



First United Methodist Church
516 Kellogg Ave.
515-232-2750
www.fumcomes.org
8:30 December 23, 2018
Rev. Dr. Kerrin Kirkpatrick

THE GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARIES---PRELUDE

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

arr: Ross James Root

“The First Noel”

arr: Ross James Root

“Angels From the Realms of Glory”

arr: Ethel Tench Rogers

GREETING, SHARING NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE

Welcome, members, friends & visitors—please fill in the ritual of friendship pad, pass it to your neighbor, and then return it to its starting place. If you are new and would like more information, please indicate on the friendship pad and also stop at the hospitality desk in the narthex.

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP: Lighting of the Advent Candles

HYMN No. 216

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

OPENING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, today we stand in awe at the wonder of Your promise to be Immanuel – God with us today, tomorrow, and forever. You truly understand our struggles, because You lived in our world and experienced life in the same ways that we do. You have compassion on us, recognizing that we are sheep in need of a tender shepherd. Help us to have that same compassion for others, reaching out to love them just as You have loved us. With Your help, we will seek to keep the promise of Christmas – not only this season but all of our days. We pray in the strength of Your name. Amen. “The Wonder of Christmas,” page 121, Abingdon Press, alt.

SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS, & GOD-SIGHTINGS

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Romans 1:1-7

A TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Pastor Kerrin

ANTHEM

“Angels Are Making Their Rounds” arr: Pepper Choplin
Chancel Choir Acc: Barb Mittman

**SECOND SCRIPTURE
WITNESS TO THE WORD
HYMN OF RESPONSE**

Matthew 1:21-25
"The Wonder of a Promise"

No. 230 "O Little Town of Bethlehem," vs 1,4

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" arr: Kenneth D. Varner

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

No. 95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, we bring to You our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. All that we are able to bring is Yours already, even our very selves. This morning, we return a portion to show our love for You. May we continue to live out the promise of Christmas each day and all of our days, so that You may be glorified in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(adapted, "We Give Thee But Thine Own")

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

HYMN

No. 251

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" arr: Rick Deasley

LEAVING FOR SERVICE

The Newly Imagined Prayground is Now Open!

The Prayground has been a space we've been exploring for about a year now that was in the front lectern side of the Sanctuary at the 11:00 service. You may have noticed it's absence the last month as we've been deciding how it can better serve the families of Ames First UMC. After careful thought, discussion with families and various committees, The Prayground Family Grace Space is now open during both Sunday worship services and located in the Parlor area for families with young children. There are shorter tables and chairs for young children to color and draw pictures of "moments in worship" to share in the offering. There is a space for nursing moms with access to the refrigerator in the kitchenette, a small play yard area for the very little ones, couches and chairs and even a little pew for anyone to sit at. The audio is set up to be piped in to the parlor area with a volume control available on the wall. The doors will be open wide as this space becomes a continuation of the Sanctuary - NOT a separate space. Check out the new Prayground Family Grace Space and invite young families to church to check it out too!

COME TO WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS EVE

There will be three worship services on Christmas Eve. Come to one, two or all three. Worship times this year are at 4:30, 7:30 and 10:00. (not 10:30)

4:30 p.m.

A family-friendly service that tells the story of Christmas. The children will be able to participate in the service if they would like to.

Candle lighting with "Silent Night".

7:30 p.m.

A family service of traditional carols and candlelight. Featuring music by Myrna Cakerice/Barb Mittman, the Chancel Choir, and special guest soloists.

Pastor Kerrin Kirkpatrick will be preaching.

10:00p.m.

A quiet, late night service of Carols, Communion and Candlelight.

Featuring the music of Myrna Cakerice on the organ and piano.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated; candle lighting with "Silent Night".

Pastor Kerrin Kirkpatrick

Noon Year's Eve Celebration

On Monday, December 31, we will celebrate our 5th annual Noon Year's Eve Celebration. The celebration will begin at 10:30a.m. with a yogurt bar and monkey bread brunch. There will be a dance party, crafts, and new this year-a science lab where our very own 2018 Iowa Teacher of the Year Aileen Sullivan will show kids some pretty cool science experiments and let the kids take part in some of their own simple experiments. A little before noon, the group will head to the Sanctuary for the countdown, balloon drop, and bubble wrap run that will happen when the clock reaches NOON. This is an event open to the community and is a great way to celebrate the new year as a family.

LIVING LAST SUPPER

Ames First United Methodist Church will be putting on their first ever Living Last Supper on April 17th, 2019. We need actors to play the 12 disciples, as well as someone to play the Son of God, Jesus Christ. Rehearsals will be Sunday nights starting December 16th from 7-9 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Wesley Tener at 319-430-3152. Men are encouraged to grow beards so that they look more the part of a disciple.

To view church services live, go to <http://bit.ly/amesfirstumclivestream>. To view past services and other church events, go to Ames First United Methodist Church's YouTube page at <http://bit.ly/amesfirstumcyoutube>.

The Week at a Glance

Dec. 23 – Dec. 22

Sunday, Dec. 23

8:30 Service

No Sunday School

Monday, Dec. 24

Office closing at noon

Christmas Eve Services

4:30

7:30

10:00

Tuesday, Dec. 25

Merry Christmas!

Wednesday, Dec. 26

Church Closed

Thursday, Dec. 27

No Kiwanis

Friday, Dec. 28

Saturday, Dec. 29

5:30 service

Christmas Eve Ushers

4:30

Sally Peterson,
Carolyn Yorgensen,
Nancy Eischen, Bob Fowser, Tim
& Ann Thomas

7:30

Neil & Barb Van Slyke
Kent & Linda Woodworth
William & Jane Edwards

10:00

Bob Fowser and Dean Sampson

USHERS

8:30

UMM

Young Adults

ACOLYTES

8:30

Dani & Connor Pepper

NURSERY

Meredith, Clove, Matthew & Andrea

Audio/Video/Streaming

Doug Hill

Pete Peterson

Dean Swyter

Mike Evans

Calvin Evans

Marty Sankey

Larry Vallery

Zachery Smith

Bobby Gens

Nicole Smith

UTILITIES

Roy Cakerice

Wayne and Joan Hanson

Tim and Ann Thomas

Joan Peterson

Christmas Eve Acolytes

4:30

TBA

7:30

Savanna Smith & Leo Sullivan

10:00

TBA

Greeters and Welcome Center

8:30 - Greeters

Delores Ball

Welcome Desk

Rhonda Lofstedt

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Kerrin Kirkpatrick, Senior Minister/Lead Pastor

Rev. Nikki Ross Bishop, Associate Pastor

Nicole Smith, Director of Christian Education

Brooke Kruger, Youth Director

Deb Benefield, Director of Office & Communications

Reid Cummer, Business Manager

Myrna Cakerice, Organist/Director of Choirs

Steve Pelz, Facility Director

Matt Woodworth, Part-time/Sunday Custodian