



A munitions warehouse in Chilwell, England, in July 1917



Lake City Army Ammunition Plant in Independence, MO

Ames United Church of Christ Sunday, November 18, 2018

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 deacon, ushers, and greeters for today are Diane Birt, Jan Breitman, Dan Coffey, and Sue Lamont. Kristin Shields and Barbara Klein are providing coffee fellowship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE MEMORIAL BELL

CENTERING MUSIC

GREETINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP Jim Coppoc

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

One: Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord.

Many: **That we may walk in God's paths.**

One: For out of Zion shall go forth instruction

Many: **And the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.**

One: Nation shall not lift up sword against nation,

Many: **Neither shall they learn war any more.**

HYMN “For the Healing of the Nations” (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: Dear God, though the way ahead may seem uncertain, our fortunes are in your hands. Give us patience and vision to see what future you have for us, for we put our trust in you. Amen.

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.

One: For the sake of justice and kindness, we confess our brokenness before God and one another. Merciful God,

Many: **Too often we come before you
with our pious actions and empty words.
We fail to live with kindness, justice, and humility.
We turn on our neighbors and build up for our selves.
Forgive all that we have done and failed to do
and transform us into people you are proud to call your own.**

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 abundant grace of our God does transform lives from the inside out. Receive today acceptance and recognition of your failings, but no rejection for them. Be transformed in your bodies, souls, and minds. Be molded into God’s renewed creatures, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Passing the Peace is an ancient Christian tradition in which we show we carry no weapons, only love.

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.



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, suitable for children. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Come to-geth - er child - ren, come to-geth -er now.

Cel - e-brate and clap your hands; come to-geth - er now!

HEBREW BIBLE Isaiah 36:1-3, 13-20; 37:1-7; then back to 2:1-4
New Revised Standard Version

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.

In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, King Sennacherib of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and captured (Judah). The king of Assyria sent the Rabshakeh from Lachish to King Hezekiah at Jerusalem, with a great army. He stood by the conduit of the upper pool on the highway to the Fuller’s Field. And there came out to (the Rabshakeh) Eliakim son of Hilkiah, who was in charge of the palace, and Shebna the secretary, and Joah son of Asaph, the recorder.

Then the Rabshakeh stood and called out in a loud voice in the language of Judah,

“Hear the words of the great king, the king of Assyria! Thus says the king:

‘Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be able to deliver you. Do not let Hezekiah make you reply on the Lord by saying, The Lord will surely deliver us; this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.’

Do not listen to Hezekiah; for thus says the king of Assyria:

‘Make your peace with me and come out to me; then every one of you will eat from your own vine and your own fig tree and drink water from your own cistern, until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and wine, a land of bread and vineyards. Do not let Hezekiah mislead you by saying, The Lord will save us. Has any of the gods of the nations saved their land out of the hand of the king of Assyria? Where are the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim? Have they delivered Samaria out of my hand? Who among all the gods of these countries have saved their countries out of my hand, that the Lord should save Jerusalem out of my hand?’”

When King Hezekiah heard it, he tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the Lord. And he sent Eliakim, who was in charge of the palace, and Shebna the secretary, and the senior priests, covered with sackcloth, to the prophet Isaiah son of Amoz. They said to him,

“Thus says Hezekiah, This day is a day of distress, of rebuke, and of disgrace; children have come to the birth, and there is no strength to bring them forth. It may be that the Lord your God heard the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to mock the living God, and will rebuke the words that the Lord your God has heard; therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.”

When the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah, Isaiah said to them,

“Say to your master, ‘Thus says the Lord: Do not be afraid because of the words that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have reviled me. I myself will put a spirit in him, so that he shall hear a rumor, and return to his own land; I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.’”

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz prophesied concerning Juda and Jerusalem(:)

In days to come
the mountain of the Lord’s house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills
all the nations shall stream to it.
Many people shall come and say,
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that God may teach us holy ways
and that we may walk in God’s paths.”
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
And the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

The Lord shall judge between the nations,
And shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

SERMON

HYMN OF PREPARATION “Let us Break Bread Together,” Hymn 330

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION WITH THE OFFERING OF FOOD AND GIFTS

Our Communion table is open to all: young and old, faithful and dubious. No one will be turned away. We serve the bread and the juice through “intinction,” which means dipping the bread into the juice. Your server will offer each to you with the phrases “the Bread of Life” and “the Cup of Blessing.” If you are unable to come forward but would like to participate in the meal, simply wait for your row to be empty, then raise your hand. A server will come to you. The bread is free of gluten, soy, and dairy. If you have brought canned goods for the Food at First pantry, please set them at the Communion table before being served.

Invocation

One: God of spirit and flesh, God of heaven and Earth, God of grape and grain, we spread our wings in flight toward you. We stretch our arms in need of you. We feed ourselves with gifts from you. We thank you for your love poured out as we sense you Spirit shining in the sunlight, sailing on the summer wind, and singing in the souls of each one gathered here. Recreate us in your image as we encounter you today, that our lives might ignite a love to light the world, where despair drips dreary on drowning dreams, and where heavy hearts shiver in lonely cold. Let your presence pressing through us infuse the world with joy, we pray, Amen.

Call to Communion

One: This is the table of God, the joyful host.

