me, LORD, answer me, so that this people will know that you, the LORD, are God and that you are bringing them back to yourself.”

The LORD sent fire down, and it burned up the sacrifice, the wood, and the stones, scorched the earth and dried up the water in the trench. When the people saw this, they threw themselves on the ground and exclaimed, “The LORD is God; the LORD alone is God!”

## **SERMON**

**HYMN OF REFLECTION** “Like A Rock” (insert)

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

*If you would like a name on the prayer list, simply contact the pastors.*

## **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 and ever, Amen.**

## **OFFERING**

“A Jubilant Song”

Mary Lynn Lightfoot

Chancel choir

*Your gifts go to support the work and mission of our church. Coins and bills are sent to mission partners like Food at First and Youth and Shelter Services. Checks, unless otherwise designated, go to the church proper to help keep our ministries (like worship, youth group, and Godly Play) vital. If you would like to sign up for electronic giving, please contact Katie Bonney for details (office@amesucc.org, 515-232-9323).*

## **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

## **HYMN OF SENDING**

“Take My Life That I May Be” (insert)

## **BENEDICTION**

*From the Latin of “well” and “to speak,” this is one final good word to send us off.*

## AMES UCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Upcoming Sunday Scriptures

11/15 Hosea, Hosea 11:1-9

11/22 Isaiah's Vineyard Song, Isaiah 5:1-7; 11:1-5

11/29 Josiah's Reform, 2 Kings 22:1-10; 23:1-3

12/6 Isaiah of the Exile, Isaiah 40:1-11

### Vacation & Holiday Hours

Pr. Eileen will be on vacation from this afternoon through Thursday, November 12 (plus her regular Friday and Saturday off). All of Ames UCC will be closed for Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 26. We will also be closed from Monday, December 28 through Thursday, December 31 for Christmas and New Year's. In case of pastoral emergency, please call 515-428-1779. Leave a message and the on call pastoral caregiver will respond as soon as possible.

### Good Neighbor Benefit Concert - Nov. 8

The Combined Choral Concert to benefit Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance will be held November 8, 2015 at the Collegiate Presbyterian Church. The Concert will begin at doors will open to the public at 1:30 p.m. and the concert will begin at 2:00 p.m. A goodwill donation will be taken during the concert.

### Women's Fellowship - Nov. 11

On Wednesday, November 11 the women of our church will meet from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. for a time of discussion and fellowship. This month we will only be having one meeting because of the Thanksgiving holiday. We will be having a guest speaker this month. Kim Hanna, the Executive Director of Raising Readers in Story County will come and talk about the special programs that Raising Readers sponsors. Please come and give her a good welcome from the women of our church. Remember to bring your lunch.

### Book Club - Nov. 13

On Friday, November 13 the Book Club will meet to discuss *God and Government: Twenty-five Years of Fighting for Equality, Secularism and Freedom of Conscience* by Barry Lynn who will be our Theologian in Residence this year. Everyone is welcome to join us. Each group member has read part of the book and will be sharing about its contents. Come find out what to expect from our next visiting theologian!

### Wear Sports Gear to Worship - Nov. 15

Come to worship on Sunday, November 15th wearing a t-shirt, sweatshirt, or jacket in support of your favorite sports team!

### Pictorial Directory Photoshoot - Nov. 17-21

Life Touch Photographers will soon be taking our pictures for a new pictorial directory. Sign up for your appointed time after worship in the parlor or call Katie Bonney, our Church Office Administrator (515-232-9323). Everyone who has their picture taken will receive a free 8x10 and a church directory, which will be delivered to the church in February. If you order photos, they will arrive by December 11th, in time for Christmas! Submitted photos do cost the church \$10 each, so please have your photo taken if you are able; if you are unable, let us know.

Today is the LAST DAY to sign up in the parlor after worship! All families who have not signed up after today will be called during the following week to make sure they are included if they wish to be. Please sign up today; the more people sign up, the fewer phone calls the committee will have to make!

### Sunday Service(rs)

We like to say that no matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at Ames UCC. One of the ways we demonstrate that welcome is through friendly faces. Please help provide both on Sunday as a deacon, usher or greeter!

Deacon: The deacon attends to a lot of little details like lights, counting attendance, and turning on the recording device for the sermon, starting at 10:30 a.m.

Ushers (4 per service): Hand out bulletins (programs) starting at 10:30 a.m. Help pass the offering plates. Please indicate if you haven't done this before so that you may be paired with an experienced usher.

Greeters (3+ per service): Stand at one of our three doors to welcome all who enter, starting at 10:30 a.m.

