

WORSHIP SERVICE
March 19, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Lent

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship Rev 15:3, Rev 19:13

As we follow Jesus to the cross and empty tomb this Lent, let us recognize our King's faithfulness and the strength of His name.

"Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the nations. Who will not fear you, O Lord, and bring glory to your name?"

I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called

Faithful and True. On his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but He himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God.

Holy is His name!

* Opening Song: "Lord Most High"

Lift Up Your Hearts #593

From the ends of the earth, *From the ends of the earth,*
From the depths of the sea, *From the depths of the sea,*
From the heights of the heavens, *From the heights of the heavens,*
Your name be praised.

From the hearts of the weak, *From the hearts of the weak,*
From the shouts of the strong, *From the shouts of the strong,*
From the lips of all people, *From the lips of all people,*

This song we raise Lord

Throughout the endless ages you will be crowned with praises, Lord Most High. Exalted in every nation, sovereign of all creation Lord Most High, be magnified be magnified.

From the ends of the earth, *From the ends of the earth,*
From the depths of the sea, *From the depths of the sea,*
From the heights of the heavens, *From the heights of the heavens,*

Your name be praised.

From the hearts of the weak, *From the hearts of the weak,*
From the shouts of the strong, *From the shouts of the strong,*
From the lips of all people, *From the lips of all people,*

This song we raise Lord

Throughout the endless ages you will be crowned with praises, Lord Most High. Exalted in every nation, sovereign of all creation Lord Most High, be magnified be magnified.

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Lift Up Your Hearts #348

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou forever wilt be. Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and spring-time and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me! Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide, strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow – blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

*Opening Prayer

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Confession:

Let us have a time of silent confession. Bring to God all that separates you from Him. All that is shaky. All that tempts you to give up on Him and the Name that you bear. Let us pray in the quietness of our hearts. Together we pray:

Unshakeable God, whose love will not let us go, we know our sins are many. But your mercy is more. Please forgive us, strengthen us in the power of your great name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

Hear the good news from Rev 12: Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Messiah. For the accuser of our brothers and sisters, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. They triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.” Walk through the open door of your forgiveness in Him and be at peace. 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: Revelations 3: 7-13

⁷ “To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:

These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. ⁸ I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. ⁹ I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are

Soon and very soon We are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon We are going to see the King.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We are going to see the King.
No more crying there, we are going to see the King.
No more crying there, we are going to see the King.
No more crying there, we are going to see the King.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We are going to see the King.
No more dying there, we are going to see the King.
No more dying there, we are going to see the King.
No more dying there, we are going to see the King.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon We are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon We are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon We are going to see the King.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We are going to see the King.

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Stacy Hertz

Message: Rev SJ Kim

Musicians: Char Vercade, Laura Hufford, Nate VanDyk

ANNOUNCEMENTS :

Next week's special offering is for **Areopagus**, a ministry to Iowa State University. Areopagus aims to reflect the relevance of the Gospel and a Reformed Christian worldview to the world of higher education, and in the lives of students and faculty. For more information, please talk with Lora Copley (Areopagus director), or visit <http://www.isu-areopagus.org/>

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.

Deb Niehof has been diagnosed with breast cancer. Surgery and Chemo are expected to begin soon. Please pray for effective treatment and a good recovery.

Small flowering plants will be available for purchase in memory of a loved one again for this year's Easter Service. The plants will be \$10.25 per plant and can be picked up after the Easter service. The plant order and money are due by April 2. Please place a check in the offering plate made out to TCRC and "Easter Plant" filled in on the memo line. If you have any questions, see Pam Voss. If you are giving on line, please pick special offering, and memo as Easter Flowers.

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 6 so far, please consider taking this survey.

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 is up <https://www.amestrinity.org/family2family-spring-sale/> Please share this date and link 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.

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. There will be a questionnaire sent out to the mailing list. Please fill it out by March 26th so planning can begin.

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.

Midwest B.A.S.I.C (Brothers And Sisters In Christ) **Youth Bible Camp**, this year will be Sunday August 6th through Wednesday the 9th. Camp is open to students who have finished the 6th grade through 12th grade. Camp is located at 32203 230th St, Eldora, IA 50627. We are always looking for kid, as well as volunteers for camp: councilors, and speakers. Please contact Pam Whitney if you have questions or need more information.

If you don't get the weekly Service and Bulletin email, please send a request to office@amestrinity.org and let Pam know so you can be added to the list. This is sent out as a blind copy, so email addresses are not shared. Also there is a copy of the directory on the table by the office, please update or add information. This allows us to have contact information for our Deacons and Elders.

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

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 Monday March 20th at 7 pm at Kelly Hobson's house, Bring a project to work on or just come for the fellowship.

Women's Bible Study Will meet first Monday of the month

Next Council meeting will be April 12th

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner: God Is Our Home Free Zone - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. When life gets overwhelming, scary and feels out of control, you need to find safe spaces like that "Home Free" zone. God is the safest place we can seek when life gets hard. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net like the Bible Story Coloring Packet 6: The Miracle of Easter.

Groundwork: Encouragement as We Wait for Christ's Return - Waiting for Christ's second coming can feel discouraging as we continue to witness the pain and brokenness of this world. Join Groundwork as we study John's vision of a restored heaven in Revelation 22 and discuss the hope and encouragement it provides so that we might persevere and remain faithful in doing the work to

which God has called us while we wait. Listen now at Groundworkonline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

VOLUNTEERS

Congregational Prayer: Melody Franje
Sound : Tom Whitney
Nursery: Melody and Kristy
Children's message: Stacy Hertz
Greeters: Niemeyer

Greeters

March 19 Niemeyer
March 26 M Nikkel
April 2 Oftedal
April 9 Oltman
April 16 Raak
April 23 Saldana
April 30 Sanders/Bassham

Nursery

March 19 Melody and Kristy
March 26 Jessica and Cassie
April 2 Donna and Pam N
April 9 Elaine and McKenzie
April 16 Mindy and Chloe
April 23 Megan and Jayden
April 30 Judy and Caraline

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