

WORSHIP SERVICE
March 5
Second Sunday of Lent

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship

As we follow Jesus to the cross and empty tomb this Lent, let us recognize who goes with us. Let us look to our King's purity.

"And when I turned I saw someone like a son of man.... the hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword."

"Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for true and just are his judgments. Hallelujah! Amen." Rev 19:1-2a

* Opening Song: "How Firm A Foundation" vs 1,2, 4, 5 *Lift Up Your Hearts #427*

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!

What more can He say than to you He has said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled

"Fear not, I am with you; O be not dismayed,
for I am your God and will still give you aid.

I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand."

"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply.

The flame shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume, and your gold to refine."

"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose

I will not, I will not desert to his foes;

that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,

I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"

“Speak, O Lord”

Lift Up Your Hearts #755

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to receive the food of your holy Word. Take your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in your likeness – that the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all your purposes for your glory. Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility. Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of your purity. Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see your majestic love and authority. Words of power that can never fail; let their truth prevail over unbelief. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of your plans for us. Truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity. And by grace we'll stand on your promises, and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till your church is built, and the earth is filled with your glory.

*Opening Prayer

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

[LEADER] “Search us O God and know our hearts. Test us and know our anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in us. And lead us in your way of life eternal.” Lord, we admit we are broken people. We’ve compromised in ways that diminish our testimony of you. We’ve been hurt by sexual sin. We’ve hurt others and we hurt ourselves.

[Together] Forgive us, Lord. We try to hold two ways– your way and the culture’s way. We do not cut off, or gouge out, all that causes us to sin sexually. Our sins are many. In your deep mercy, wash us, heal us, and make us courageous in the fight against our sin. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

Our Lord declares in Luke 6: “I have given you authority to overcome all the power of the enemy.... However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” Receive the forgiveness, freedom and help found in Jesus Christ. Amen

Song of Entrusting: “His Mercy Is More”

What love could remember

No wrongs we have done

Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more
Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more
What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father, so tender, is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more
Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more
What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more
Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more
Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Revelation 2: 12-29 (p:1138)

Revelation 2:12-29

To the Church in Pergamum

¹² "To the angel of the church in Pergamum write: These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. ¹³ I know where you live—where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me, not even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city—where Satan lives. ¹⁴ Nevertheless, I have a

few things against you: There are some among you who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin so that they ate food sacrificed to idols and committed sexual immorality. ¹⁵ Likewise, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶ Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. ¹⁷ Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.

To the Church in Thyatira

¹⁸ “To the angel of the church in Thyatira write: These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze. ¹⁹ I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first. ²⁰ Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophet. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. ²¹ I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling. ²² So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways. ²³ I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds. ²⁴ Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan’s so-called deep secrets, ‘I will not impose any other burden on you, ²⁵ except to hold on to what you have until I come.’ ²⁶ To the one who is victorious and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations— ²⁷ that one ‘will rule them with an iron scepter and will dash them to pieces like pottery’—just as I have received authority from my Father. ²⁸ I will also give that one the morning star. ²⁹ Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

Message: 7 Churches of Revelation: Thyratira/Pergamum - Dance With The Devil

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Application

*Song of Response: "We Are An Offering"

Lift Up Your Hearts #874

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you; we are an offering.
Lord use our voices, Lord, use our hands,
Lord, use our lives, they are yours; we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you; we are an offering, we are an offering.

WE CELEBRATE GOD'S COVENANT WITH US

*The Lord's Supper

Communion song: "As We Gather At Your Table" *Sing! A New Creation #245*
(sung during passing of the bread)

As we gather at your table, as we [listen to](#) your Word,
help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.
Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.
Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

*Blessing

*Closing Song: "Take My Life And Let It Be "vs 1, 2, 5, 6 *Lift Up Your Hearts #863*

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee. Take my moments and
my days; let them flow in endless praise, let them flow in endless praise.
Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love. Take my feet
and let them be swift and beautiful for thee, swift and beautiful for thee.
Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart it is
thine own; it shall be thy royal throne, it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store. Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

Postlude

* Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Jeff Kopaska

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musicians: Rex DeBruin, Char Verkade, Pam Voss

ANNOUNCEMENTS :

Communion: Today 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.

