

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

December 29<sup>th</sup> 2019,  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas



*‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt...  
for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.’*

*Matthew 2:13*

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

*Prelude: The Old Year Now Hath Passed Away, J.S. Bach*

## **Call to Worship and Approach to God**

I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD,  
**the praiseworthy acts of the LORD,**  
because of all that the LORD has done for us,  
**and the great favour to the house of Israel**  
that he has shown them according to his mercy,  
**according to the abundance of his steadfast love.**

*Isaiah 63:7*

❖ **Hymn 325:** *Bethlehem, a noble city*

❖ **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 330: *The tyrant issues his decree*
- ❖ Holy Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25 (New Testament p.1)
- ❖ Music in worship: *The Kings*, M. Blancafort  
Persephone Abbott, soprano
- ❖ Holy Scripture: Jeremiah 31:15-17 (Old Testament p.745)
- ❖ Hymn 331: *Unto us a boy is born!*
- ❖ Sermon: The Empire Strikes Back *Followed by pause for reflection*

## Response to God's Word

- ❖ Hymn 295: *Who would think that what was needed*
- ❖ Prayers of Intercession
- ❖ Offering\* *Alleluia*, W.A. Mozart
- ❖ Dedication: Hymn 305: v.5, followed by:  
Generous God,  
giver of every good gift  
who withheld not even the gift of your Son  
**use us and use these gifts  
for the bringing of peace and plenty,  
safety and security to all,  
we pray in Christ's name. Amen.**
- ❖ Hymn 318: *Lord, you were rich beyond all splendour*

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

Postlude: *Agincourt Hymn*, John Dunstable

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

*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 minister, Rev Dr Lance Stone.  
Scripture reader is Thijs Polstra; prayers of intercession are led by Ingrid Sørensen .*

*Consistory members on duty are Jaap Maas and Gillian Walker.*

# 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

- **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.
- **Sunday School, Junior Church** meet at 4 Handboogstraat, across the Spui. Parents please collect your children after the service.
- **Prayer:** anyone in **need of prayer** today, someone (Margaret Richards) will be available after the service in the chancel (behind the communion table).
- The **Men's Group meet today for an end-of-year lunch at a nearby café**. Meet at the Welcome Desk at 12:15 if you would like to come.
- Please note that the **funeral of Janny Schouten** takes place tomorrow, Monday 30<sup>th</sup>, at 10.30 hrs at Monuta de Jager, Nieuwe Hilversumseweg 59, Bussum.

### Weekly activities:

Please note that our short Tuesday morning **service of psalm reciting and prayers** is suspended until January 7<sup>th</sup>, as is our **Midweek Fellowship**. This resumes on Wednesday Jan 8<sup>th</sup> at 19.30 hrs, with a joint Taizé service here with the Begijnhofkapel. Fortnightly **Bible Study** at 9 Jan Willem Brouwersstraat 1071LH resumes on January 15<sup>th</sup>.

### Coming soon:

- **Sunday Jan 19<sup>th</sup>:** start of **The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**. We will be celebrating by joining with the other churches on the Spui & Singel at the end of our service in the Krijtberg Roman Catholic Church for a hymn and blessing, followed by refreshments at the Mennonite Church next door to the Krijtberg, followed by a **BIG SING**: congregational singing of songs from all over the world compiled by the Iona Community in Scotland.

### 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](http://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.

Jan 5<sup>th</sup> : Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7,10-14; Matthew **2:1-12**; Ephesians 3:1-12

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

**Rev Dr Lance Stone**, Minister [minister@ercadam.nl](mailto:minister@ercadam.nl), 020 672 2288  
**Ms Heleen Koning**, Scriba, [scriba@ercadam.nl](mailto:scriba@ercadam.nl), 06 13097756  
**Dr Thorsten König**, Treasurer [treasury@ercadam.nl](mailto:treasury@ercadam.nl), 0294 772934  
**Mr Richard Zook**, Music Director [organist@ercadam.nl](mailto:organist@ercadam.nl), 075 6311419  
**Ms Susan Polstra**, Church Officer [churchofficer@ercadam.nl](mailto:churchofficer@ercadam.nl), 020 622 4158  
**Ms Veronica Garcia Robles**, Lay Assistant [layassistant@ercadam.nl](mailto:layassistant@ercadam.nl)  
**Mr Jens Anders Wejsmark Sørensen**, Webmaster [webmaster@ercadam.nl](mailto:webmaster@ercadam.nl)

Don't forget to connect with the church online for all the latest news and information:



[www.ercadam.nl](http://www.ercadam.nl)



[www.facebook.com/ERCAmsterdam](http://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](http://www.mmh.mw))  Volunteering

I would like the Minister to contact me:

Please note my change of address:

Name:

.....

Address & Postcode

.....

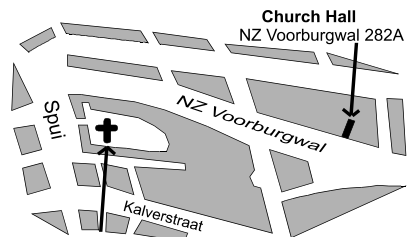
Telephone.....

Email.....



English Reformed  
Church Amsterdam

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



English Reformed Church  
Begijnhof 48