

Ames United Church of Christ
Sunday, June 24, 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 Kermit Dirks, Trudy Dirks, Mim Fritz, Barbara Hauerrberg, and Tom Meyer. The Building Relationships Team is providing coffee fellowship. Justin Watts is scheduled for building lockup.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE MEMORIAL BELL

CENTERING MUSIC "Wie Schön Leuchtet" arr. D. Buxtehude
See "O Morning Star, How Clear and Bright," Hymn 158

GREETINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP Jim Coppoc
A formal, and mutual, invitation to move into the worship experience.

One: We see the living Lord in the face of our neighbor.
Many: **God's word lives in us!**

One: We hear the living Lord in the Good News proclaimed.
Many: **God's word lives in us!**

One: We touch the living God in the wonder of creation.
Many: **God's word lives in us!**

HYMN "Arise, Your Light Is Come," Hymn 164
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: Incarnate God, your presence is everywhere in the world you so lovingly created. Meet us in the simple and the complex, in the great and small, and inspire us to reach out to others as we have been encountered by you. In Jesus’ loving name, 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: Let us confess our brokenness before God and one another.
Loving God,

Many: **Forgive us, for we have sinned.
We pretend to know what love is,
but neglect to show it to our sisters and brothers.
We hide the truth from ourselves,
but we cannot hide from you, O God,
who see and know everything.
Be merciful and gracious to us and bring us back into your favor.
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.

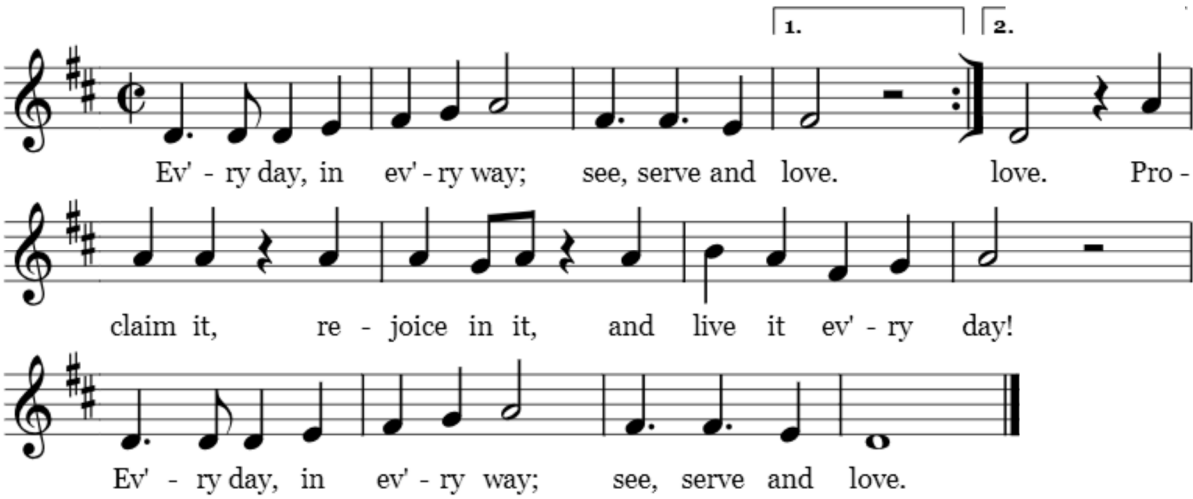
One: If we say that we have fellowship with God while we are walking in ignorance, we lie and do not do what is right and true; but if we walk in knowledge as God is in knowledge, we have fellowship with one another, and the love of Jesus redeems us from all distress. May you know this forgiveness and trust in the one who grants it. 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 “See, Serve, and Love” by K. Stewart

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.



Ev' - ry day, in ev' - ry way; see, serve and love. love. Pro - claim it, re - joice in it, and live it ev' - ry day! Ev' - ry day, in ev' - ry way; see, serve and love.

