



**Ames United Church of Christ
Sunday, May 12, 2019**

Welcome to Ames UCC! 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.

ABOUT WORSHIP AT AMES UCC

Our church is the inheritor of many powerful worship traditions and the adopter of new, moving innovations. But whichever element serves the needs of the day (in terms of scripture, season, or society), each service is developed by members of the church and staff to function as a journey. Our journey takes the individual toward God, into the body of Christ, and then back out to the world with the strength of the Holy Spirit. Along the way we may laugh, we may cry, we may experience deep silence. In each, we embody and come to know more deeply what it means to be a Christian in such a time as this: a servant of 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.

Our deacon, ushers, and greeters for today are Barbara Hauerrberg, Don Shedd, Val Shedd, and Linda Shenk.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE MEMORIAL BELL

CENTERING MUSIC

GREETINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Melissa Haynes

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

One: Because holiness lives, so do we.

Many: **Alleluia, Christ is risen!**

One: Open your eyes to the Spirit's power around you.

Many: **Alleluia, Christ is risen!**

One: God calls us as witnesses to all peoples and nations.

Many: **Alleluia, Christ is risen!**

HYMN “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise,” Hymn 1

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: God, ministry in your kin-dom is a daily adventure. Reinvigorate our everyday, living witness with your Spirit of 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: Just as the Christ yet rises, so too does the hope of our living out the wholeness God gifted us with. We confess times of brokenness before God and one another, as an act of hope. God of new life,

Many: **We call you creator and redeemer,
but we often live as though
those names make no difference for us.
We choose to remain stuck in old patterns,
cling to the familiar and safe,
and refuse opportunities
to step out in courage and faith.
Forgive our cowardice, stubbornness, and willful disobedience.
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: Resurrection is a message of newness at every dawn, a daily opportunity to make different choices, and spur renewal between people, creation, and creator. Rejoice that you have left the side of the tomb in order to walk along the covenant Way! 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.

CHRISTIAN TESTAMENT Acts of the Apostles 13:1-3; 14:8-18 Dan Coffey
New Revised Standard Version
(modified for inclusive language and clarity of action)

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.

Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a member of the court of Herod the ruler, and Saul. While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting,

the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

In Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet and had never walked, for he had been crippled from birth. The Lystran listened to Paul as he was speaking. And Paul, looking at the Lystran intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, said in a loud voice, “Stand upright on your feet.” And the man sprang up and began to walk.

When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, “The gods have come down to us in human form!” Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates; he and the crowds wanted to offer sacrifice.

When the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting, “Friends, why are you doing this? We are mortals just like you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. In past generations God allowed all the nations to follow their own ways; yet God has not left without a witness in doing good—giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, and filling you with food and your hearts with joy.”

Even with these words, they scarcely restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them.

SERMON

HYMN OF REFLECTION “My Shepherd is the Living God,” Hymn 247

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Please share your prayer needs as you are so moved.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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

“Gloria Deo!”

Mary Lynn Lightfoot

Chancel Choir

In 2019, nine percent of our total budget helps 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, which goes to rental, medical, and similar direct assistance. You can also designate your gift to the Pastoral Emergency Fund directly at any time. 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

“Praise to the Living God,” Hymn 8

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.

Calendar for the Week

Monday, May 13

1:00 p.m. ABC Sale Work Time
5:30 p.m. WAM Team Meeting
5:30 p.m. Emergency Residence
Project Meal (Dohrmann)
7:15 p.m. Financial Stewardship

Tuesday, May 14

Pastoral Study Day

12:00 p.m. Men's Fellowship

Wednesday, May 15

9:00 a.m. ABC Sale Work Time
10:45 a.m. Bible Study for Sunday
12:00 p.m. Bell Ringing
2:00 p.m. Wednesday
Afternoon Club
5:00 p.m. Youth Group
6:30 p.m. Little Bit of Everything
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, May 18

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

Sunday, May 19

10:30 a.m. Worship

Attic to Basement Church Sale Donations

Workers will be there on Monday afternoon and Wednesday morning to accept donations. Katie Tschopp in the church office can let you in on other days to bring donations to the west basement. Do some spring cleaning and bring things you don't need to the sale!

ABC Sale Workers: Join us for one or both of two work times for the ABC Sale this week. We will meet on Monday from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. and Wednesday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Come and join us for conversation, fun, fellowship and a little work mixed in. If you come to work and find the door locked, call Barbara Faidley at 515-450-1078.

Severe Weather Drill – 5/19

As our weather turns to storms and tornados, the Worship and Music team wants to make sure that everyone in the church knows where the Severe Weather Shelters are located. We will be doing a drill on Sunday, May 19 after our church service. During that time you will be instructed to go to one of 3 shelters in the church. There you find out where we keep supplies we might need in case of an emergency. We invite everyone to participate so everyone can be safe during a weather emergency.

