

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

December 23th 2018



Preparation: *Silent prayer, 10.00 am, 20 mins, front right of church*

Prelude: La Nativité, Jean Langlais

Call to Worship and Approach to God

The mighty God has done great things;
his name is holy,

**his mercy sure from generation to generation
towards those that fear him.**

He has shown the might of his arm,

he has routed the proud and all their schemes;

he has brought down monarchs from their thrones
and raised in high the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with goods things

and the rich he has sent empty away. Luke 1: 49-53

❖ **Hymn 290:** *The race that long in darkness pined*

❖ **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.1-4

Christmas is coming!

❖ Lesson:

Luke 1:39-45 (New Testament, p.54)

❖ Music in worship

The Shepherds, Peter Cornelius
Judi Haynes-Smart, soprano

❖ Lesson:

Micah 5:1-4 (Old Testament p.880)

❖ Hymn 308:

Behold the great Creator makes

❖ Sermon:

Followed by pause for reflection

Response to God's Word

❖ Hymn 285:

The Angel Gabriel from heaven came

❖ Prayers of Intercession

❖ Offering

The Infant Christ, P. Cornelius

❖ Dedication: Hymn 305, v.5, followed by

As Mary offered herself
in your service, so we offer
these gifts and ourselves:

that the earth may be filled

with righteousness

and the hungry filled with good things. Amen.

❖ Hymn 286:

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!

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

Postlude: *Swiss Noel, with variations*, Louis Claude Daquin

Please remain in place until the minister has left the Church.

Please turn off your mobile phones.

Our service is led this morning by our student minister, Alexander Noordijk. Scripture reader is Gillian Walker; prayers of intercession are led by our minister, Rev Dr Lance Stone.

Consistory members on duty are Thorsten König and Nick Thomas.

A very warm WELCOME to all!

Please join us for **refreshments** after the service.
If you are new you might like to visit our **Welcome Desk**.

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.
- Please note that we need more volunteers to help with the creche rota. Is this something you might be able to help with? Please speak to Pastor Lance or Nancy Owusu Sekyere.
- **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**: If anyone feels in particular **need of prayer** today, an elder (Peggy Krol) will be available after the service in the chancel, behind the communion table, to pray with them.
- There is no **Midweek Fellowship** this week. Coming soon: fortnightly midweek fellowship Bible Study recommences on January 16th with a series on the Book of Revelation.

Christmas services and events:

Mon Dec 24th, 17.30 hrs: early Christmas Eve Carol service
" " 24th, 22.30 hrs: Christmas Eve service
Tues Dec 25th, 10.30 hrs: Christmas Day all-age service

- **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.
- Interested in work with refugees? Contact Gillian Walker at gillian.walker.ams@icloud.com.
- 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. You might like to read these passages in advance of Sunday.

Dec 30th: 1 Samuel 2:18-20,26; Psalm 148; **Luke 2:41-52**; Colossians 3:12-17.

Jan 6th: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7,10-14; Matthew 2:1-1-2; **Ephesians 3:1-12**.

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

Rev Dr Lance Stone, Minister minister@ercadam.nl, 020 672 2288
Ms Heleen Koning, Scriba, scriba@ercadam.nl, 06 13097756
Dr Thorsten König, Treasurer treasury@ercadam.nl, 0294 772934
Mr Richard Zook, Music Director organist@ercadam.nl, 075 6311419
Ms Susan Polstra, Church Officer churchofficer@ercadam.nl, 020 622 4158
Ms Veronica Garcia Robles, Lay Assistant layassistant@ercadam.nl
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



[TweetERCADAM](https://twitter.com/TweetERCADAM)

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)