**Many: Everyone, child, youth, and adult,
Is welcome to eat at this table.**

One: No matter what our religious affiliation, no matter our particular beliefs, or nagging doubts may be,

**Many: we are all welcome at this meal.
With the boldness of Jesus we invite everyone:
Come and joyfully share!**

Sharing the Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**All: Eternal God,
we thank you for your presence
in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal.
By the power of your Holy Spirit,
unite us with all people,
that we may be the servant church of the servant Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Please share your prayer needs as you are so moved.

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/the cosmos, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom/kin-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven/the cosmos. 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 “Song of Joyful Thanks” R. E. Schram & A. N. Williams
Chancel Choir

In 2018, ten percent of our total budget helps fund local, regional, and national charitable programs. On the third Sunday of each month, when we have Holy Communion, loose change and bills are designated for a Communion Fund which supports our in-house Pastoral Emergency Fund. You can also designate your gift to the Pastoral Emergency Fund directly today or any other Sunday. The Pastoral Emergency Fund is always in need of donations due to the emergency needs of those within our church and wider community. Please consider giving to the Communion Fund today. If you would like to sign up for automated giving, contact Katie Tschopp at 515-232-9323 or office@amesucc.org.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN OF SENDING “Justice Like a Base of Stone” (insert)

BENEDICTION

From the Latin of “well” and “to speak,” this is one final good word to send us off. Please join us next door in the parlor for coffee, tea, treats, and community.

Calendar for the Week

<u>Monday, November 19</u> 5:30 p.m. Serving a Meal at the ERP (Coyle)	<u>Thursday, November 22</u> <i>Church Office Closed</i>
<u>Wednesday, November 21</u> <i>Church Office Closed</i> 12:00 p.m. Bell Ringing	<u>Sunday, November 25</u> 9:15 a.m. Godly Play 9:15 a.m. Youth Coffee Talk 10:30 a.m. Worship

Church Office Closed for Holiday
The church office will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on Wednesday, November 21 and Thursday, November 22. If you have an announcement for next week's e-news or the Sunday November 25 bulletin, please submit it to Katie Tschopp (office@amesucc.org) by Monday, November 19.

Join the Christmas Choir
Rehearsal for Ames UCC's Christmas Choir begins Wednesday, November 28 at 6:30 p.m. Join and participate in the special choral performance on Sunday, December 16. For more information, contact Choir Director Lesley Lackore (llackore@gmail.com).

Wreath Making Workshop Led by Ami Frank – 12/1
Come join Ami on Saturday, December 1 at 10:00 a.m. and learn to make a fresh holiday wreath to festoon your home! Please bring wire cutters and work gloves if you have them. Materials will be provided, but if you have extra fresh evergreen branches to contribute, please bring them along! Consider making a donation of \$9 to cover the cost of the frame and wire.

This workshop is best suited to adults and children 9+ with adult help. RSVP to Kristin Shields (sleepycat@hotmail.com) by November 30.

Help Provide an Extravagant Welcome

Barbara Faidley will be in the church parlor before and after worship on Sunday with a sign up sheet for the months of December and January. For each service we need a deacon (who is part of the Worship and Music Team), two ushers and greeters for the east door. Our church is known for its welcoming ways. Please find Barbara and sign up to provide that welcome during the holiday season.

Youth Group Homemade Christmas Cookie Fundraiser

The Youth Group has a lot of fun activities planned for this coming spring and summer, including a camping trip to Pilgrim Heights and General Synod in June. To defray the cost of these trips, the youth are baking Christmas cookies! You can place your order after church on the following Sundays: 11/11, 11/18, 11/25, or 12/2 or email Megan Henson (megan@amesucc.org) for more information.

Cookie Tray (3 dozen cookies, choose three kinds) \$16
Cookies by the Dozen \$6 (each dozen packaged separately)

Choose from frosted and unfrosted Sugar Cookies, Chocolate Crinkles, Snickerdoodles, Russian Teacakes, Spritz Cookies, and Candy Cane Cookies.

Please place your order by Sunday, December 2 at the latest. Pick up is Sunday, December 9 from after worship until 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Payment is due at pick up. If you would like to order but aren’t able to make this pick up date, please contact Megan to make other arrangements. Thank you!

Thank You for a Successful Fire Drill

Thank you to everyone who helped make our fire drill a success: Eric Abbott, Diane Birt, Ken Birt, Dan Coffey, Jim Coppoc, Boyd Dohrmann, Irene Dohrmann, Bradley Duckstein, Barbara Faidley, LeVern Faidley, Cornelia Flora, Pr. Hannah Hannover, Elaine Hieber, Nick Lyon, Kristin Shields, Kim Spangler, Pat Spangler, Phil Spike, and Allen Trenkle.

Be In Touch with Ames UCC Staff

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Ames UCC Team Leadership

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Social Justice and Outreach
Anna Johnson, Linda Best

Building Relationships
Ben Schrag, Nancy Dunn

Property
Jan Bauer, Laurie Olk

Christian Education
Allen Trenkle

Worship and Music
Barbara Faidley, Tom Meyer

Get in touch with a team leader with the information in your church directory. Contact Katie Tschopp (515-232-9323, office@amesucc.org) if you need a copy.