Add Your Photo to Our New Church Directory – due 5/31

To keep up with each other and in connection with our community, join us in creating a new, in-house photo directory by submitting your family photo and updating your contact information. Just send your photo and information to Katie Tschopp in the church office at office@amesucc.org or bring in a photo to scan by Friday, May 31. Pr. Eileen and Carla have already submitted theirs!

Watch out: If we don't receive a submitted photo from you, we might use one from our archives on Facebook or an older directory.

Ames UCC Orientation Luncheon & Tour – 6/2

New or new-ish to Ames UCC? Did last week's new member service make you want to know more? Join Prs. Hannah and Eileen and members of our Building Relationships team for an orientation to the church including a tour of the facilities (creepy basement!) and a free lunch. We will begin after worship on Sunday, June 2 and be done in less than two hours. We will include information on becoming a member during worship on Sunday, June 9 (Pentecost!) if you are interested. Joining is not required to be active in the life of this church. Childcare available on request. RSVP to Pr. Eileen by Sunday, May 26: eileen@amesucc.org, 515-232-9323. If you have already attended an orientation and would like to become a member on Easter, you do not have to attend the lunch again. Just let Pr. Eileen know of your interest.

Cards of Care

Have you ever felt scared and alone, grieving and heartsick? Did someone reach out to you at just the right time? Please join a group of congregants in being present for each other during such times through greeting cards. It does not matter whether you know the recipients personally, or not. What matters is a willingness to be a representative of the love of God we share at all times and in all places. If you are interested, please let me know and I will add you to our list of fellow "care card-ers." When I am given permission to pass on a need (a health crisis, a death), I will do so. And if you know of someone who might appreciate a little postal love from their fellow seekers, please let me know. –Pr. Eileen (eileen@amesucc.org, 515-232-9323)

Happy Baptismal Anniversary!

The United Church of Christ celebrates two sacraments, rituals of the invisible grace of God made visible: Baptism and Holy Communion. Our church celebrates Holy Communion about once per month, but baptism only once in our lives. So as not to lose touch with those waters of life, we remember baptismal anniversaries here. We also remember the promises we have all made to those who have been baptized in our presence, here or elsewhere. To have your baptism lifted up, whenever and wherever it was, simply send the date to Pr. Eileen.

This week we celebrate the baptismal anniversary of Abby Buchele, Ben Schrag, and Eli Schrag. May you feel the renewal of the promises you made (or your parents made on your behalf) and the responsive care of this congregation in upholding them.

New Church Library Books

There are new library books on display in the sanctuary, the hallway and inside the library. All of these books are available for check-out. Just sign your name and date on the library card and leave the card on top of the library shelf to be filed and enjoy. When you are finished with the book or DVD just return to the basket near the door in the Church Library. Come in and get a good book to read.

Summer Worship Schedule

In order to accommodate our Hobbit's Hill hosts in June and a special event with our fellow worshipers at First Christian in July, we will not change the worship time in the summer. We will remain at 10:30 a.m. throughout June, July, and August. Details below.

June

- 6/9 Pentecost! Please wear red, if you are able.
- 6/16 Regular worship at Ames UCC
- 6/23 Worship at Hobbit's Hill (5508 Lincoln Way, Ames) followed by potluck lunch
- 6/30 Regular worship at Ames UCC

Joint worship with First Christian Church in July

- 7/7 Pr. Mary Jane Button-Harrison preaches at Ames UCC
- 7/14 Pr. Eileen Gebbie preaches at First Christian Church
- 7/21 Pr. April Johnson, Minister of Reconciliation for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada, preaches at First Christian
- 7/28 Pr. Eileen Gebbie preaches at Ames UCC

August

- 8/3 Worship in the park with Ames UCC, First Christian, and First Baptist
- 8/11, 18, 25 Regular worship at Ames UCC

September

- 9/1 Regular worship at Ames UCC
- 9/8 Rally Day! The start of our program year.



DEVOTIONALS

RECEIVE REMINDERS OF
GOD'S LOVE AND PRESENCE,
IN POETRY AND PROSE,
VIA TEXT OR E-MAIL.

GO TO
REMIND.COM/JOIN/AMESUCC

Be In Touch with Ames UCC Staff

217 6th Street, Ames, IA 50010

515-232-9323

Mon-Thurs 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

2:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

David Cook, Sexton
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Ames UCC Team Leadership

Allen Trenkle, Moderator
Lynette Spicer, Clerk
Diana McHenry, Church Representative
Eric Abbott, Church Representative

Building Relationships
Ben Schrag, Nancy Dunn

Christian Education
Allison Anderson

Financial Stewardship
Bradley Duckstein

Social Justice and Outreach
Linda Best, George Belitsos

Property
Jan Bauer, Laurie Olk

Worship and Music
Barbara Faidley, Steve Rogers-Smith

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.