

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

December 11th 2016

Nativity Service



‘...a multitude of the heavenly host praising God...’

Preparation: *Silent prayer beside the pulpit, 10.00 – 10.20 am*
Prelude: Nun komm der Heiden Heiland, D. Buxtehude
Maria zart von edler Art, Arnolt Schlick

Call to Worship and Approach to God

The stars and the galaxies praise you, living God -
and we join our voices with theirs.

Mountains and rivers, forests and seas praise you -
and we join our voices with theirs.

Angels and archangels, all the heavenly host praise you –
and we join our voices with theirs.

Let all things praise the living God.

Let all things praise the Saviour who comes.

❖ **Hymn 277:** *Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes*

❖ **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** - chorus, verses 1 & 2, +

The third is for the angels,
who told of a king's birth;
as poor lowly shepherds
heard heaven's song on earth.

❖ **The Biggest Gig**

❖ **Lesson:**

Luke 2:8-20 (New Testament, p.56)

❖ **Hymn 296:**

While humble shepherds watched their flocks

❖ **Sermon:** *a thin place*

Response to God's Word

❖ **Hymn 324**

Angels from the realms of glory

❖ **Prayers of Intercession**

❖ **Offering**

Advent Carol, Dale Wood

❖ **Dedication: Hymn no.305, v.5, followed by:**

Gracious God,
as angels offer you their song
and proclaimed a new king's birth,
**so we offer you our gifts
of time and talents and money,
and ask you to use them
in the service of our Lord and saviour,
Jesus Christ. Amen**

❖ **Hymn 475:**

Christ is coming!

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



A - men. A - men. A - - - men.

Postlude:

Vom Himmel hoch da komm ich her, F.W. Marpurg

*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, Revd Dr Lance Stone. The reader is Emilia Francis. Consistory members on duty are Laura Elliott & Seppo Stout.

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. Today is a family service so there is no Sunday School or Junior Church.
- **Prayer:** Someone is available after the service in the chancel (behind the Communion table) for **anyone wishing to be prayed with**.
- Very many thanks indeed to all who organised, helped and attended Thursday's 'Christmas Carol 'event for the Mulanje Mission Hospital!
- Interested in **outreach to refugees**? Contact Gillian Walker on gillian.walker@tele2.nl.
- **Cooking at De Kloof!** Our church is committed to cooking lunch at this homeless shelter every second Monday of the month. If you are interested, please contact Tom Flanagan: dekloof@ercadam.nl

Christmas services and activities

Tuesday Dec 13th, 8 pm: Carols by candlelight followed by refreshments.

Sunday Dec 18th, 10.30 am: Morning worship as usual. Sunday school, crèche.

Sunday Dec 18th, 15.00 hrs at Krijtberg Roman Catholic Church on the Singel:

Ecumenical carol service with churches on and around the Spui.

Saturday Dec 24th, 22.30 hrs: Christmas Eve service

Sunday Dec 25th, 10.30 am: Christmas morning family service.

- We have a weekly collection of **non-perishable food and household goods** for distribution to those who are in need locally. These can be left in a box in the vestibule of the church before the service.
- 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 18th : Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7,17-19; **Matthew 1:18-25**; James 5:7-10.

Dec 25th : Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; **Luke 2:1-7**; Titus 3:4-7

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

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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:

.....

Address & Postcode

.....

Telephone.....

Email.....



English Reformed Church Amsterdam

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

