

Ankeny United Church

A welcoming church family, exploring progressive Christian theology, caring within and serving beyond



Dongfeng Wang, 4/14/16 via Flickr

November 6, 2022, 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

All Saints Day

**No matter who you are,
no matter where you are on life's journey,
you are invited and welcome here!**



22nd Sunday after Pentecost

November 6, 2022

***Signifies the request to rise in body or spirit**

Gathering *(As we arrive to worship God, we greet new and old friends)*

Children are invited to participate in our worship and welcome as loved, squirmy, laughing, crying, children of God. A staffed nursery is also always available.

Words of Welcome and Responsive Call to Worship

ONE: We come into worship to mourn all those we have lost, to reunite with them at the table of promise, and to look with hope to the infinite futures of God's love.

ALL: We bring our whole selves to worship the God from whom we have come and toward whom we are moving!

ONE: We remember that nothing separates us from the love of God in Jesus Christ.

ALL: We welcome the Holy Spirit to renew us as we call 'Come and Worship!'

***Hymn #299 (black)**

"For All the Saints"

***Passing of the Peace**

(We share the hope for peace with one another)

Responsive Reading of Psalm 67

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ONE: Be merciful to us, O God, and bless us, show us the light of your countenance and come to us.

ALL: Let your ways be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

ONE: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, or you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.

ALL: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

ONE: The earth has brought forth its increase; may you, our own God, give us your blessing.

ALL: May you give us your blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of you.

Congregational Preparation: Alleluia

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**Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu- - ia, al-le-lu- -ia, al-le-lu- - - ia.
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu- - ia, al-le-lu- - ia, al-le-lu - ia.**

Following the silent prayer, we will sing again

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

Children's Sermon

As they gather, the congregation sings our welcoming song (tune 182)

**Child-ren come, to share and listen, children come with those who care.
We'll be with you in your grow-ing; when you go, we'll still be there.
Wheth-er you are glad and ea-ger or you'd rath-er sit and read; come and
join us for a mo-ment; may it be just what you need.**

Choral Anthem

Scripture

Isaiah 25:1,4a,6-10a (CEB)

LORD, you are my God. I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, planned long ago, faithful and sure... You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in distress, a hiding place from the storm, a shade from the heat. When the breath of tyrants is like a winter storm... On this mountain, the LORD of heavenly forces will prepare for all peoples a rich feast, a feast of choice wines, of select foods rich in flavor, of choice wines well refined.

He will swallow up on this mountain the veil that is veiling all peoples, the shroud enshrouding all nations. He will swallow up death forever. The LORD God will wipe tears from every face; he will remove his people's disgrace from off the whole earth, for the LORD has spoken. They will say on that day, "Look! This is our God," for whom we have waited—and he has saved us! This is the LORD, for whom we have waited; let's be glad and rejoice in his salvation!"

Sermon

The Day of the Saints

-Pastor Nathan

Offering

(We bring our gifts to God)

Offertory Response *Tune #780 (black)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here be-low;
Praise God a-bove, you heaven-ly host;
Praise Pa-rent, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

ALL: God, you show us throughout the stories of generations that we have hope even in the midst of mourning and sorrow. We dedicate these gifts to bringing that hope to the people in our lives who need it most. Amen.

Service of Holy Communion and Remembrance of the Saints

On All Saints' Day, we remember all the people in our lives we have lost this year.

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

ONE: We do not live perfect lives. Come now, and admit it, confessing our sins to God in the hearing of this congregation.

ALL: On this day celebrating all the saints who have gone before, we confess that we do not appreciate people enough when they are alive, and too often forget their humanity when they have died.

We confess that we do not give ourselves or people we love permission to be imperfect, but also too rarely ask how we can be better together. We confess that we hold people we disagree with to higher standards than we hold ourselves, and that we sometimes love our tribes more than we love you. We confess that too often we see death as the end of the world, and fear it too greatly. Forgive us, God, and show us new hope. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

ONE: Hear the good news. Christ died, and yet he lives. Through his infinite grace, we are forgiven. Go and live!

Service of Holy Communion

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Invitation to the Table

ONE: The invitation is simple: come and eat of the feast. Not a meal to nourish the body, but to feed the soul. We receive the bread and wine connected to the ages: to the saint of old who felt unworthy, to the seeker eager to know God, to the teenager who wonders what it's all about, to the child who eats with unburdened faith. Woven into this time, the hopes and tears of generations. There is great joy here. No one is turned away for God is the host!

***Hymn #332**

"As We Gather at Your Table"

ONE: God is in this place.

ALL: And in our hearts.

ONE: Open yourself to the nudging God.

ALL: People: We feel the breath of the Spirit.

ONE: Remember God made flesh.

ALL: Jesus, who taught us a new way.

ONE: Tender, transforming God, you have invited us to gather at this table,

ALL: To taste the feast, the same abundant promises offered to our ancestors in faith.

ONE: Time and time again you've offered your grace,

ALL: Even as we have stepped away, You continue to call us to be your people.

ONE: You have never left us.

ALL: We praise you for second, third, and fourth chances. You are ever-patient, always faithful.

ONE: We give thanks for this time of celebration.

ALL: For the One this meal remembers. For the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

ONE: With those who have gone before us,

ALL: Whose hands touched the bread, Whose lips embraced the cup, We worship you. We glorify you.

ONE: We remember those who have died in the past year. We celebrate their lives, even as we continue to grieve.

