

ordinary time

**Ames United Church of Christ
Sunday, May 27, 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 Janet Binder, Mim Fritz, Gina Handy, Melia Handy, and Kim Spangler. Kristin Shields, Kim Spangler, and Pat Spangler are providing coffee fellowship. Kevin Binder is scheduled for building lockup.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE MEMORIAL BELL

CENTERING MUSIC "You Are the Lord" R. Dedruyn Liz Morse, flute

GREETINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP Amanda Petefish-Schrag
A formal, and mutual, invitation to move into the worship experience.

One: The Lord is faithful!
Many: **With grateful hearts we praise God's name.**

One: The Lord has delivered and lifted us up!
Many: **With grateful hearts we praise God's name.**

One: The Lord will be our guard and guide forever.
Many: **With grateful hearts we praise God's name.**

HYMN "In Egypt Under Pharaoh" (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: Faithful Lord, you have seen us through the trials and challenges of our lives. Keep us always faithful to you, remembering your gracious deeds and rejoicing in your deliverance. In the name of Jesus, 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.
Wise Creator,

**Many: You have blessed us with our lives, and all that we need to thrive.
Yet we disrespect you, others, and ourselves
when we take your gifts for granted
and allow our lives to fall out of balance.
We want what we don't have.
We seek credit for ourselves and discredit others.
We dishonor your name.
Please forgive our careless neglect and lack of gratitude,
for the sake of your son Jesus. 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 indeed merciful, and calls us back to repentance again and again. We have been forgiven and our sins forgotten. May we rejoice in the one who continues to make us new in the Spirit. 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

The musical score is written for a single voice in treble clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a first ending bracket over the final two measures, which then leads to a second ending bracket over the next two measures. The lyrics are: "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." The melody is simple and repetitive, suitable for children's participation.

HEBREW BIBLE Exodus 19:1-6 (New Revised Standard) Steve Rogers-Smith

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.

On the third new moon after the Israelites had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that very day, they came into the wilderness of Sinai. They had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured

possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.”

SERMON

HYMN OF REFLECTION “O My Soul, Bless Your Creator,” Hymn 13

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

“On Eagles’ Wings”

M. Johncas

Liz Morse, flute

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. 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.

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 “O For A World,” Hymn 575

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.

Pr. Hannah’s Summer Hours Begin

While Ames UCC’s regular children and families programming like Godly Play and Wednesday Afternoon Club are on break for the summer, Pr. Hannah’s hours are reduced to 15 hours per week. You can always get in touch with Pr. Hannah by email at hannah@amesucc.org or leave her a message if she’s not in the office.

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

COME HANG OUT at Roosevelt Park for Ames UCC no fuss social fun time on Friday, June 1 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. There’ll be all ages pick-up soccer led by Matt O’Neal and Ben Schrag, a playground for kids, socializing and/or cheering on the game for adults, and maybe even a celebration of National Donut Day! See you there.

Severe Weather Drill – 6/3

As tornado season approaches, the Worship and Music Team will lead a severe weather drill on Sunday, June 3 after the worship service. This way, everyone will know where to go and what to do if severe weather hits Ames. The church has 3 areas that are considered severe weather shelters. Join us to learn which shelter to use and keep safe.

Study for Sunday starts June 6

Our long-standing Wednesday morning Bible study is moving to a start time of 10:45 a.m. on June 6. We will return to our practice of studying the scripture for the coming Sunday. Feel free to stay after to ring our Memorial Bell for Peace at noon, or twice a month, our Women's Fellowship gatherings. Wednesday evening study and fellowship opportunities will resume in September. -Pr. Eileen

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)

We will meet from noon to 2 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. If we start earlier, we will end earlier.

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

Worship at Hobbit's Hill – 6/17

Our Worship Service outside with the llamas at the home of George Belitsos and Peter Wolfe (5508 Lincoln Way) will be on June 17 at 10.30 a.m. Keep an eye out for announcements providing directions and what to do when you arrive. That day ends with a potluck with our church families at Hobbit's Hill. Hope you can join us for a great day!

Calendar for the Week

Monday, May 28

Church office closed for Memorial Day
5:30 p.m. Emergency Residence
Project (Spicer)

Friday, June 1

6:30 p.m. Roosevelt Park Hang Out

Saturday, June 2

12:00 p.m. AMOS Economic Summit
and Assembly in Norwalk

Sunday, June 3

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

Wednesday, May 30

Parlor furniture delivery
8:30 a.m. Bible Study
10:00 a.m. ABC Sale Work Time
12:00 p.m. Bell Ringing

Thursday, May 31

Pr. Hannah out

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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