

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

February 19th 2017



Preparation:

Silent prayer beside the pulpit, 10.00 – 10.20 am
Prelude: Ricercare, Giovanni da Palestrina

Call to Worship and Approach to God

We call on the power of God
to meet us in our helplessness:

**God in our thinking,
God in our speaking.**

We call on the clarity of God
to meet us in our confusion:

**God in our acting,
God in our stillness.**

We call on the mercy of God
to meet us in our brokenness

**God in our waking,
God in our sleeping.**

We call on the Spirit of God
to meet us in our division:

**God is our meeting,
God in our parting.**

❖ **Hymn 132:**

Immortal, invisible, God only wise

❖ **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**

❖ **Lesson:**

Matthew 13:1-9,31-32 (New Testament, p.13)

- ❖ 1. The sower went out and sowed the seed a-hum;
The sower went out and sowed the seed a-hum;
Some seed along the path did spill,
The birds came by and had their fill, *a-hum*
- 2. He sowed his seed upon some rock a-hum; (x 2)
The seed grew up but soon did die,
The soil was thin, the earth was dry, *a-hum*
- 3. He sowed his seed among some thorns a-hum; (x 2)
And sad to say the thorns did grow
And choked the seed the sower had sowed, *a-hum*
- 4. He sowed some seed upon good ground a-hum, (x 2)
Up from the earth that seed did shoot
It grew and grew and bore much fruit, *a-hum*
- ❖ **Lesson:** Ezekiel 17:22-24 (Old Testament, p.796)
- Music in worship:** *Create in me, O God, a pure heart, Joh. Brahms*
- ❖ **Hymn 343:** *The reign of God, like farmer's field*
- ❖ **Sermon:** *followed by pause for reflection*

Response to God's Word

- ❖ **Hymn 253:** *Inspired by love and anger*
- ❖ **Prayers of Intercession**
- ❖ **Offering** *O come, let us worship, G. da Palestrina*
- ❖ **Dedication: Hymn 811 followed by:**
Gracious God,
All that we have comes from you:
**We return to you these tokens
of our gratitude and dedicate ourselves
to the work of your Kingdom. Amen**
- ❖ **Hymn 248:** *'For my sake and the gospel's, go'*

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

Postlude: *Pro Fine, Peter Cornet*

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

Our service today is shared by our minister, Rev Dr Lance Stone, and Ds. Marjolijn de Waal who is preaching. The reader today is Laura Elliott. Consistory members on duty are Thijs Glasz & Heleen Koning.

A very warm WELCOME to all!

Please join us for refreshments afterwards.

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.
- **Prayer:** Someone is available after the service in the chancel (behind the Communion table) for **anyone wishing to be prayed with**.
- **Sunday School** is held at the Church Hall, 282A Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal (see map on back of this service sheet). Parents are asked to collect their children after the end of the service.
- **Midweek Fellowship this week: Ladies Fellowship & Men's Group.** For more information contact Pastor Lance.
- **LENT** is fast approaching and there two suggestions for sharing in this important season.
 - 1) There will be daily a Bible reading, reflection and prayer on the church website. Perhaps commit to doing this?
 - 2) Participate in a techno-fast! One day per week (you choose which), turn off your phone and computer and abstain from texting, checking emails and the internet. Further suggestion: give a donation to the Mulanje Mission Hospital for each day you succeed and sign up on the notice board to say you are doing this.
- Churches in Amsterdam are joining forces to **support refugees**. Football matches are being organized! The first matches will be on Sunday 26th March. Level of fitness, age, sex are irrelevant. If you fancy joining in – striker, goalie or maybe even ref!- just let Michael Blazey or Gillian Walker know, at: *gillian.walker.ams@icloud.com; michael.blazey@online.nl*
- Anyone interested in a 4 week 'Exploring the Faith' course, looking at the story the Bible tells and how we fit into it? For anyone considering baptism, confirmation, church membership. Speak to Lance.
 - **Cooking at De Kloof!** Our church is committed to cooking lunch at this homeless shelter every second Monday of the month. Interested? Please contact Tom Flanagan: *dekloof@ercadam.nl*
- 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 or passages we will focus upon is in **bold** type.

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

Feb 26th : Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2; **Matthew 17:1-19**; 2 Peter 1:16-21.

March 5th : **Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7**; Psalm 32; **Matthew 4:1-11**; Romans 5:12-19.

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:

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Address & Postcode

.....

Telephone.....

Email.....



English Reformed
Church Amsterdam

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