We remember:

(in this space, lift up names of those you wish to remember one at a time)

Bonnie Ballard

Doug Litterer

Bruce Willard

Garry Brown

John McCoy

Joe Wonderly

Rich DeReus

Shirley Ripley

Lois Stelpflug

Bryan Hoben

Margaret Thomas

Don Storjohann

And we remember all those who have gone before us.

This is the mystery of our faith:

ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

ONE: God of all, send your Spirit to this place so that those gathered here, in this sacred moment, may know your presence. As we eat the bread and drink of the cup, make us one with the saints, and with our sisters and brothers in faith around the world.

ALL: Be with us God, not only here but in every moment of our lives.

Help us to know you. To be guided by the Holy Spirit. And to live Christ.

Now and forever. Amen.

***Hymn #295**

"I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"

Preparation and Sharing of the feast

Bread and wine will be on the table in front of the pulpit. Come forth, take a piece of bread, and a cup of wine (white) or juice (purple), and receive a blessing. If you wish to be served in your seat, wave when asked. If you wish to receive a blessing but not communion, come to Pastor Nathan with arms crossed over your chest. You are welcome at this table.

Commissioning

(We share the church's actions in the world)

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response: #82 (black) Go, My Children, with My Blessing (v1)**

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**Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone;
Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own;
In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-ev-er,
Go, my chil-dren with my bless-ing, you are my own.**

Postlude

You are a valued part of the family of God just as you are. We at Ankeny United Church of Christ celebrate the diversity our Creator has given all people. Our community is incomplete and broken when our siblings in Christ are excluded because of their sexual orientation, gender identity, physical ability, mental ability, race, age, nationality, faith background, relationship status, family structure, economic situation, or any of the numerous other aspects of identity that make us each who we are. Your differences make you unique and should be celebrated in God's family. You are wonderfully and purposefully made in the image of our Creator, and you have a place here in fellowship with other members of God's Church. This is a place where you can praise, question, worship, laugh, mourn, doubt, wonder, celebrate, and otherwise live as part of a community with other people seeking God and loving their neighbors. We the members of Ankeny UCC promise to affirm your worth as an individual and your place in our community. You are joyously welcomed to join us just as you are.

Please sign the Red Friendship Pads in your pews so we can know you better!

Church Activities:

Our full calendar is online at <http://www.ankenyuucc.org/anken-yucc-google-calendar>

Sunday, Nov. 6:

9:15am K-5 Sunday
School
10:30am Worship
12:00pm 6-9 Sunday
School (Porch Light)

Monday, Nov. 7:

10:00am Deacons
1:00pm Stalking God

Wednesday, Nov. 8:

7:00pm Stalking God
7:00pm Choir

Sunday, Nov. 13:

9:15am K-5 Sunday
School
10:30am Worship
12:00pm 6-9 Sunday
School (Porch Light)



Choir Director

Laura Beckwith

Accompanist

Paige Wonderly

Organist

Nancy Pingel

Cantor

Brad Church



Pastor

Nathan Willard

Office Manager

Linda Shaull



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ankenyuucc



@ankenyuucc

A Welcoming Church Family Announcements:

Name Tags

It's time to start wearing name tags again! If you don't have one on the board outside the sanctuary, contact the office!

Caring Within Announcements:

Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for our annual meeting on November 20th after church! We will meet to elect new board members, discuss and pass the budget for 2023, and conduct any other business before the church.

Serving Beyond Announcements:

Songs of Gratitude

Local musicians from diverse faith communities will be hosting a concert benefiting the DMARC Food Pantry Network on November 6th at 6:30pm at Faith Lutheran Church in Clive. A free will offering will be available. They are encouraging donations of non-perishable food items such as peanut butter, canned fruit in juice, or whole grain cereal.

Thanksgiving Meals

Hope Ministries will be delivering free meals on Thanksgiving Day for those who may not otherwise be able to have a nice meal. If you or someone you know in the Des Moines area would like to receive a Thanksgiving meal please see their website, hopeiowa.org/mealorder or call them at 515-265-4277.

They are also looking for volunteers to help out on Thanksgiving day. Sign-up info can be found at <https://www.hopeiowa.org/get-involved/holiday-volunteer-opportunities/>

Weekly Coin Collection

Our coin collection for November and December will go to the North American Heritage Association.

Trick-or-Treating

We had fun trick-or-treating and collecting donations last weekend and enjoyed seeing everyone dressed up in their costumes!





A note on our worship:

In Ankeny United Church, we encourage the Holy Spirit to flow in our service to all who are called to be in this place. We encourage that through our use of Service Cards, collected on the way into the sanctuary. These worship tasks can be done by any person in our body who feels able (**Red cards** for reading, **Green cards** are for the offering, and **Blue cards** for acolytes and administrative duties).

If you collect a **Red Card**, you are invited to look over your reading, come to the front in the interlude before your reading and announce to the congregation: where they can follow along in the bulletin, the title of your reading, and how to follow along (silently, responsively, or all together).

If you take the **Acolyte Card**, we invite you to take the candle-lighters in the back during the Prelude at the opening of the service, process down the center aisle with the flame held high, light the candles on the table, and then return to the back. At the end of the service, take the candle lighters front again, light them from the altar, douse the altar candles, and process out bearing the light of Christ into the world. To put out the flame on the candle-holder, first blow it out, then retract the wick.

If you take an **offering card**, we invite you to gather in the back during the pastor's invitation to the offering, and take the plate or can. At the end of the invitation start passing the plate on one side of the congregation. If you have the coins, run around the sanctuary making as much noise as possible while collecting them after the offering. Everyone should then make their way back and come forward during the sung response, putting the offerings on the communion table beneath the cross.



Ankeny United Church of Christ
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