



**Ames United Church of Christ
Sunday, May 20, 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 Brett Brinkmeyer, Dan Coffey, Nick Howell, Laurie Olk, and Liberato Santos. Nancy Dunn, Bonnie Trede, and Larry Trede are providing coffee fellowship. Laurie Olk and Steve Rogers-Smith are scheduled for building lockup.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE MEMORIAL BELL

CENTERING MUSIC

GREETINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP Adela Johnson

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

One: Rejoice in the Lord always!

Many: **Again, I will say, rejoice!**

One: Do not worry about anything,

Many: **But in everything by prayer with thanksgiving
let your requests be made known to God.**

One: And the peace of God, which passes all understanding,

Many: **Will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.**

HYMN "Come My People" (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: Holy Spirit, you move within and among your people. Make us eager to go where you are sending us, open to being transformed by your Gospel’s power, 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 our brokenness before God and one another. God of Life,
**Many: Though you have made all things new, we still cling to the old.
Forgive us when we doubt your presence, resist your call,
and lose heart in the face of challenges.
Remind us that you are bigger than our problems,
our petty concerns, and foolish preoccupations,
and restore us with your all-consuming love. 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: Jesus is risen, and yet rising, indeed. Neither our brokenness nor our evil has the power to separate us from the love that rebukes death and endures eternally. In love, we are forgiven. 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

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le - lu - ja, hal - le - lu - ja.

GOSPEL Acts of the Apostles 2:1-21 (New Revised Standard Version)

The Acts of the Apostles is the first book in the Christian Testament after the four gospels. It was written as a companion to the Gospel of Luke.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and

Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.”

All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “(People) of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning.

No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ‘In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

SERMON Abby Buchele, Ryan Johnson, Alison McHenry

HYMN OF PREPARATION “Great Work Has God Begun in You” (insert)

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 our local food pantries, please set them at the Communion table before being served.

Invitation

One: Come! If you are hungry, there is food to eat. Come! If you are thirsty, there is water to drink. It is food for those who hunger for justice, and water for those who long for life in all its fullness. Come! Eat and drink to proclaim the feast of God’s kin-dom where all are welcome and no one is left out.

Prayer Jenna Buchele

One: God, our Mother and Father,

Many: **You have given us this earth rich and vibrant.**

Its renewing life sustains us.

Its unfailing goodness nourishes us.

Blessed be your name.

One: Jesus, our Guide and Healer,

Many: **You ate with friends and enemies.**

At a meal you brought the gift of hope.

At a meal you gave the word of life.

Blessed be your name.

One: Spirit, our Comforter and Disturber,

Many: **You do not leave us on our own.**

Here are companions to know our joy.

Here are companions to share our sorrow.

Blessed be your name.

Sharing the Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: Thanks be to you, O God, for your presence and your purpose, for your loving kindness and your steadfast Spirit.

Many: May the blessings of this table strengthen our faith, increase our generosity and unify our hearts, for we pray in the name of Jesus, the Risen One. 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

"Up to the Mountain" Patty Griffin
Silas Erickson, Annelise Johnson, Eli Schrag,
Julia Shannon, Maya Shannon
accompanied by Jim Coppoc

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.

Strengthen the Church is a special mission offering to reimagine and build the future of the UCC. Shared at the conference and national levels, STC supports youth ministries, helps to start new churches, and supports the vision of new projects from established churches. Strengthen the Church is one of five yearly offerings from the national UCC. Learn more about Strengthen the Church at ucc.org/stc

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN OF SENDING "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" (insert)

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.

Raise Your Voice & Fight Hunger: Join in Our Offering of Letters – 5/20, 27

Ames UCC supports Bread for the World's advocacy effort to end hunger as part of our yearly charitable giving. Before and after worship in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday May 13, 20, and 27, join the Social Justice and Outreach Team in supporting Bread for the World's 2018 Offering of Letters. This is an opportunity to submit letters 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.