CHRISTIAN TESTAMENT 1 John 1:1-4 (New Revised Standard Version,
modified for inclusivity) Debi Smith Ford

This is part of the section of letters to early Christian communities that appears after the gospels.

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Creator and was revealed to us—we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Creator and Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

SCRIPTURE IN SONG 1 John 1:1-4, written by Ben Schrag

SERMON

HYMN OF REFLECTION “Siyahamba” (insert)

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 “Impenetrable” based on Romans 11, written by Ben Schrag
During the summer our Chancel Choir takes a well-earned break and we have the opportunity to receive the musical gifts of other members of our community.

In 2018, ten percent of our total budget will help 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. If you would like to sign up for automated giving, contact Katie Tschopp at 515-232-9323 or office@amesucc.org.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

As part of our weekly dedication of our time, talent, and treasures, today we also dedicate the letters we have prepared, through Bread for the World, to go to our local congressional representative and senators, urging investments in programs that improve the lives of people struggling with hunger, malnutrition, and starvation, in the United States and around the world.

HYMN OF SENDING “Take My Gifts,” Hymn 562

BENEDICTION

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

Coffee Fellowship

The Building Relationships Team will be providing coffee, tea, juice, and treats in the parlor this Sunday with our new self-serve pump pots. They will be located on one of the two buffets. Look for the labels which indicate regular, decaf, or hot water for tea. Please bear with us as we work out the kinks in our new location. And remember, we are looking for 2 volunteers every Sunday to help with coffee fellowship. Watch for our team and the clipboard to sign up. It's a great way to build a new relationship!

Good News: We are out of Bibles

For the 2018 budget I requested funds to purchase ten study Bibles to give away. I'm very happy to share that they are now gone, which means ten households now have a good translation of scripture and substantial resources in terms of footnotes and essays for exploring our core stories. Thank you and happy studying, all! -Pr. Eileen

Change in Parking Policy Effective July 1

The City of Ames has changed their policy regarding reserved spots in the city lot to the east of our church such that our four spaces are no longer open to anyone who uses them (except for Sunday). Reserved spots may now only be used by vehicles with city-issued tags (which will go to members of our staff); all others will be ticketed. This change is effective July 1. -Pr. Eileen

Joint Worship in July

For over 50 Julys now, we have worshipped with First Christian Church. On the fifth Sunday in July we worship in a park with First Christian and First Baptist Church. Please mark your calendar with the locations and times below.

July 1 at 9:30 a.m. at First Christian

July 8 at 9:30 a.m. at First Christian

July 15 at 9:30 a.m. at Ames UCC

July 22 at 9:30 a.m. at Ames UCC

July 29 with First Christian and First Baptist, time and location TBA

Save the Date: Event with Candidates – 10/18

The Ames Cluster of AMOS will host an action with candidates for public office on Thursday, October 18. Registration at 6:30 p.m., start time of 7 p.m. Location and further details to be announced.

Help the Social Justice and Outreach Team Pledge to the City's Solar Array

It's here! Ames UCC's Social Justice and Outreach Team is collecting donations to support purchase of "solar packs" and investment in a solar array for the City of Ames. Ames has plans to build a solar array to produce carbon-free electricity for the city. They are working to build citizen investment in the project by asking individuals and organizations to pledge to purchase packs at \$350 each. The SOJO Team will be collecting for these packs during June—our sunniest month—to allow our church to join others in the community in pledging toward these power packs. Come and visit our table at coffee hour after worship to learn more about the project and share a donation.



Vacation Confirmation School – 8/12-16

Vacation Confirmation School with Prs. Hannah and Eileen is for youth who will be in 9th-12th grade in the coming school year and want to explore being baptized or confirming the baptism they had as an infant or child.

