

WORSHIP SERVICE
August 29, 2021
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

- * God's Greeting
- * We Greet One Another
- * Call to Worship

*O God, you pour out the Spirit of grace and love.
Deliver us from cold hearts and wandering thoughts,
that with steady minds and burning zeal
we may worship you in spirit and truth.*

Amen.

- * Opening Song: "The Church's One Foundation"

Lift Up Your Hearts # 251

The church's one Foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is His new creation, by water and the Word;
from heav'n He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
with His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy Name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

Tho' with a scornful wonder, the world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace for evermore;
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.

O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.

- * Opening Prayer:

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Unison Prayer of Confession

**Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness.
You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways,
in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy on us,
O Lord, for we have wandered from your side. Forgive our sins,
and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

God's Assurance

*God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners,
Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood,*

how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

"In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Glory to God!"

Song of Response: "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 sorr'wing 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!

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Scripture Reading: 1 Kings 18:16-46

¹⁶ So Obadiah went to meet Ahab and told him, and Ahab went to meet Elijah. ¹⁷ When he saw Elijah, he said to him, "Is that you, you troubler of Israel?" ¹⁸ "I have not made trouble for Israel," Elijah replied. "But you and your father's family have. You have abandoned the Lord's commands and have followed the Baals. ¹⁹ Now summon the people from all over Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel. And bring the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table." ²⁰ So Ahab sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel. ²¹ Elijah went before the people and said, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him." But the people said nothing. ²² Then Elijah said to them, "I am the only one of the Lord's prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets. ²³ Get two bulls for us. Let Baal's prophets choose one for themselves, and let them cut it into pieces and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. ²⁴ Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord. The god who answers by fire—he is God." Then all the people said, "What you say is good." ²⁵ Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one of the bulls and prepare it first, since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but do not light the fire." ²⁶ So they took the bull given them and prepared it. Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. "Baal, answer us!" they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made. ²⁷ At noon Elijah began to taunt them. "Shout louder!" he said. "Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened." ²⁸ So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. ²⁹ Midday passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention. ³⁰ Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come here to me." They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the Lord, which had been torn down. ³¹ Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, "Your name shall be Israel." ³² With the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. ³³ He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, "Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood." ³⁴ "Do it again," he said, and they did it again. "Do it a third time," he ordered, and they did it the third time. ³⁵ The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench. ³⁶ At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: "Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. ³⁷ Answer me, Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again." ³⁸ Then the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench. ³⁹ When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, "The Lord—he is God! The Lord—he is God!" ⁴⁰ Then Elijah commanded them, "Seize the prophets of Baal. Don't let anyone get away!" They seized them, and Elijah had them brought down to the Kishon Valley and slaughtered there. ⁴¹ And Elijah said to Ahab, "Go, eat and drink,

for there is the sound of a heavy rain.”⁴² So Ahab went off to eat and drink, but Elijah climbed to the top of Carmel, bent down to the ground and put his face between his knees. ⁴³“Go and look toward the sea,” he told his servant. And he went up and looked. “There is nothing there,” he said. Seven times Elijah said, “Go back.”⁴⁴ The seventh time the servant reported, “A cloud as small as a man’s hand is rising from the sea.” So Elijah said, “Go and tell Ahab, ‘Hitch up your chariot and go down before the rain stops you.’”⁴⁵ Meanwhile, the sky grew black with clouds, the wind rose, a heavy rain started falling and Ahab rode off to Jezreel. ⁴⁶The power of the Lord came on Elijah and, tucking his cloak into his belt, he ran ahead of Ahab all the way to Jezreel.

Message: “The God Who Reigns and Brings the Rains”

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response “With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring” *Lift Up Your Hearts #585*

With grateful heart my thanks I bring; before the "gods" your praise I sing.
I worship in your holy place and praise you for your truth and grace;
for truth and grace together shine in your most holy Word divine,
in your most holy Word divine.