Our efforts to meet immediate hunger needs through collections for food pantries and the free meal program at Food at First here in Ames are very important. Our advocacy effort with Bread for the World's Offering of Letters puts the focus on systems that allow hunger and poverty to persist. Together our collective gifts offer a powerful statement of faith in action.

Women's Fellowship Project at the Ames History Center

On Wednesday, May 23, meet with Women's Fellowship at the Ames History Center (corner of Douglas and 5th St.) to take part in a service project as a group. We will meet for lunch at 12:00 p.m. and then move on to a project until 2:00 p.m. or later. If you plan to attend, contact Barbara Faidley (515-233-3874, barbara@faidley.org) to RSVP so that the History Center can be prepared for the group. Join us and give service to your community and enjoy fellowship with other women in the church.

Park it, People! Soccer + Donuts + YOU – 6/1

COME HANG OUT for Ames UCC no fuss social fun time!

Friday, June 1

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Roosevelt Park (921 9th St, Ames)

- All ages pick-up soccer led by Matt O'Neal and Ben Schrag
- Playground for kids
- Socializing and/or cheering on the game for adults
- National Donut Day stuff?!?
- Even more?!? WHO CAN SAY?!?!?!?!?

Hosted by our Building Relationships Team

AMOS Economic Summit & Assembly with candidates for public office – 6/2

With all the sound bites on the news lately, we've sure been hearing a lot about taxes. But how much do we really know about who benefits and who pays? It's time for a grown-up conversation about taxes in Iowa.

Join AMOS leaders and institutions for an Economic Summit on Sunday June 2nd as we get beyond the sound bites and partisan rhetoric to:

- Learn about our state and local tax systems: "Who benefits? Who pays?"
- Hear from the team of AMOS leaders who have spent three months researching taxes in Iowa
- Look at specific funding strategies to address the pressures on our families and neighbors, including mental healthcare, education and workforce, and housing and neighborhood improvements
- Engage candidates for public office and ask for their support of our agenda

AMOS Economic Summit & Assembly with candidates for public office

Saturday, June 2nd

11:30am Lunch & Registration
12-4pm Summit & Assembly
Norwalk Christian Church, Norwalk, IA

RSVP to our Core Team, including whether you would like to carpool and any dietary restrictions, by contacting Ben Schrag (mr.half@gmail.com).

Worship Workshop: Ordinary Time – 6/10

What is worship? Why do we do what we do when we do it? How do we know what to do when and how does the hymnal work? Who writes the prayers? Join Pr. Eileen for a workshop that will be both informative and active as we collectively plan the worship services for the Sundays below. The theme will be Stewardship.

8/19/2018: Matthew 6:19-34 (Psalm 51:6-9) with Holy Communion

8/26/2018: Mark 10:17-31 (Psalm 51:10-12)

9/2/2018: Luke 12:13-34 (Psalm 51:15-17)

RSVP to Pr. Eileen by Monday, June 4, including any childcare needs. Please bring your own lunch.

Vacation Bible School "Rolling River Rampage" – 6/18-21

Join us from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. each day for stories, games, snacks, music, crafts, science and more! Children age 3 through 6th grade invited to attend. Youth and adults are needed to help with the different activities!

If you are interested, please let Pr. Hannah know! If you would like to help with snack donations, please email Pr. Hannah (hannah@amesucc.org) to get a list of the items needed.



Calendar for the Week

Monday, May 21

Pr. Eileen out

5:30 p.m. Emergency Residence
Project (Hieber/Wood)
7:00 p.m. FST Financial Review

Tuesday, May 22

Pr. Eileen out

12:00 p.m. Men's Fellowship

Wednesday, May 23

8:30 a.m. Bible Study
10:00 a.m. ABC Sale Work Time
12:00 p.m. Bell Ringing
12:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship
6:30 p.m. Bible Study:
Nag Hammadi

Thursday, May 24

Pr. Eileen out

Sunday, May 27

10:30 a.m. Worship
12:00 p.m. Absent Spouses
Social Club

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.

David Cook, Sexton
cookdavi@gmail.com

Eileen Gebbie, Senior Minister
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Hannah Hannover,
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