Signed up for next week, Nov. 15: *No one yet!*

Please contact Katie Bonney, our Church Office Administrator, to sign up for any Sunday. ([office@amesucc.org](mailto:office@amesucc.org), 515-232-9323)

## Thank you!

Our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary service of worship and praise, as well as our luncheon and historical presentation, were so joyous and a testament to our bright future. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously, and over so many months, to making them so. Any omissions are my fault and do not reflect a lack of gratitude. –Pr. Eileen

The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee: Ellen Barnhart, Jan Bauer, Jan Breitman, Jim Dickson, Irene Dohrmann, Cornelia Flora, Dinah Kerksieck, Charles Kniker, Tom Meyer, Laurie Olk (Chair), and Peg Powell.

150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary hymn, “Here We Reach Out,” was written by Charles Kniker and Lynn Zeigler.

The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary banner was sewn by Deb Hanson, Dinah Kerksieck, Lori Peake, Ginny Shenk, Kristin Shields, and Pat Spangler.

150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary luncheon (organization, décor, service, and clean up): Ellen Barnhart, Steve Barnhart, Jan Breitman, Jeff Breitman, Abby Buchele, Andrea Buchele, Jacob Buchele, Jenna Buchele, Grace Buchele, Boyd Dohrmann, Irene Dohrmann, Barton Heginger, Eli Heginger, Grace Heginger, Nanette Heginger, Emma Johnson, Ryan Johnson, Aria Pilcher, Doug Powell, Peg Powell, Barbara Yungclas, and Bill Yungclas.

150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary worship leaders: Janet Binder, usher; Kevin Binder, usher; Katie Bonney, photography; Jenna Buchele, prayers; Nancy Clark, usher; Aidan Cook, videography; Ed Goedeken, greeter; Tom Hertz, usher; Charles Kniker, scripture; Lesley Lackore, Director of Music; Lynette Spicer, deacon; Sunny Stewart, instrumentalist; Edna Wiese, greeter; Barbara Yungclas, ringer of historic bell.

150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Chancel Choristers: Judy Blair, Laura Deal, Jennifer Gelwick-Luecke, Dinah Kerksieck, 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.

And special musical guests Liz Morse on flute and the Collegiate Brass: Bion Pierson, trumpet; David Stephenson, trumpet; Stephani Scherbart, horn; Max Morris, trombone; Paul Anderson, tuba. The brass descant played during “Here We Reach Out” was written by Kevin Schilling.

The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary displays were produced by:

- Abbie Sawyer: Peg Powell and Laurie Olk
- Church Architecture: Dinah Kerksieck
- Frisbee House: Jan Breitman
- Members of 50+ Years: Janet Binder and Charles Kniker
- Musical Heritage: Janet Binder and Charles Kniker
- Organizations: Janet Binder and Charles Kniker
- Saints of the Church: Jan Bauer
- Social Justice: Janet Binder and Charles Kniker
- Sons and Daughters: Janet Binder and Charles Kniker
- Timelines: Janet Binder and Charles Kniker
- Weddings: Jan Bauer

The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book was written by Charles Kniker and edited by Janet Binder, Ed Goedeken, Lynette Spicer, Faye Whitaker, and Lynn Zeigler. An appendix on the Theologian-In-Residence program will be written by Nancy Brown. Thank you to Phil Spike for publishing them on the church web site.

The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary historical presentation, entitled “A Tree Planted by Streams of Water,” was developed and delivered by Charles Kniker.

The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary July 4 Floats were created by Ellen Barnhart, Steve Barnhart, Doug Powell, and Peg Powell in 2014 and Jan Bauer, and Doug Powell in 2015.

The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Historic Downtown Ghosts of History was created by Jan Bauer, Bradley Duckstein, Ed Goedeken, and Lynette Spicer.

The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Historic Bridal Show was written and coordinated by Jan Bauer.

The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Throw-back BINGO Game Night was hosted by the Youth Group.



## Calendar for the Week

### Sunday, November 8

Last day to sign up for directory photos after church!

### Monday, November 9

*Pr. Eileen on vacation*

5:30 p.m. ERP (*Yungclas*)

### Tuesday, November 10

*Pr. Eileen on vacation*

12:00 p.m. Men's Fellowship

3:00 p.m. Farm to Folk

### Wednesday, November 11

*Pr. Eileen on vacation*

9:30 a.m. AM Work Crew

12:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship

12:10 p.m. Peace Bell Ringers

2:05 p.m. Wed Afternoon Club

6:45 p.m. Choir Practice

### Thursday, November 12

*Pr. Eileen on vacation*

### Friday, November 13

1:00 p.m. Book Club

### Saturday, November 14

11:20 a.m. Meals on Wheels (*Trenkle*)

### Sunday, November 15

9:30 a.m. Learning Center

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Worship Service

6:00 p.m. Youth Group

## Be In Touch with Ames UCC

217 6th Street, Ames, IA 50010

515-232-9323

Mondays—Thursdays

8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

24-hour pastoral emergencies:

515-428-1779

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