

**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**July 11, 2021**  
**Seventh Sunday After Pentecost**

**WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

Prelude

Welcome

- \* God's Greeting
- \* We Greet One Another
- \* Call to Worship: (Inspired by Psalm 124, Psalm 72)

*O come, let us worship and bow down, Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!*

**For he is our God, And we are the people of his pasture, And the sheep of his hand.**

*The whole earth is filled with his Glory. He is the source of healing and wholeness!*

**May he endure longer than the sun, Longer than the moon, through all generations.**

**He is like rain falling on a mown field, like showers watering the earth.**

*In his days may the righteous flourish and prosperity abound till the moon is no more.*

**Praise the Lord!**

- \* Opening Song: "Beautiful Savior" *Lift Up Your Hearts #17*

Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!

Truly I'd love Thee, truly I'd serve thee, Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;

Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer; He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high;

Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!

Glory and honor, Praise, adoration, Now and forevermore be Thine!

- \* Opening prayer

**WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD**

Prayer of Confession (Inspired by Isaiah 11: 1-10, Psalm 72, Matthew 3:1-12)

*When our faith is rooted deeply in you, O God,*

*our lives reflect your kingdom values of justice and righteousness,*

*but sometimes our lives become so entangled with the values of the world,*

*that your values take second place.*

*Forgive us, O God,*

*and reconnect us to the Holy Spirit,*

*source of power and life.*

**Merciful God, strip our hearts and minds**

**of all that prevents our lives being firmly rooted in you.**

**May our lives bear fruit worthy of our faith in you,**

**as we watch your Kingdom breaking into our world,**

**in the person of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.**

Song of Assurance: "Mighty to Save"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #611*

Everyone needs compassion, A love that's never failing; Let mercy fall on me.

Everyone needs forgiveness, The kindness of a Savior, The hope of nations.

Savior, He can move the mountains; My God is mighty to save, He is mighty to save.

Forever Author of salvation, He rose and conquered the grave; Jesus conquered the grave.

So take me as You find me, All my fears and failures; Fill my life again.

I give my life to follow Everything I believe in. Now I surrender.

Savior, He can move the mountains; My God is mighty to save, He is mighty to save.

Forever Author of salvation, He rose and conquered the grave; Jesus conquered the grave.

Shine your light and let the whole world see We're singing For the glory of the risen King.

Jesus!

Shine your light and let the whole world see We're singing For the glory of the risen King.

Savior, He can move the mountains; My God is mighty to save, He is mighty to save.

Forever Author of salvation, He rose and conquered the grave; Jesus conquered the grave.

God's Mercy to Haiti - Pastor Jeff Maskovich

God's Vision of Wholeness for His World and His Love for Us (Psalm 72: 8,13,14,18)

**Blessed be the Lord our God, who does wondrous things.**

*For he will deliver the needy who cry out,*

*the afflicted who have no one to help.*

*He will take pity on the weak and the needy*

*and save the needy from death.*

*He will rescue them from oppression and violence,*

*for precious is their blood in his sight.*

**Praise be to the Lord God, the God of Israel,**

**who alone does marvelous deeds. Amen!**

Congregational Prayer

## **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

Children's Message

Scripture Reading: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-42

<sup>24</sup> Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. <sup>25</sup> But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. <sup>26</sup> When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

<sup>27</sup> "The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?'

<sup>28</sup> "'An enemy did this,' he replied. "The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'

<sup>29</sup> "'No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'"

<sup>36</sup> Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field." <sup>37</sup> He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom.

The weeds are the people of the evil one,<sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.<sup>40</sup> “As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age.<sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil.<sup>42</sup> They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Message: “Stories with Intent: Lost in the Weeds”

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

Prayer of Application

Song of Response: “Be Unto Your Name”

We are a moment, You are forever Lord of the Ages, God before time

We are a vapor, You are eternal Love everlasting, reigning on high

Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain

Highest praises, honor and glory Be unto Your name, be unto Your name

We are the broken, You are the healer Jesus, Redeemer, Mighty to save

You are the love song we'll sing forever Bowing before You, blessing Your name

Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain

Highest praises, honor and glory Be unto Your name, be unto Your name

Be unto Your name

## **WE DEPART TO SERVE**

\* Blessing

\* Closing Song: “In Christ There Is No East or West” (Vs.1-3,5)

*Lift Up Your Hearts #268*

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no pride of birth,

The chosen family God has blessed now spans the whole wide earth.

For God in Christ has made us one from every land and race;

he reconciled us through his Son and met us with his grace.

It is by grace we are assured that we belong to him;

the love we share in Christ our Lord, the Spirit works within.

In Christ there is no east or west; he breaks all barriers down;

by Christ redeemed, by Christ possessed, in Christ we live as one.

