

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

December 1st 2019

1st Sunday in Advent

Preparation:

Silent prayer beside the pulpit, 10.00 – 10.20

*Prelude: "Zion Hears the Watchmen Singing" from Cantata 140, J.S. Bach
Nina Schroeder, french horn*

Call to Worship and Approach to God

Leader: among the poor, among the proud,

Males: among the persecuted,

Females: among the privileged,

All: Christ is coming to make all things new.

Leader: with a gentle touch, with an angry word

Males: with fiery judgement,

Females: with burning love,

All: Christ is coming to make all things new.

Leader: that the Kingdom might come,

that the world might believe,

Males: that the powerful might stumble,

Females: that the hidden might be seen,

All: Christ is coming to make all things new.

Leader: Within us, without us, behind us, before us,

Males: in this place, in every place,

Females: for this time, for all time,

All: Christ is coming to make all things new.

❖ **Hymn 273:** *O come, O come, Emmanuel*

❖ **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, farewell to Alexander Noordijk and**

Hymn 282 (chorus and v.1): *'Christmas is coming!'*

❖ **Holy Scripture:** Isaiah 2:1-5 (Old Testament, p.641)

❖ **Music in worship:** *"And the Glory of the Lord"* from *Messiah* - G.F. Handel

❖ **Holy Scripture:** Matthew 24:36-44 (New Testament, p.26)

- ❖ **Hymn 472:** *Come, thou long-expected Jesus*
- ❖ **Sermon:** *The Advent Challenge* followed by pause for reflection

Response to God's Word

- ❖ **Hymn 774:** *Jesus, name above all names*

❖ Prayers of Intercession

- ❖ **Offering*** *Salvation is Nearer*, Virgil T. Ford followed by **Dedication**

- ❖ **Hymn 477:** *Lo, he comes with clouds descending*

- ❖ **Confession of faith, Hymn 628:** *I believe in God the Father Almighty*

❖ The Peace, 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 lift 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...*

❖ 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** "*Pifa*" from *Messiah*, G.F. Handel;

Sections of the *Magnificat*, J.F. Fasch

Note that gluten-free bread will be served on the bread plates and alcohol-free wine will be circulated by an elder.

❖ Prayer

- ❖ **Hymn 476:** *Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord*

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

Postlude: "Gloria" from Magnificat, J.F. Fasch

Please switch off your mobile phones, and please remain in place until the elders and minister have left the Church.

** Please note that there is a card donation point at the exit of the church.*

Worship this morning is conducted by our minister, Rev Dr Lance Stone and our student minister, Alexander Noordijk, to whom we say farewell. Holy Scripture is read by Victoria Lavelle; prayers of intercession are led by Thorsten König. Consistory members on duty are Mattia Falcone & Peggy Krol.

*This is an **all-age Communion service**. All the baptised and those who look to Jesus as Saviour are welcome to partake of Communion.*

A very warm WELCOME to all!

Please join us for **refreshments** after the service.

If you regularly remain for coffee you might consider bringing your own coffee cup with you to cut down on waste. Please take it home with you and wash it there.

If you are new you might like to visit our **Welcome Desk**.

Notices

- We welcome members of the **Purcell Chamber Orchestra** to today's service.
- **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.
- There is no **Sunday School** or **Junior Church** this morning as this is an all-age Communion service.
- **Prayer:** anyone in particular **need of prayer** today, someone (Je Corro) will be available after the service in the chancel (behind the communion table).
- Note that last week's Pub-quiz raised €700 for Mulanje Mission Hospital and tree planting in Malawi.

This week's activities:

- **Monday, 14.00-16.00 hrs** here at the church: **Angel Yarnbomb Knit-In** – a Christmas outreach project. For more info please ask: Sally Stone: sallyannstone7@gmail.com, Gillian Walker, gillian.walker.ams@icloud.com.
- **Tuesday, 8.45 hrs** here at the church: **Psalms and Prayers** (30 mins approx.). You are welcome to come for all or part, perhaps before work.
- **Wednesday, 19.30 hrs**, at 9, Jan Willem Brouwersstraat, 1071LH: **Bible Study:** 'Sabbath as resistance'.

Advent and Christmas Services and Activities

Friday Dec 13th, 20.00 hrs: Carols by Candlelight with choir
Saturday Dec 14th, 15.00 hrs: Sunday School Christmas Party
Sunday Dec 15th, 16.00 hrs: Ecumenical Advent service at the Mennonite Church, The Singel, with our choir
Sunday Dec 22nd, 10.30 hrs: Morning worship with ordination of new elders, followed by carol singing and angels on the Spui
Tuesday Dec 24th, 17.30 hrs: All-age Christmas Eve service
" " " " , 22.30 hrs: Late night Christmas Eve service
Wednesday Dec 25th, 10.30 hrs: All-age Christmas morning worship

Other:

- **Cooking at De Kloof!** Our church cooks lunch at this homeless shelter once per month. Interested in helping? Information at the Welcome Desk.
- Receive news about our **services, concerts and church life** by signing up to our weekly e-newsletter on the homepage of www.ercadam.nl.
- This liturgy sheet is available in **large print** in the vestibule.

Next Week's readings:

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 8th : Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7,18-19; **Matthew 3:1-12**; Romans 15:4-13

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
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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



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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)