There will be an **Elders meeting** on March 4th at 9 am.

The special offering next week is to support **Midwest B.A.S.I.C** (Brothers And Sisters In Christ) **Youth Bible Camp**, which has been such a blessing to our young people each summer. Camp this year will be Sunday August 6th through Wednesday the 9th. Camp is located at 32203 230th St, Eldora, IA 50627. We are always looking for kids, as well as volunteers for camp: councilors, and speakers. Please contact Pam Whitney if you have questions or need more information.

Rehoboth Christian School Choir Tour 2023 will be at Des Moines Christian School Friday, March 31st @ 9:30 am and at Lutheran Church of Hope @ 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm. There will be a Navajo Taco Dinner and Program included with the Church of Hope concert. Please RSVP for this at www.lutheranchurchofhope.org/west-des-moines/calendar/eid/784720/ There is a flier in the office window showing all concerts for this tour.

The Adult Sunday School class will be led by the Council. It will center around the book *Growing Young* (which council has been reading). The book focuses on

six strategies to help the church connect with and embrace young people, and has been useful in shaping some of Trinity's strategic plan goals. Please contact a council member if you are interested in attending, so they can order the books. The first chapter is accessible free, if you would like to check it out at this web address: https://d36s6f2n3iyjqc.cloudfront.net/fyi-files/Growing_Young_Chapter_1_Powell_Mulder_Griffin.pdf

Outreach committee has planned the date for the Spring **Family2Family sale, March 25th**. The sign up should be up soon. Please share this date with your friends and family. It will be the same setup as last time, Large booths (8 x10.5) will be \$12, small booths (6 x 8) will be \$7. We will be offering tables as well for \$2 each.

On March 8, CRC congregations are being called to take time to ask for God's blessing upon the world, our nations and communities, crops and industry, and the church worldwide. The TCRC Council feels that we should take some time this year to pray for our denomination as well as those topics. Since we have a council meeting at 6:30 on March 8, we'll have a brief prayer service before that, starting at 6:00. We hope you can join us.

The TCRC Council is asking for your nominations for elders and deacons. At this time we anticipate needing 2 elders and 3 deacons, with one of the deacon terms being for only 1 year to finish Mary Saucedá's term. Nomination forms are on the table in the church lobby. Please give this prayerful consideration and submit your nomination form in the black box on the same table by March 6.

THIS SUMMER we have the opportunity to do an intergenerational mission trip to Flagstaff, Arizona! We can stay for free @ Hope Community CRC (and there are hotels within walking distance). We have a variety of possible work projects identified at Hope Church, the Indian Bible College, and the Sunshine Rescue Mission. Work options include things like gardening, painting, repairs, light construction, and serving meals to the homeless. Our "day-away" could be a trip to the Grand Canyon. Other nearby possibilities for the day-away or afternoon/evening trips could include Slide Rock State Park (natural waterslide); Walnut Canyon National Monument (Native American cliff dwellings) or the Eldon Pueblo ruins; rock-climbing & rappelling on nearby mountains (with a guide); mountain hiking on Mt Eldon or the San Francisco peaks; Sunset Crater

Volcano National Monument (learn about volcanoes); and the Flagstaff Aquaplex indoor waterpark. We'll have a **brief information discussion immediately after church on March 5** in the sanctuary to see if there's enough interest to do this and to discuss possible dates. If you're interested in finding out more but can't make that meeting, contact Pastor Randy or Mark Voss.

Sunday School Schedule for 2022/23 March 5,19,26 (12th Spring Break)' April 2,16,23,30 (Easter 9th), May 7 (last day of class)

Special family & friends invite opportunity: For our Maundy Thursday (**April 6**) evening service this year, TCRC will be hosting a Seder meal. The Seder is the traditional Jewish Passover meal, perhaps close to what Jesus would have celebrated with his disciples in the Upper Room on that Thursday evening before his crucifixion. We will be celebrating a Christian version of the meal based on information from the Jews For Jesus organization. It highlights the many ways in which Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament promises of God and the expectations of the Jews in their celebration of the Passover. The meal involves participation by all who attend, with roles for men women and children.

