

“Within these walls let no-one be a stranger”

November 12th 2017



Richard Stokoe

Preparation: *Silent prayer beside the pulpit, 10.00 – 10.20 am*
Prelude: Enigma Variation No. 9 ("Nimrod"), Edward Elgar

Call to Worship and Approach to God

God is our refuge and our strength,
a timely help in trouble.

He breaks the bow, he snaps the spear,
he burns the shield in the fire.

**Come, see what the Lord has done
in every part of the wide world
he puts an end to war**

**Stop fighting: learn that I am God,
exalted among the nations,
exalted in the earth.** *Psalm 46: 1,8-11*

❖ **Hymn 6:**

God shall endure for aye

❖ **Prayer of approach** (ending with the Lord's Prayer)

(please say this in whichever language or version you prefer.)

Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Word of God

❖ **Children's address**

❖ **Introduction to the silence:**

They shall grow not old
as we that are left grow old,
age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun
and in the morning,
we will remember them.

All: We will remember them.

The Silence & Prayer

- ❖ **First Lesson** Matthew 25:1-13 (New Testament, p.27)
- ❖ **Choir:** *Peace I Leave with You*, René Clausen
- ❖ **Second Lesson** Joshua 24:1-3a,14-25 (Old Testament, p.222)
- ❖ **Hymn 715:** *Behold! the mountain of the Lord*
- ❖ **Sermon** *followed by pause for reflection*

Response to God's Word

- ❖ **Hymn 706:** *For the healing of the nations*
- ❖ **Prayers of Intercession**
- ❖ **Offering** *Turn Back, O Man*, Gustav Holst
- ❖ **Dedication:**

Gracious God,
 you offer us hope for our troubled world.
**Take and use us and these offerings
 for the coming of your realm
 of justice and peace. Amen**

- ❖ **Hymn** (*tune Ebenezer*)

1. Once to every man and nation,
 Comes the moment to decide,
 In the strife of truth with falsehood,
 For the good or evil side;
 Some great cause, some great decision,
 Off'ring each the bloom or blight,
 And the choice goes by forever,
 'Twixt that darkness and that light.
2. Then to side with truth is noble,
 When we share her wretched crust,
 Ere her cause bring fame and profit,
 And 'tis prosperous to be just;
 Then it is the brave one chooses
 While the coward stands aside,
 Till the multitude make virtue
 Of the faith they had denied.
3. By the light of burning martyrs,
 Christ, thy bleeding feet we track,
 Toiling up new Calv'ries ever
 with the cross that turns not back;
 New occasions teach new duties,
 Ancient values test our youth;
 They must upward still and onward,
 Who would keep abreast of truth.
4. Tho' the cause of evil prosper,
 Yet the truth alone is strong;
 Tho' her portion be he scaffold,
 And upon the throne be wrong;
 Yet the scaffold sways the future,
 And, behind the dim unknown,
 Standeth God within the shadow,
 Keeping watch above His own.
James Russell Lowell (1819 – 1891)

Sending out with blessing (*followed by sung Amen*)

Postlude: *Fantasia on "Ebenezer"*, Richard Purvis

*Please remain in place until the minister has left the Church.
 Please turn off your mobile phones*

A very warm WELCOME to all!

Please join us for refreshments after the service.

Our service today is conducted by our minister, Rev Dr Lance Stone. The reader is Malcolm Mason. Prayers of intercession are led by Reint Huizinga. Consistory members on duty are Mattia Falcone & Judi Haynes-Smart.

Notices

- **Visitors** are invited to sign the Visitors' Book after the service.
- There is a **crèche** for children under four years old, please ask at the door.
- **Sunday School** and **Junior Church** meet at the Lutheran Church, 4 Handboogstraat, across the Spui. Parents are asked to collect their children after the service.
- **Prayer:** Someone is available after the service in the chancel (behind the Communion table) for **anyone wishing to be prayed with**.
- Next Saturday, Nov 18th, two brothers are visiting Amsterdam from **Taizé**. There will be a **service at the Boomkerk** (30 mins) at 14.00 hrs followed by workshops. Come and explore Taizé's distinctive worship. All welcome.
- Get your ticket for the **2017 Mulanje Mission Hospital Benefit Concert** which is on Friday, 17 November at 7:30pm. Go to ercadam.nl/mmhconcert2017 or see Ingrid for more information.
- **Prepare your heart for Christmas!** Sunday evenings Dec 3rd, 10th, 17th, Advent Studies led by Elizabeth Cavert Morrison at 9, Jan Willem Brouwersstraat, 7:30pm. Connecting the Bible to your experience, your culture, your life. Study with a difference. Come to one, two or all sessions.
- **Film Night!** On Nov 30th at 7:30pm, 9 Jan Willem Brouwersstraat: part of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, the Men's Group invite you to join them too watch the film *Luther* about the great reformer. ALL welcome!
- Interested in work with refugees? Contact Gillian Walker at gillian.walker.ams@icloud.com.
- Interested in joining a **WhatsApp Bible reading group**, reading through Mark's Gospel? Especially (though not exclusively) aimed at Christians who are young in the faith and keen to learn. Speak to Pastor Lance.
- Pastor Lance is starting an **Exploring the Faith** class this week for anyone thinking of church membership, baptism or confirmation or who is just interested in a refresher course in the faith. Speak to Lance.
- Receive news about our **services, concerts and church life** by signing up to our weekly e-newsletter on the homepage of www.ercadam.nl.

Bible Readings for the Coming Weeks

These follow the Revised Common Lectionary, a programme of readings followed by churches all over the world. We normally use two of these passages in our services, sometimes quoting the Psalm in our Call to Worship. The passage we will focus upon is in **bold** type.

You might like to read these passages in advance of Sunday.

Nov 19th : Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; Matthew 25:14-30; **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

Nov 26th : **Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24**; Psalm 100; Matthew 25:31-46; Ephesians 1:15-23.

Church Contacts (See profiles of our elders in the church entrance)

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Don't forget to connect with the church online for all the latest news and information:



www.ercadam.nl



www.facebook.com/ERCAmsterdam



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Our Congregation

Founded in 1607 to serve the English speaking population of Amsterdam, we welcome worshippers from all over the world. Within the Reformed Tradition, we are part of the Church of Scotland (Presbyterian) and the Protestant Church of the Netherlands.

Our congregation relies on support through the gifts of time, talent and finance. We aim to be financially self-supporting and generous in outreach and mission.

Bank Accounts

English Reformed Church NL44 ABNA 0547 6235 50 Maintenance Fund:
Friends of the English Reformed Church: NL99 ABNA 0624 1800 69

Request for Information: I would like information about:

Church Membership Baptisms Concerts Sunday School or Crèche
 Weddings 20s30s Group Church Magazine Mulanje Mission Hospital
(www.mmh.mw) Volunteering

I would like the Minister to contact me:

Please note my change of address:

Name:

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Address & Postcode

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Telephone.....

Email.....



English Reformed
Church Amsterdam

A congregation of the Church of Scotland and
the Protestant Church of The Netherlands (PKN)

