

WORSHIP SERVICE
December 5, 2021
Second Sunday of Advent

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship (From John 1)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not grasped it.

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

* Opening Song: "Here I Am to Worship" *Lift Up Your Hearts #567*

Light of the world You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore
You Hope of a life spent with You

Here I am to worship Here I am to bow down

Here I am to say that You're my God

You're altogether lovely Altogether worthy Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days Oh so highly exalted Glorious in heaven above

Humbly You came to the earth You created All for love's sake became poor

Here I am to worship Here I am to bow down

Here I am to say that You're my God

You're altogether lovely Altogether worthy Altogether wonderful to me

I'll never know how much it cost To see my sin upon that cross

I'll never know how much it cost To see my sin upon that cross

I'll never know how much it cost To see my sin upon that cross

Here I am to worship Here I am to bow down

Here I am to say that You're my God

You're altogether lovely Altogether worthy Altogether wonderful to me

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* Opening Prayer

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Lighting of the Advent Candle (From Isaiah 53)

Reader 1: Isaiah 53 prophecies of a child who would grow up before his people like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.

Reader 2: Yet he would be despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.

Reader 1: But then God says, "After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.

Reader 2: Therefore, I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors.”

Song of Response: “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (Vs. 1,3,4) *Lift Up Your Hearts #88*

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive Him still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray.
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

Children’s Message

Scripture Reading: Genesis 41:41-57

⁴¹ So Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt.” ⁴² Then Pharaoh took his signet ring from his finger and put it on Joseph’s finger. He dressed him in robes of fine linen and put a gold chain around his neck. ⁴³ He had him ride in a chariot as his second-in-command, and people shouted before him, “Make way!” Thus he put him in charge of the whole land of Egypt. ⁴⁴ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I am Pharaoh, but without your word no one will lift hand or foot in all Egypt.” ⁴⁵ Pharaoh gave Joseph the name Zaphenath-Paneah and gave him Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On, to be his wife. And Joseph went throughout the land of Egypt.

⁴⁶ Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from Pharaoh’s presence and traveled throughout Egypt. ⁴⁷ During the seven years of abundance the land produced plentifully. ⁴⁸ Joseph collected all the food produced in those seven years of abundance in Egypt and stored it in the cities. In each city he put the food grown in the fields surrounding it. ⁴⁹ Joseph stored up huge quantities of grain, like the sand of the sea; it was so much that he stopped keeping records because it was beyond measure.

⁵⁰ Before the years of famine came, two sons were born to Joseph by Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On. ⁵¹ Joseph named his firstborn Manasseh and said, “It is because God has made me forget all my trouble and all my father’s household.” ⁵² The second son he named Ephraim and said, “It is because God has made me fruitful in the land of my suffering.”

⁵³ The seven years of abundance in Egypt came to an end, ⁵⁴ and the seven years of famine began, just as Joseph had said. There was famine in all the other lands, but in the whole land of Egypt there was food. ⁵⁵ When all Egypt began to feel the famine, the people cried to Pharaoh for food. Then Pharaoh told all the Egyptians, “Go to Joseph and do what he tells you.”

⁵⁶ When the famine had spread over the whole country, Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold grain to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe throughout Egypt. ⁵⁷ And all the world came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph, because the famine was severe everywhere.

Message: “Pointing to Jesus: Joseph - Despised and Rejected by Men, Raised to Save”

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response: "One Day (Glorious Day)"

One day when heaven was filled with His praises One day when sin was as black as could be
Jesus came forth to be born of a virgin Dwelt among men my example is He
Living, He loved me, dying He saved me Buried, He carried my sins far away
Rising, He justified freely forever One day He's coming O glorious day

One day they led Him up Calvary's mountain One day they nailed Him to die on a tree
Suffering anguish, despised and rejected Bearing our sins my Redeemer is He
Living, He loved me, dying He saved me Buried, He carried my sins far away
Rising, He justified freely forever One day He's coming O glorious day

One day they left Him alone in the garden One day He rested, from suffering free
Angels came down o'er His tomb to keep vigil Hope of the hopeless, My Savior is He!
Living, He loved me, dying He saved me Buried, He carried my sins far away
Rising, He justified freely forever One day He's coming O glorious day

One day the grave could conceal Him no longer One day the stone rolled away from the door
Then He arose over death He had conquered Now is ascended my Lord evermore
Living, He loved me, dying He saved me Buried, He carried my sins far away
Rising, He justified freely forever One day He's coming O glorious day

One day the trumpet will sound for His coming One day the skies with His glories will shine
Wonderful day my beloved ones bringing My Savior Jesus is mine
Living, He loved me, dying He saved me Buried, He carried my sins far away
Rising, He justified freely forever One day He's coming O glorious day

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: "As with Gladness Men of Old" (Vs. 1 & 4) *Lift Up Your Hearts* #105

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore your splendor see.

