

Ames United Church of Christ Sunday, October 25, 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 Ailis Cook and Celia Schrag (prayers), Eileen Gebbie (sermon), Hannah Hannover (Children's Celebration), and Doug Powell (scripture).

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: Praise waits for you, O God, in all your world!

Many: You hear our prayers, forgive our sins and call us to dwell with you!

One: God of our hope, you are the life of the entire world.

Many: Your faithfulness calls forth songs of joy from the ends of the earth.

One: You formed the mountains and still the roaring sea. You calm the uproar of the nations. You care for the land, bless it with water, and fill it with grain to feed the people.

Many: Let all creation shout and sing for joy.

HYMN "To You, O God, All Creatures Sing" (Hymn 17 verses 1-4)

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."

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: Giver of the Sabbath, come into our midst and bless our Sabbath observance with your loving presence.

Many: Come among us, God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Loving God, we know that in every life trials of our bodies, minds, resources, and faith will come to us. We give you thanks that your still speaking voice sustains us through each one. Yet we confess that we fail to hear your voice when it comes from an unexpected place. We confess that we fail to see restoration after a time of trial, when it takes an unexpected form. Forgive us, God. Restore us with humility and awaken us anew to your presence and your promise. 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.

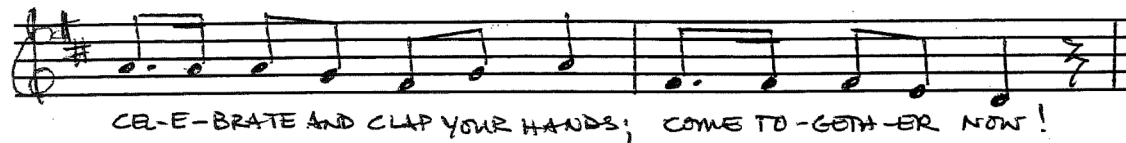
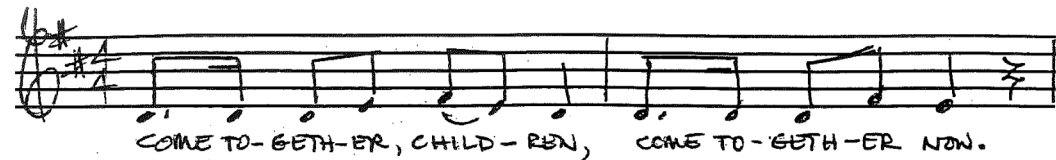
WORDS OF ASSURANCE

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

One: The God of creation is a God of mercy. God is quick to forgive and God's promise of restoration is for all people. Friends have faith the Good News of the Gospel. 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.



HEBREW BIBLE 2 Samuel 5:1-5; 6:1-5 (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.

Then all the tribes of Israel went to David at Hebron and said to him, "We are your own flesh and blood. In the past, even when Saul was still our king, you led the people of Israel in battle, and the LORD promised you that you would lead his people and be their ruler." So all the leaders of Israel came to King David at Hebron. He made a sacred alliance with them, they anointed him, and he became king of Israel. David was thirty years old when he became king, and he ruled for forty years. He ruled in Hebron over Judah for seven and a half years, and in Jerusalem over all Israel and Judah for thirty-three years.

Once more David called together the best soldiers in Israel, a total of thirty thousand men, and led them to Baalah in Judah, in order to bring from there God's Covenant Box, bearing the name of the LORD Almighty, whose throne is above the winged creatures. They took it from Abinadab's home on the hill and placed it on a new cart. Uzzah and Ahio, sons of Abinadab, were guiding the cart, with Ahio walking in front. David and all the Israelites were dancing and singing with all their might to honor the LORD. They were playing harps, lyres, drums, rattles, and cymbals.

HEBREW BIBLE Psalm 150 as a responsive litany (Good News Translation)

One: Praise the LORD!

Many: Praise God in his Temple!
Praise his strength in heaven!
Praise him for the mighty things he has done.
Praise his supreme greatness.

One: Praise him with trumpets. Praise him with harps and lyres. Praise him with drums and dancing. Praise him with harps and flutes. Praise him with cymbals. Praise him with loud cymbals.

Many: Praise the LORD, all living creatures!
Praise the LORD!

SERMON

HYMN OF REFLECTION "Let Us With a Joyful Mind" (Hymn 16)

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

"Here We Reach Out (A Song for Disciples)"

Text by Charles Kniker, Music by Lynn Ziegler

Chancel Choir

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN OF SENDING "Praise to the Living God" (Hymn 8)

BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE

You are welcome to be seated and enjoy the day's postlude or move into the parlor for fellowship. Our worship leaders will greet you at the end of the center aisle, or you may go out the side aisle. Thank you for joining us today – if you have any questions or concerns, please contact any one of our pastors or members of staff.

AMES UCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Sunday Scriptures

11/1 Kingdom Divided, 1 Kings 12:1-17

11/8 Elijah at Mount Carmel, 1 Kings 18:20-39

11/15 Hosea, Hosea 11:1-9

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

Community Communion

Dear ones, thank you for your energetic and open response to feeding each other during Communion last Sunday. In November we will have the annual "Hearty Communion," where we feed ourselves, then in December return to our usual format.