\* Postlude

\* Please Stand if You Are Able

Children’s Message: Jeff Kopaska

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musician: Andrew & Naomi Friend

## **THIS SUNDAY**

**Special Offering and Guest** - On Sunday, **Jeff Maskevich**, founder and director of **God's Mercy to Haiti**, will be visiting our church and sharing more about this ministry in Haiti. God's Mercy to Haiti- consisting of a church, school, and clinic- is a teaching and mercy ministry to the impoverished Haitian village of Kilbitè. A special offering will also be taken.

**Church Pictures** - On Sunday, Christina will plan on taking pictures of the service and start taking family pictures for the bulletin board. During the service, please sit towards the front of the sanctuary.

**Nursery** - The nursery will be reopening this week with two volunteers - either 1 adult and 1 helper (age 12 or older) OR 2 adults. Adults must be vaccinated to serve in the nursery. We can use more volunteers. If you are interested in serving, please let Christina know.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Christian Education Tuition Assistance Fund** - Applications for this year's assistance are on the table outside of the sanctuary. Applications need to be in by **July 11**. Any questions, please see a deacon.

**Council Retreat on 7/14** - On Wednesday, Council is having a meeting to discuss strategic planning and future of the church. Please let a member of council know if you have any suggestions. Please be in prayer for this meeting.

**Sunday Evening Book Club** - This group is discussing J.I. Packer's classic book *Knowing God*. They meet on **Sundays at 6:30 PM** in the Fellowship Hall.

**Birthday Card Shower for Eleanor Ostendorf** - Eleanor's birthday is on **July 11**. Please consider mailing her a card to help her celebrate her birthday.

**UFOs Meeting** - **UFOs** will meet on **Monday, July 12 at 7 PM** at church. Depending on the weather, this will be either outdoors or in the Fellowship Hall. Wings of Refuge has sent over information about Tea Etiquette, so we will watch their tea etiquette video and then continue on with fellowship. Please bring your own hot or cold tea.

**Breakfast Club** meets on the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays** at the Lincoln Center HyVee at **8:30 AM**.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS (Some responses requested)**

**Church keys** - A number of people have keys to the church building. The church building is generally open Tuesday - Friday from 9-12 and 1-5. If you have a key and do not frequently need access to the building outside of these hours, please return it to Jim Bergman, Bill Frazier, or Christina. For those that need occasional access to the church, we can give you access to the lock box near the door into the Fellowship Hall; however, this key does not open the office doors. If you are keeping your key, please let us know what letter is listed on it (possibly the letter "M" or "S").

## **Church Pictures**

The church is looking to collect pictures for two reasons:

1. We'd like to update the family picture bulletin board. If you have your own picture that you want to use, please send it to Christina.
2. We also have a new website that launched this week. Tina VanDyk has been working hard to switch web platforms and update the content on the website. The pictures on the website need to be updated. If you have any pictures from church events that you'd like to share, please send them to Tina or Christina (office@amestrinity.org).

Finally, Christina will work on having families sign an updated Photo and Live Streaming Release Form.

### **Church Entry Garden**

The garden near the entry of the church has recently been updated in memory of Ralph Oltman. Thank you Judy for organizing this beautiful work and for making the entry more welcoming!

### **DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WOW! CREATION!** - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). God loves when you enjoy his creation. He loves that you have a favorite color! How incredible is that? Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and subscribe to KC's weekly emails for all the new content.

**At-home Faith Formation Tip** - The Practice of Remembering: Reading the Old Testament shows that even though God loved, protected, and provided for the people of Israel, time after time they forgot God. How might we become people who remember God? What might you add to your home or to your schedule to serve as a daily reminder to connect with God?

#### Calvin University

**"Praise Ye The Lord" Youtube Concert** - The Calvin Alumni Choir presents a virtual concert "Praise Ye The Lord" featuring works of Alice Parker, Sean Ivory, Poulenc, F. Melius Christiansen, and more. Join us for the YouTube premiere on **July 23 at 7 PM**. Find us on YouTube or Facebook by searching "Calvin Alumni Choir". We look forward to sharing our music with you once again. Any questions can be emailed to [alumnichoir@calvin.edu](mailto:alumnichoir@calvin.edu)

**Paul's Missionary Journeys in Turkey & the Seven Churches of Revelation** - (May 23 - June 4, 2022): Walk in the footsteps of Paul and John during the day and study their New Testament writings at night! Join host Jeff Weima, professor of New Testament at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading biblical scholar, for this truly inspirational tour. Travel by deluxe motorcoach to sites connected with Paul's First, Second, and Third Missionary Journeys and the seven churches to whom John wrote the Book of Revelation. For more information, contact Dr. Weima at [weimje@calvinseminary.edu](mailto:weimje@calvinseminary.edu).

**Pastor Randy Raak:** [pastor@amestrinity.org](mailto:pastor@amestrinity.org) or 928-699-9329

**Elders:** A-G = Tom Kuyper, H-K = Melody Franje, L-S = Mark Voss, T-Z = Paul Kleinwolterink

**Deacons:** A-G = Tina VanDyk, H - K = Andrew Friend, L-S = Judy Oltman, T-Z = Donna Bergman