Holy Jesus, ev'ry day keep us in the narrow way;
and, when mortal things are past, bring our ransomed lives at last
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds your glory hide.

* Postlude

* Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Christina Helpers

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musicians: Andrew Friend, Tara Tilstra, Randy & Holly Raak

THIS WEEK

The special offering this week is for **Mid-Iowa Community Action (MICA)**. MICA is a private, non-profit organization serving children and families affected by poverty in central Iowa. To learn more, visit micaonline.org.

Communion - This week we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Congregation of Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared his table for believers. If you are sorry for your sins and follow Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord, you are invited to come to his table. Through this celebration, we remember that:

- a. The Lord's Supper is a thanksgiving to God.
- b. The Lord's Supper is a memorial of Christ.
- c. The Lord's Supper is a participation in the body and the blood of Christ.
- d. The Lord's Supper signifies the work of the Spirit.
- e. The Lord's Supper seals the present and coming kingdom of God.

Play Practice is on **Wednesday, December 8th at 5:30 PM** with pizza and drinks provided. Everything is at the church so you shouldn't need to bring anything besides yourself. More details are in the email from Rachel. If you have any questions, please reach out to Rachel, Kelly Hobson or Laura Hufford.

Council will be meeting on **Wednesday, December 8th**.

SMALL GROUPS & SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday School Class is on break until the new year. Please stick around to enjoy this extended fellowship time.

Women's Bible Study - The monthly women's Bible study will meet on **Monday, December 6th at 9:00 AM** in the Fellowship Hall. This month's faith practices will be generosity. We will be looking at 2 Corinthians 9:6-11. Think of a time when someone was generous to you. How did that affect you? We are familiar with being generous with our money and time. What other ways can we be generous? You don't have to attend each month to participate. Any questions you may contact Melody Franje.

Sunday Evening Bible Study - Marv Bakker will lead the study of Psalm 151. This will conclude our study for the fall season.

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

MISCELLANEOUS

Gingerbread Building Fun! - The Education Committee is again inviting all to have a little holiday fun with our 2nd Annual Gingerbread Building Competition. Basic supplies will be available starting 12/12 through 12/26. You may purchase/use your own additional supplies as you want. Please post a picture by January 9th on our private church Facebook page (Trinity CRC Attenders) or you may email pictures to: office@amestrinity.org to be posted. Please bring entries back for display in the fellowship hall on 1/2/2022 through 1/9/2022 (if you choose) as we will have a table in the Fellowship Hall to display them. No actual prizes, besides bragging rights, will be awarded :)

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

At-home Faith Practice Reflection Tip - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Hospitality: Read Genesis 18:1-8 and ponder or discuss the following questions. This passage is the first reference in the Bible to someone opening their home to others. How do Abraham's actions set the tone for hospitality? What adjectives might you use to describe his welcome of the three strangers?

Get the Banner Straight to Your Inbox - The Banner, the magazine of the CRC, will send you news, features, and columns straight to your email inbox! Sign up for the weekly e-newsletter by visiting

thebanner.org/signup. While you're there, you can sign up to receive The Banner print magazine straight to your door as well! TheBanner.org/signup

ReFrame Ministries

Advent: A Time of Peace - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. When we feel anxious about changes that are happening, we can pray for peace. And God, who knows us really well, will calm our anxiety and give us his peace. Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content, including The Gifts of Kindness Advent Calendar and the KC parent blog too.

Devotions for a Blue Christmas - In the midst of hard times, find strength and encouragement through God's word. A set of fourteen encouraging Today devotions reassure you that even during the darkest of Christmas seasons, you're not alone.

Groundwork: Christmas Hope: Rahab - Do you ever question why God would want you in his family? Do you ever feel like you just don't belong or are too messed up to be worth saving? Join Groundwork as we study Matthew 1:5, Joshua 2, James 2:25-26, and Romans 5:8 to remember the depth and reach of God's grace and find hope in the story of Rahab. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

World Renew

West Coast Floods - Flooding from extreme rain events in British Columbia and Washington State in November have already destroyed homes, businesses, crops, and livestock. As the rains continue, World Renew Disaster Response Services is in conversation with area CRCs, Diaconal Ministries Canada, and other responders to supplement their efforts once the flood water recedes. Please pray for those who have been evacuated, lost homes and farms, or are stranded without power. Pray for World Renew DRS as we make plans with local churches and families. For updates, see our social media pages on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Race Relations

Race Relations Webinar "Power Sharing: A Conversation about Working Interculturally" - This webinar will feature the interim director of Race Relations and the staff speaking about how they work together in fighting racism, remain respectful of their differences, and recognize how privilege/power affects team dynamics. They will speak to why it is important to understand how the current socio-political cultural climate has hijacked our Christian identity and capacity in fighting racism. Tuesday, December 7 at 12:00 pm (Eastern). Register now: <https://bit.ly/RRPowerSharingWebinar>

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