



**Ames United Church of Christ  
Sunday, September 9, 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 Boyd Dohrmann, Irene Dohrmann, Debi Ford, Barbara Hauerrberg, and Rachel Schelle.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**RINGING OF THE MEMORIAL BELL**

**CENTERING MUSIC**      "All Glory Be to God On High"      J. G. Walther

**GREETINGS**

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

One:      You are my children—all you creatures, wild and tame.  
**Many:      Come, let us praise the Lord!**

One:      I will remember my covenant with you.  
**Many:      Come, let us praise the Lord!**

One:      Never will I utterly destroy you.  
**Many:      Come, let us praise the Lord!**

**HYMN**      "Praise to the Living God," Hymn 8  
*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 Lord, we hear the story of Noah as a reminder that you never give up on us even though we often do. Assure us of your mercy that we might live into it with confidence and so promise the rest of humanity that we will not let rains of our neglect come again. In Jesus’ 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: We confess how we have betrayed and forgotten our wholeness before God and one another. Faithful God,

**Many: You have called us to places unknown  
and have promised to be our guide.  
Yet we prefer to find our own way and do our own thing,  
taking credit when things go well  
and blaming others when they don’t.  
We resist putting our trust in you.  
We forget your covenant with us.  
And we suffer for it.  
Turn us around to walk where you are leading.  
Forgive us for wandering from the path.  
In Jesus’ name. 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.*

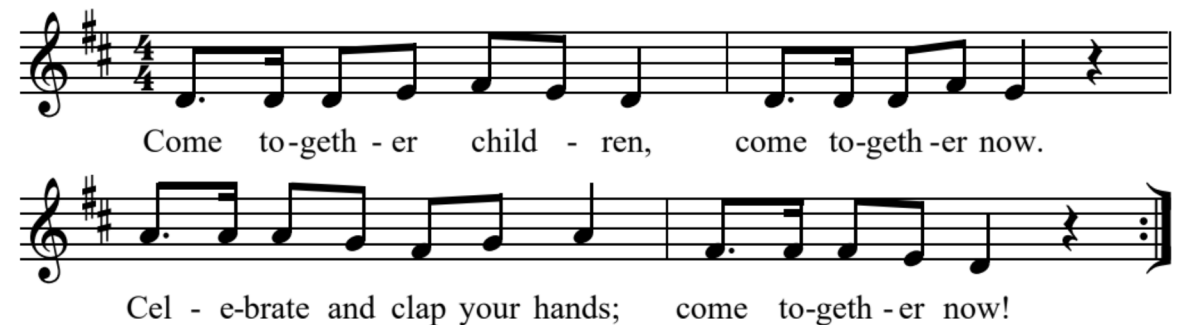
One: God is faithful at all times, to all who seek guidance, waiting patiently for those who have not. May you know the grace which has been freely offered to you, and the special blessing which God continually grants to all, even when unasked. Receive the presence of your loving creator, for the sake of Jesus 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 “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.*



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the song, with lyrics underneath: "Come to-geth - er child - ren, come to-geth - er now." The second staff contains the melody for the second line, with lyrics underneath: "Cel - e-brate and clap your hands; come to-geth - er now!" The music is written in a simple, child-friendly style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp.

**GOSPEL** Genesis 6:5-22; 8:6-12; 9:8-17 Megan Henson, Ben Schrag  
(Jewish Publication Society Tanakh translation)

*Gospel means “good news,” making the full title of this book of the Bible “The Good News of Jesus Christ according to Luke.”*

**Narrator:** The LORD saw how great was man’s wickedness on earth, and how every plan devised by his mind was nothing but evil all the time. And the LORD regretted that He had made man on earth, and His heart was saddened. The LORD said,

**God:** “I will blot out from the earth the men whom I created—men together with beasts, creeping things, and birds of the sky; for I regret that I made them.”

**Narrator:** But Noah found favor with the LORD. This is the line of Noah.—Noah was a righteous man; he was blameless in his age; Noah walked with God.—Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

The earth became corrupt before God; the earth was filled with lawlessness. When God saw how corrupt the earth was, for all flesh had corrupted its ways on earth, God said to Noah,

**God:** “I have decided to put an end to all flesh, for the earth is filled with lawlessness because of them: I am about to destroy them with the earth. Make yourself an ark of gopher wood; make it an ark with compartments, and cover it inside and out with pitch. This is how you shall make it: the length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. Make an opening for daylight in the ark, and terminate it within a cubit of the top. Put the entrance to the ark in its side; make it with bottom, second, and third decks.

“For My part, I am about to bring the Flood—waters upon the earth—to destroy all flesh under the sky in which there is breath of life; everything on earth shall perish. But I will establish My covenant with you, and you shall enter the ark, with your sons, your wife, and your sons’ wives. And of all that lives, of all flesh, you shall take two of each into the ark to keep alive with you; they shall be male and female. From birds of every kind, cattle of every kind, every kind of creeping thing on earth, two of each shall come to you to stay alive. For your part, take of everything that is eaten and store it away, to serve as food for you and for them.”

**Narrator:** Noah did so; just as God commanded him, so he did.

At the end of forty days, Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made and sent out the raven; it went to and fro until the waters had dried up from the earth. Then he sent out the dove to see whether the waters had decreased from the surface of the ground. But the dove could not find a resting place for its foot, and returned to him to the ark, for there was water over all the earth. So putting out his hand, he took it into the ark with him. He waited another seven days, and again sent out the dove from the ark. The dove came back to him toward evening, and there in its bill was a plucked-off olive leaf! Then Noah knew that the waters had decreased on the earth. He waited still another seven days and sent the dove forth; and it did not return to him any more.

