



Ames United Church of Christ Sunday, November 15, 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.

Our worship leaders today are Abby Buchele (prayers), Dan Coffey (scripture), and Eileen Gebbie (sermon and Children's Celebration).

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Most announcements are also in your bulletin and our weekly e-newsletter. To sign up, e-mail 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: Let us come to worship as a child

Many: Just waking up but filled with curiosity

One: Let us come to God as a friend

Many: Certain of the affection we will receive

One: Let us come to God as a servant

Many: Eager to be the hands that build community

One: Let us come to God!

HYMN "Come, My 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: In the midst of wars and windstorms, soccer games and hospice care, our awareness of the divine may slip away. And yet God endures, a model of faithfulness and compassion.

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: Holy one, we struggle in our own faithfulness.

We look for you in things.

We treat prayer as a magic trick.

Forgive us, dear one, for our shortcomings

and lead us back into your affection and love.

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: How can the Creator give up creation? Even when we turn away, we cannot outrun the love of God. 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.

CELEBRATE AND CLAP YOUR HANDS; COME TO-GETH-ER NOW!

HEBREW BIBLE Hosea 11:1-9 (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.

The LORD says,

"When Israel was a child, I loved him

and called him out of Egypt as my son.

But the more I called to him,

the more he turned away from me.

My people sacrificed to Baal;

they burned incense to idols.

Yet I was the one who taught Israel to walk.

I took my people up in my arms,

but they did not acknowledge that I took care of them.

I drew them to me with affection and love.

I picked them up and held them to my cheek;

I bent down to them and fed them.

"They refuse to return to me, and so they must return to Egypt, and Assyria will rule them. War will sweep through their cities and break down the city gates. It will destroy my people because they do what they themselves think best. They insist on turning away from me. They will cry out because of the yoke that is on them, but no one will lift it from them.

"How can I give you up, Israel?

How can I abandon you?

Could I ever destroy you as I did Admah,

or treat you as I did Zeboiim?

My heart will not let me do it!

My love for you is too strong.

I will not punish you in my anger;

I will not destroy Israel again.

For I am God and not a mere human being.

I, the Holy One, am with you.

I will not come to you in anger.

SERMON

HYMN OF REFLECTION “If You But Trust in God to Guide You” (Hymn 410)

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

“Blessed Shall They Be”

Natalie Sleeth

Women of the 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](tel:515-232-9323)).

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN OF SENDING “All My Hope on God Is Founded” (Hymn 408)

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

11/22 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

12/13 Rebuilding the Temple, Ezra 1:1-4, 3:1-4,10-13

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

During the 8:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall, we join Pr. Eileen to reflect on the coming week’s scripture. Join us!

Holiday Hours

All of Ames UCC will be closed for Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 26. Katie will be out of the office on Monday, November 30. 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.

Pictorial Directory Photoshoot - Nov. 17-21

Remember to come to the church this week for your photography appointment with Lifetouch Photography! If you need to be reminded of your appointment time, contact Katie Bonney at 515-232-9323 or office@amesucc.org.

Hearty Eucharist - Nov. 22

On Sunday, November 22, in preparation for Thanksgiving, Ames UCC will partake in a Hearty Eucharist. This annual tradition will include a variety of fruits, vegetables, and breads, making the Eucharist hearty. Please mark your calendars and plan on coming to celebrate as we begin a season of gratitude and togetherness!

If you are able to provide food or assistance with preparations or decorations, please contact Bradley Duckstein at 515-971-2886 or bduckstein@gmail.com – many hands make light work! Sign up is also available in the parlor and on SignUpGenius.

Advent Party and Hanging of the Greens - Nov. 29

November 29 is the first Sunday in Advent. Join us at 4:00 p.m. for our annual Advent Party! Children of all ages are invited to join in the fun of making crafts, decorating cookies, eating pizza, and being in fellowship together. At the same time we will be decorating our church for the Christmas season. Many hands will help make light work as we put up the Christmas tree and other beautiful decorations. Pizza (and more!) will be catered from Valentino's and EVERYONE is invited to stay and enjoy the meal together. The meal will be free for children and adults!

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 and tasty treats. 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.

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

Thank you!

Our 150th 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 150th 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.

150th Anniversary hymn, "Here We Reach Out," was written by Charles Kniker and Lynn Zeigler.

The 150th Anniversary banner was sewn by Deb Hanson, Dinah Kerksieck, Lori Peake, Ginny Shenk, Kristin Shields, Pat Spangler, and Barbara Yungclas.

150th 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.

150th 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.

150th 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 150th Anniversary displays were produced by:

Abbie Sawyer: Peg Powell and Laurie Olk

Church Architecture: Dinah Kerksiek

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

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

The 150th Anniversary Historic Bridal Show was written and coordinated by Jan Bauer.

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



Calendar for the Week

Monday, November 16

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
1:00 p.m. Library Work Group
5:30 p.m. ERP (*Beason/Goedeken*)

Tuesday, November 17

2:00 - 9:00 p.m. Directory Photography
3:00 p.m. Farm to Folk
7:15 p.m. Executive Board

Wednesday, November 18

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
2:00-9:00 p.m. Directory Photography
8:30 a.m. Morning Bible Study
9:30 a.m. AM Work Crew
12:10 p.m. Peace Bell Ringers
2:05 p.m. Wed Afternoon Club
6:45 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, November 19

2:00 - 9:00 p.m. Directory Photography

Friday, November 20

2:00 - 9:00 p.m. Directory Photography

Saturday, November 21

10:00a - 5:00p Directory Photography
11:20 a.m. Meals on Wheels (*Andersen-Potter*)

Sunday, November 22

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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