Here's the INVITATION part: This will be a full meal provided by our Fellowship Committee and Smokin' Big Dawg's BBQ. We'll have room, and food, for over 100 people, which is quite a bit more than our typical worship service attendance. The meal will provide insight into the Jewish cultural observance of the Passover and the gospel message of Jesus's sacrifice for us. So we'll have a good meal, cultural enrichment, and spiritual insight all in one event :) Please invite any family or friends who might be interested. We'll have a sign-up sheet in the lobby to help the Fellowship Committee have an idea of how many people to prepare for, but even if you don't sign up, please come anyway – you'll be glad you did!

Passion Week services at TCRC: Looking ahead to our observances of Jesus' Passion week, we'll have our regular service at 9:30 am on April 2 to observe Palm Sunday. On **April 6** we'll have our Seder meal observance of Maundy Thursday (probably at 6:00 pm). Then on Easter Sunday, we'll have our Sunrise Service at 6:30 am by the fire pit on the church lawn, and then our regular Easter service at 9:30. There will be a small breakfast provide at the church for those who are staying at the church between the services.

Have you been heard? Our congregation has a once-in-five-year opportunity to participate in the 2023 CRC denominational survey. This survey helps denominational leadership understand the concerns and needs of local congregations like ours. It is crucial that as many people from our congregation as possible participate. Please visit crcna.org/survey/7210 to answer the survey questions by **March 31**. We have 4 so far, can get a church summary if we get over 20. Great to see all of our voices being heard.

Small Groups, Committees, & Sunday School Updates

Sunday School Classes meet at 10:50 am on Sunday

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

UFO Will meet 3rd Monday of the month

Women's Bible Study Will meet first Monday March 6th. The discussion will be "Practicing Presence" – which helps us be aware and open to the presence of Christ around us. What can we do to intentionally seek a deeper intimacy with God? Are you daily aware of God's presence?

Next Council meeting will be March 8th

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Groundwork: Heavenly Visions to Encourage Our Faith - Seeing heaven's perspective of the cosmic, spiritual battle between God and evil provided John comfort while he was exiled on the island of Patmos. Join Groundwork as we study Revelation 7-14 and discuss the meaning of the images and numbers in John's famous heavenly visions and the comfort we can continue to find in the eternal truths those vision conveyed. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.
World Renew

Build Communities of Hope on World Renew DRS Sunday - Today's offering for World Renew Disaster Response Services builds hope in communities across the U.S. and Canada. World Renew DRS helps homeowners like Mrs. Brown who may not be able to recover from a flood or other disaster on her own. Please give generously in today's offering for World Renew DRS. You can also give online at worldrenew.net, call 1-800-552-7972, or email info@worldrenew.net to give or learn more.

Summer Service Trips with World Renew DRS - Looking for ways to serve with your congregation or youth group this summer? Join World Renew DRS to repair homes after natural disasters all across the US and Canada! We have sites available in Washington, Kentucky, Florida, Michigan, North Carolina, and more! Contact Chris, our Groups Program Manager, at cgibson@worldrenew.net if interested or with questions.

Faith Formation

Lent At-home Faith Formation Tip - Many Christians practice giving something up for Lent in order to make more space for God. If you have kids in your household, think together

about how you might make more space for God this week. For example, you might take a technology break each day and spend the time reading about Jesus' life and ministry in The Jesus Storybook Bible or Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible and talking about the stories together

Calvin University

Greeters

March 5 Kuyper

March 12 Niehof

March 19 Niemeyer

Nursery

March 5 Mary K and Kathlyn March 12 Rachel and Stacy

March 19 Melody and Kristy March 26 Jessica and Cassie

Pastor Randy Raak: pastor@amestrinity.org or 928-699-9329

Lora Copley: director@isu-areopagus.org or 505-387-6861 (Areopagus Campus Ministry)

Elders: A-G=Brian Sterenberg: H-K = Melody Franje: L-S = Mark Voss: T-Z=Jeff Kopaska

Deacons: A-G =Tina VanDyk: H - K =Pam Niemeyer: L-S =Judy Oltman: T-Z Mary Saucedo