- Pr. Eileen

Did You Know?

15% of your gift to Ames UCC goes toward congregational life and care, such as morning coffee and meals to those in need.

19% of your gift facilitates educational and formational opportunities for children and adults alike.

29% of your gift makes worship happen, from the music to the instruments to the preachers.

Ames UCC gives away 9% of its annual income to other organizations that provide mercy and promote justice. Submit your financial pledge to the life giving and life saving work of God through Ames UCC using the pledge cards provided in today's bulletin.

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!

Women's Fellowship - Oct. 28

On Wednesday, October 28, the women of the church will gather for lunch and a time to share our joys and concerns and get to know each other better. We meet from 12 noon to 1:00 pm. Bring your lunch and COME JOIN US!

Faith In Action - Oct. 29

On Thursday, October 29 at 6:30 p.m., the Ames Progressive Alliance is hosting a forum for candidates for our City Council at the Ames Public Library's Farwell T. Brown Auditorium. Our church will be participating in the event through AMOS, the alliance of 28 faith- and community-based institutions of which we are a member (see more here: <http://amosiowa.org/who-we-are/>). We will be bringing a question about affordable housing. Please join fellow UCC-ers Terry Potter, Diane Birt, Pastor Eileen, and more, in showing strong community support for decent and affordable housing for all who wish to make Ames their home. There is strength in numbers, particularly when those numbers are embodied by each of you (with your comma pins on!). And, if you come at 5:30 p.m., you can enjoy a social hour! Childcare provided for children 4 and up.

All Saints - Nov. 1

On Sunday, November 1 we will lift up the names of those we have lost over the last year. Please contact Pr. Eileen by Thursday, October 29 with the name(s) of your loved one(s): 515-232-9323 or eileen@amesucc.org.

God Talk - Nov. 1

Join Pr. Eileen at 9:30 a.m. on the first Sunday of each month for an open-ended conversation about hot topics in faith and theology. This week's topic: heaven. We will meet in the east side of the Fellowship Hall. No question is too strange, no doubt too shocking, no certainty too bold!

Panel on Mortality and Religion - Nov. 2

On Monday, November 2nd, Pr. Eileen will be participating in an interfaith panel on faith traditions and mortality. The panel will include representatives from Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, Judaism, and the "nones." The panel is at 7:00 p.m. in the Farwell T. Brown Auditorium at the Ames Public Library.

Central Association of Iowa Conference Fall Meeting - Nov. 7

The fall meeting of the Central Association will be held Saturday, November 7th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Ankeny UCC. Lunch will be served with freewill donation. Ames UCC member George Belitsos, board member of the Iowa Network Against Human Trafficking, will be speaking at the meeting. RSVP to Pr. Eileen by noon on October 29th to attend: 515-232-9323 or eileen@amesucc.org.

Central College A Capella Choir - Nov. 6

The Central College A Capella Choir is excited to come to Ames on November 6th to share its choral artistry at Bethesda Lutheran Church from 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. You will recognize our own chorister Melissa Asklof in their midst. The Choir is still in need of host families to provide warm beds (or air-mattresses) for 2-4 students after the concert. If you are able to help out, please contact Melissa at asklofm1@central.edu.

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.

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. 1: *No one yet!*

Please contact Katie Bonney, our Church Office Administrator, to sign up for any date, but especially for next Sunday, November 1st. (office@amesucc.org, 515-232-9323)

The 150th Anniversary Celebration is Next Sunday, November 1st!

Please join us on Sunday, November 1 at 10:45 a.m. for our 150th Anniversary Celebration Worship and Luncheon. Worship will feature Collegiate Brass, a new hymn by The Rev. Dr. Charles Kniker and Dr. Lynn Zeigler, and a processional of special guests. The Rev. Eileen Gebbie, our first female senior pastor, will preach. Be sure to RSVP for the luncheon (\$5/person with children 3 and under free) after worship on October 25. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

Did You Know...

- George Washington Carver came to Sunday evening services and attended the Christian Endeavor group meetings when he was a student at ISC?
- 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?
- Keith Dickson, the long-time Treasurer of the church became a member of the United Church of Christ's Board for Homeland Ministries?
- Min Arther, long-time chair of our Social Action Committee, became a member of the United Church of Christ's Board for World Ministries?
- Abbie Sawyer volunteered to wash and repair the choir robes?
- Lorna Borgstrom, an ISU student and Frisbie Fellowship member, was President of a national organization of students involved with campus ministries (1963)
- 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?"

Ames United Church of Christ
 150th Anniversary Celebration
 November 1st, 2015



Tickets on Sale in the Parlor
 \$5, children 3 and under free
 vegetarian options available

Calendar for the Week

Monday, October 26

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
 5:30 p.m. ERP (*Lamont*)

Tuesday, October 27

Pastor's Reading Day
 12:00 p.m. Men's Fellowship
 3:00 p.m. Farm to Folk

Wednesday, October 28

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

Saturday, October 31

11:20 a.m. Meals on Wheels (*Andersen-Potter*)

Sunday, November 1

9:30 a.m. God Talk
 9:30 a.m. Learning Center
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:45 a.m. Worship Service
 12:00 p.m. 150th Celebration Luncheon
 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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