

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

December 4th 2016

Preparation: *Silent prayer beside the pulpit, 10.00 – 10.20 am*
Prelude: To us is come the Savior, D. Buxtehude, and Anon.

Call to Worship and Approach to God

God, endow the king with your own justice,
his royal person with your righteousness,
**that he may govern your people rightly
and deal justly with your oppressed ones.**

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel,
Who alone does marvellous things;
**Blessed be his glorious name for ever;
May his glory fill the whole earth forever.**

Amen and Amen. *From Psalm 72: 1-2, 14-15*

❖ **Hymn 474:** *Hail to the Lord's anointed*

❖ **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**

❖ **Hymn 282** (v.1 & 2 with chorus): *'Christmas is coming!'*

❖ **First Lesson** *Isaiah 11:1-10 (Old Testament, p.650)*

❖ **Music in worship:** *Maria's Lullaby, Max Reger,
Judi Haynes-Smart, soprano*

❖ **Second Lesson:** *Matthew 3:1-12 (New Testament, p.2)*

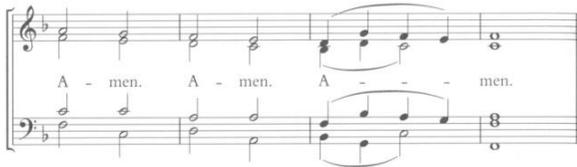
❖ **Hymn 241:** *Isaiah the prophet has written of old*

❖ **Sermon** *stumps and shoots* *followed by pause for reflection*

Response to God's Word

- ❖ Hymn 276: *Wait for the Lord, his day is near*
- ❖ Prayers of Intercession
- ❖ Offering & dedication *How brightly shines the morning star, Helmut Walcha*
- ❖ Hymn 666: *Let all mortal flesh keep silence*
- ❖ Confession of faith, Hymn 628: *I believe in God the Father Almighty*
- ❖ The Sharing of the Peace
- ❖ The Invitation and the story of the Last Supper
- ❖ Prayer of Thanksgiving:
The Lord be with you and also with you
Lift up your hearts we life them up to the Lord
Let us give thanks It is right to give
to the Lord our God our thanks and praise
- ... with earth and sea and sky, and all the heavenly host we join in singing...
Hymn 651: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
- ❖ Prayer of Consecration
... your body on earth, loving and caring in the world...
**Behold the lamb of God, behold the lamb of God,
who takes away the sin, the sin of the world.**
- ❖ Sharing of bread and wine *Picardy, Richard Cummins*
Note that gluten-free bread will be served on the bread plates and alcohol-free wine will be circulated by an elder.
- ❖ Prayer
- ❖ Hymn 291: *When out of poverty is born*

Sending out with blessing (followed by sung Amen)



Postlude: *From heaven high to earth I come, J.S.Bach*

*Please remain in place until the Consistory have 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, Revd Dr Lance Stone. The reader today is Bianca Schriek; Prayers of Intercession are led by Ingrid Zimmermann Sørensen; Consistory members on duty are Giles Francis & Peggy Krol.

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 for more information. **Sunday School** is held at the Church Hall, 282A Nieuwezijds Voorburgwaal (see map on back of this service sheet). Parents are asked to collect their children after the end of the service.
- **Prayer:** Someone is available after the service in the chancel (behind the Communion table) for **anyone wishing to be prayed with**.
- There will be **Carol Singing on the Spui** after today's service, at 12:30pm. We will be singing and handing out leaflets for our 'A Christmas Carol' event this Thursday (see below). All welcome to join in singing or giving out leaflets.
- The December **Coffee Morning** takes place this Tuesday, 6 December at the home of Pat Rood-van Beem in Sassenheim. More information from Pastor Lance or from Pat.
- **Wednesday Dec 7th from 17.00: Decorating the Church for Christmas!** Volunteers needed – please come and help! See Susan or Thijs Polstra for more information.
- **Thursday Dec 8th - the annual Mulanje Mission fundraising event: Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol'!** Doors open 18.00 for soup and refreshments; show begins 19.30. Still tickets to be sold and tasks to do: please think how you might contribute to a successful evening and speak to Pamela, Annie or Sally.
- **Children's Christmas Party** on Dec 10th, 3.00 – 5.00 pm. Any volunteers to provide some food? Please speak to Veronica, our lay assistant. The party will be preceded by the second Nativity Play rehearsal, from 13.00 in the church. Dress Rehearsal will be on Sunday 11th at 9.00am before the performance during that day's service
- Interested in **outreach to refugees**? Contact Gillian Walker on gillian.walker@tele2.nl.
- The **International Federation for Family Development** is devoted to the enrichment of family and married life, including support for parenting. They would be willing run workshops for us on these topics if there is interest in our church. Please speak to Lance if you would like more information.
- 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.

Dec 11th : Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:5-10; **Luke 2:1-14**; James 5:7-10.

Dec 18th : Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7,17-19; **Matthew 1:18-25**; James 5:7-10.

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

Rev Dr Lance Stone, Minister minister@ercadam.nl, 020 672 2288
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Mr Jens Anders Wejsmark Sørensen, Webmaster webmaster@ercadam.nl

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)