I cried to you, and you did save; your word of grace new courage gave.
The kings of earth shall thank you, LORD, for they have heard your wondrous word;
yes, they shall come with songs of praise for great and glorious are your ways,
for great and glorious are your ways.

O LORD, enthroned in glory bright, you reign alone in heavenly height;
the proud in vain your favor seek, but you have mercy for the meek.
Through trouble though my pathway be, you will revive and strengthen me,
you will revive and strengthen me.

You will stretch forth your mighty arm to save me when my foes alarm.
The work you have for me begun shall by your grace be fully done.
Your love forever will endure: your mercy, LORD, is ever sure;
your mercy, LORD, is ever sure.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song : “To God Be The Glory” *Lift Up Your Hearts # 956*

To God be the glory, to God be the glory,
to God be the glory for the things he has done!
With his blood he has saved me, with his power he has raised me –
to God be the glory for the things he has done!

* Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

Children’s Message: Jeff Kopaska

Message: Tyler Helfers

Musicians: Andrew Friend

COVID UPDATE

Dear TCRC family,

Given the recent jump in Covid cases in our community with the return of the ISU students, the TCRC council has decided to go back to holding our worship services outdoors (weather permitting) for the next 3-4 weeks. We also encourage the congregation to remain outdoors if possible for the fellowship time after church.

Children over 2 who are in the nursery should either wear masks or stay outdoors for the service with their parents.

There is a chance of rain for this Sunday morning so we'll be keeping an eye on that.

Thanks for your patience. I know most of us are dealing "Covid-fatigue", but given how contagious the current strain of the virus is, and how full our local hospital has been, we felt that we should take these steps.

Together in His service,

Pastor Randy

THIS WEEK

Congregational Input to Council

Council will host a small group meeting on **August 29th** following the morning service. At their council retreat, they came up with a list of internal strengths and weaknesses of the church as well as the external opportunities and challenges. They want to receive congregational input on these lists. Please attend in order to help provide as much feedback as possible to Council. The content will be the same as the 15th, so only attend if you were unable to attend the first meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Outreach Activity - Meals for the Heartland

We are organizing a team from Trinity to go to the Meals from the Heartland packaging center in West Des Moines on **Saturday, September 4**, from **9:30 until 11:30**, to participate in the 14th annual hunger event. This year they have a goal of packaging 2 million meals during the one week event. This is a wonderful intergenerational activity for our church and participants in the past have had a wonderful time!!! If you are interested please contact Mark Voss or Rob Hubert.

Trinity Outdoors

The group will sponsor an I-Cubs game on September 10. We will purchase tickets at the game that evening. A fireworks show will follow the game. We will plan to meet at the church at 5:30 or meet at the ticket booth on the 3rd base side at 6:30pm. If you have any questions feel free to contact Pastor Randy or Mark Voss.

Breakfast Club

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Sunday School Facilitators

The Ed. Committee is looking for Adult Sunday School Facilitators. The materials will come from a RightNow Media study and the facilitator will guide the group through the discussion. Most of the studies are 4-6 weeks long and the facilitator can choose a study that interests them. Please talk to Pastor Randy or Rachel DeBruin if you are interested.

Church Fantasy Football League

Are you ready for some (fantasy) football?!? It's NFL training camp time - so it must be time to "kick-off" the fantasy football season! We had such a good turn-out for the March Madness fantasy bracket challenge that we'll have some fun with this. If you're a football fan of any kind and interested in joining the *inaugural season* of TCRC Fantasy Football League, just click/copy this link:

https://football.fantasysports.yahoo.com/f1/979220/invitation?key=5ddddd1d3d5e0cb28&soc_trk=lnk&ikey=09f3bbd9643831b7 (or send an email to Pastor Randy (rcraak@gmail.com) and he'll hook you up). Once we have a full league, we'll find a night that works for a draft party (combination in-person, on-line or autodraft) to pick the teams. If you've never played before, join us! It's very easy to learn, and we'll have cheat sheets with rankings of the best players by position for the draft, or you can just have your team auto-drafted.

Pastor Randy Raak: 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