

Ames United Church of Christ Sunday, August 26, 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 Linda Best, Barbara Hauerrberg, Tom Meyer, Steve Rogers-Smith, and Greg Widener. Kevin Binder is scheduled for building lock up.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE MEMORIAL BELL

CENTERING MUSIC	"Here I Am, Lord"	D. Schutte, arr. J. Schrader

GREETINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP Allison Anderson *A formal, and mutual, invitation to move into the worship experience.*

- One: Create in me a clean heart, O God, Many: And put a new spirit within me.
- One: Do not cast me away from your presence,
- Many: And do not take your holy spirit from me.
- One: Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
- Many: And sustain in me willing spirit.

HYMN "All Are Welcome" (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: O God, your mercy has delivered us long before we began to think about saving ourselves. May your love shine in our lives when others look up to us, and may they seek the joy we know 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: We confess our brokenness before God and one another. Generous God,
- Many: You have blessed us with riches overflowing. And yet we waste what we are given.

We hoard what we have, and we long for what we don't have. We dishonor your gift when we deny those who are in need. We bankrupt our own souls with greed.

Forgive our blindness. Make our hearts generous again. 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

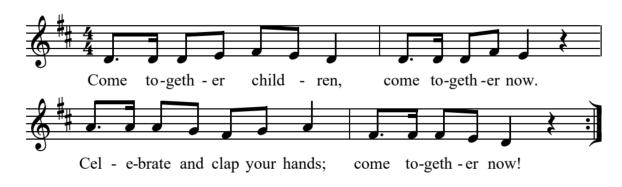
As a people of Easter, there is always good news: when we die to our brokenness, we live again in hope.

One: God offers forgiveness instead of excuses and, forgiven, we are strengthened again to live as generous children of God. 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 "Come Together Children" 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.



GOSPELMark 10:17-31Greg LamontGospel means "good news," making the full title of this book of the Bible "The Good News of
Jesus Christ according to Mark." Though it is the second gospel in the Christian Testament
portion of the Bible, it was likely written before the other three.

As (Jesus) was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: "You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother."' (The man) said to (Jesus), 'Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.' Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, 'You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' When (the man) heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, 'How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!' And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, 'Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.' They were greatly astounded and said to one another, 'Then who can be saved?' Jesus looked at them and said, 'For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.'

Peter began to say to (Jesus), 'Look, we have left everything and followed you.' Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.'

SERMON

HYMN OF REFLECTION "Here I Am, Lord" (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 "In Christ is Gladness" G. Gastokli, arr. P. Manz 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

HYMN OF SENDING "Go, My Children, With My Blessing" (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

Monday, August 27 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 5:30 p.m. Serving a Meal at Emergency Residence Project (Flora)

Tuesday, August 28 12:00 p.m. Men's Fellowship

Wednesday, August 29

10:45 a.m.Study for Sunday12:00 p.m.Bell Ringing

See You at 10:30 a.m. Next Week

Next Sunday, September 2 (Labor Day Weekend) we will return to worship at 10:30 a.m. Go ahead, sleep in!

2018 Pridefest: Staff our Booth

The 2018 Ames Pridefest will be on Saturday, September 29 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Douglas Street between 6th and Main. We will have two booths with information, presents, prizes, and our own brand of radical welcome. The schedule for staffing our booths is below (many times have already been taken by the planning team and our Youth Group). I'd like two people per shift so that, with the overlapping shifts, we have four people present at any given time. Thank you! -Pr. Eileen (eileen@amesucc.org, 515-232-9323).

3 to 5 p.m. 4 to 6 p.m. 5 to 7p.m. 6 to 8 p.m. (includes clean up) <u>Thursday, August 30</u> *Pr. Eileen out for (belated) anniversary day of prayer*

Sunday, September 2 10:30 a.m. Worship back to 10:30!

Be In Touch with Ames UCC Staff

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.

David Cook, Sexton cookdavi@gmail.com

Eileen Gebbie, Senior Minister eileen@amesucc.org

Hannah Hannover, Minister to Children & Families hannah@amesucc.org Megan Henson, Youth Director megan@amesucc.org

Lesley Lackore, Chancel Choir Director llackore@gmail.com

Karen "Sunny" Stewart, Instrumentalist sunny@amesucc.org

Katie Tschopp, Church Office Administrator office@amesucc.org

Ames UCC Team Leadership

Rachel Schelle, Moderator Lynette Spicer, Clerk Diana McHenry, Church Representative

Building Relationships Ben Schrag, Nancy Dunn

Christian Education Allen Trenkle **Financial Stewardship**

Bradley Duckstein, Joel Johnson

Social Justice and Outreach Anna Johnson, Linda Best

Property Jan Bauer, Laurie Olk

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.