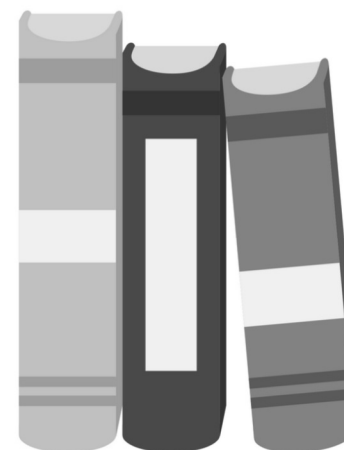
Sunday, August 12 through Thursday, August 16
from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Lunch included.

Additional opportunities will occur during the school year as a continuation and preparation for being confirmed in May of 2019.

RSVP to either pastor by Sunday, July 23.

Prayer & Practice: Apps

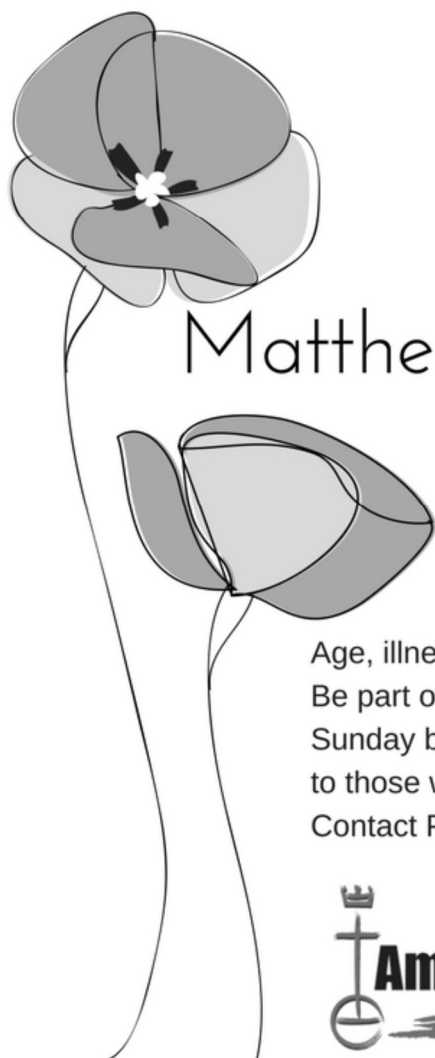
Sometimes I like to make use of my phone or computer as an aid for prayer, using two different apps/podcasts. One is the Jesuits' "Pray As You Go" and the other is a tool for centering prayer from Contemplative Outreach. Both provide a specific beginning and end, with the Jesuits offering music and interpretation of scripture, as well as a guided meditation, and the Contemplatives offering silence and a selection of scripture. Both are easy to find through regular search engines. -Pr. Eileen Gebbie



Study for Sunday

LEARN ABOUT AND REFLECT ON THE
SCRIPTURE FOR THE COMING SUNDAY
EACH WEDNESDAY FROM 10:45 - 11:45 A.M.

*How is God still speaking
through you?*



Matthew 25 ♥ Ministry

*I was sick and you visited me.
(Matthew 25:36)*

Age, illness, or both need not end of our church life.
Be part of a ministry team that delivers
Sunday bulletins, flowers, and the peace of Christ
to those who are not able to be present physically.
Contact Pr. Eileen today.



Ames United Church of Christ

Calendar for the Week

Monday, June 25

Church Office Closed (Katie Tschopp out)

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Sunday, July 1

9:30 a.m. Worship at
First Christian Church
(Corner of 6th & Clark)

Tuesday, June 26

12:00 p.m. Men's Fellowship

Wednesday, June 27

9:00 a.m. ABC Sale Work Time

10:45 a.m. Study for Sunday

12:00 p.m. Bell Ringing

12:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship

Be In Touch with Ames UCC

217 6th Street, Ames, IA 50010

515-232-9323

Mon 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Tues-Thurs 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

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Eileen Gebbie, Senior Minister
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Hannah Hannover,
Minister to Children & Families
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Lesley Lackore, Chancel Choir Director
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Karen "Sunny" Stewart, Instrumentalist
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Katie Tschopp,
Church Office Administrator
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Jean Watts, Youth Director
jean@amesucc.org