And God said to Noah and to his sons with him,

**God:** “I now establish My covenant with you and your offspring to come, and with every living thing that is with you—birds, cattle, and every wild beast as well—all that have come out of the ark, every living thing on earth. I will maintain My covenant with you:

never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

Narrator: God further said,

God: “This is the sign that I set for the covenant between Me and you, and every living creature with you, for all ages to come. I have set My bow in the clouds, and it shall serve as a sign of the covenant between Me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth, and the bow appears in the clouds, I will remember My covenant between Me and you and every living creature among all flesh, so that the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures, all flesh that is on earth. That,”

Narrator: God said to Noah,

God: “shall be the sign of the covenant that I have established between Me and all flesh that is on earth.”

## SERMON

**HYMN OF REFLECTION** “God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale” (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

“Ascribe to the Lord”

Dan R. Edwards

Chancel Choir

*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](mailto:office@amesucc.org).*

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### HYMN OF SENDING

“Take My Life That I May Be” (insert)

### BENEDICTION

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

### INVITATION

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship for a welcome reception in honor of David Sheridan, our new Seminary Intern.

## Calendar for the Week

### Monday, September 10

5:30 p.m. Ames AMOS Cluster Meeting at St. Thomas Aquinas  
5:30 p.m. Emergency Residence Project (Powell)  
7:15 p.m. Financial Stewardship

### Wednesday, September 12

10:45 a.m. Study for Sunday  
12:00 p.m. Bell Ringing  
12:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship  
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

### Saturday, September 15

9:30 a.m. Volunteer at Food at First

### Sunday, September 16

9:15 a.m. Godly Play  
9:15 a.m. Youth Coffee Talk  
9:15 a.m. Learning Center  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
2:00 p.m. Youth Group Party at Time Out Arcade

---

### Children in Worship and Nursery Care

We enjoy having children be part of the worship service here at Ames UCC! Childcare is available for infants, toddlers, and young children through kindergarten in the nursery on the 2nd floor. Once children enter 1st grade we encourage them to be in worship. Children often enjoy participating in the various elements of our service! Worship bags (located in the back of the sanctuary) are available for children to use during this time.

### Bring Candy for Our Booth at Ames Pridefest

At our booth at Ames Pridefest on Saturday, September 29, we will be handing out goody bags that include information about Ames UCC. There's a box in the parlor for donations of individually wrapped candy to include in those goody bags — we plan to make 500 bags to hand out, so we'll need plenty. Thank you so much for your help! Have questions? Contact Katie Tschopp (office@amesucc.org, 515-232-9323).

### Devotionals from Me to You

Sign up for poetry, scripture, and inspiration via text messaging or e-mail. They will never arrive before 9 a.m. or after 8 p.m. Appropriate for all ages. Go to [remind.com/join/amesucc](http://remind.com/join/amesucc). -Pr. Eileen

### Women's Fellowship – 9/12

All women of the church are invited twice a month for fellowship, learning, sharing, and fun. Women's Fellowship meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month at 12:00 p.m. Join us this Wednesday, September 12 for a "Joys and Concerns" meeting to share in what has been happening in our lives, be it a joy or a concern, and support each other. Bring your lunch! Our speaker on Wednesday, September 26 will be Lisa Heddens from the National Alliance on Mental Illness Central Iowa chapter.

### Time Out with Megan Henson – 9/16

All 6th through 12th graders and their parents and guardians are invited to come get to know our new youth director, Megan Henson, at Time Out Arcade (120 Kellogg Ave, Ames) from 2-4 p.m. on Sunday, September 16. We have the Guitar Hero room reserved and will have tokens available for everyone. Please help us launch the growth of this important ministry! -Prs. Hannah and Eileen

### Please welcome our Seminary Intern, David Sheridan

Our seminary intern, David Sheridan, begins his time with us today. His final Sunday will be Pentecost, June 9, 2019.

When asked why David wanted to be at Ames UCC for this important part of his theological education, he replied, "Ames UCC has a wonderful reputation as a vibrant, progressive, Open and Affirming and Just Peace congregation, led and served by skilled, devoted, and prophetic pastors. I am honored and humbled to have this opportunity to learn about, explore, and hopefully enhance my capacity for pastoral leadership."

Since it has been many years since our last seminary intern, you may be wondering what that means, for David as well as for us as a church.

In practical terms, David will be with us for 10-15 hours each week, mostly on Sundays and Wednesdays. He will do a lot of worship preparation, planning, and presiding, as well as participate in our AMOS efforts and meet with me weekly for reflection.

In terms of pastoral formation, a large part of David's work will be to explore what it means to be a pastor after his lifetime of UCC membership and leadership, what it will require to take on that new and distinct role, in such a familiar space.

The work of the congregation is to welcome David's voice and presence, to provide encouragement, and to affirm the elements of his service to God that are meaningful to you.

If you do have feedback that is toward the constructive end of the spectrum, on a sermon or Bible study, for example, I encourage you to wait until the following day to speak with him. After a morning of preparation and offering, hearing what didn't work is deflating. All pastors need to be open to such feedback, but in recognition of the relationality of church life, it is kinder to offer it at a bit of a distance.

Lastly, if you have any concerns about David's overall potential for ordained parish ministry (which I do not expect), please speak to me directly.

Other than that, feel free to invite him to attend any other offerings in our church, keeping in mind that he may have to decline or postpone due to the limitations of his hours. Having said that, I know David is eager to get to know all of us, and I know you will enjoy getting to know all of him.

-Pr. Eileen

## **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.