

## WORSHIP SERVICE

April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday

### WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

\* God's Greeting

\* We Greet One Another

\* Call to Worship (from Revelation 5:6-12)

*Then I looked and beheld a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne. And He came and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals as well, because You were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation. And you have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth." Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand, In a loud voice they were saying:*

**"Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"**

*Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is he, this King of glory?*

**Jesus Christ! He is the King of Glory!**

\* Opening Songs: "The King Of Glory Comes"

The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices.

Open the gates before him, lift up your voices.

Who is the King of glory? What shall we call him?

He is Immanuel, the promised of ages.

The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices.

Open the gates before him, lift up your voices.

In all of Galilee, in city or village,

he goes among his people, curing their illness.

The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices.  
Open the gates before him, lift up your voices.  
He gave his life for us, the pledge of salvation;  
he took upon himself the sin of the nations.  
The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices.  
Open the gates before him, lift up your voices.  
He conquered sin and death; he truly has risen.  
And he will share with us his heavenly kingdom.  
The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices.  
Open the gates before him, lift up your voices

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor” vs 1, 3, 4, 5

*Lift Up Your Hearts #146*

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips  
of children made sweet hosannas ring.  
You are the King of Israel and David's royal Son, now in the Lord's name  
coming,  
the King and Blessed One. All glory, laud, and honor to you,  
Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.  
The people of the Hebrews with palms before you went;  
our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present.  
All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips  
of children made sweet hosannas ring.  
To you before your passion they sang their hymns of praise;  
to you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.  
All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips  
of children made sweet hosannas ring.  
As you received their praises, accept the prayers we bring,  
for you delight in goodness, O good and gracious King!  
All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips  
of children made sweet hosannas ring.

\*Opening Prayer

## **WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD**

Call to Confession:

Confession:

*Dear Jesus, how often we forget your greatest commandments.*

**We hear the world's call to do first what is right for us. We desire to put ourselves on your throne and love ourselves above all.**

*At times we even use your church for our own purposes, to serve our needs for community and belonging first, before honoring you and serving others.*

**Yet you showed your great love for us by sacrificing your own life for ours.**

**Draw our hearts to you again.**

*Lord, this week, help us to take up our own cross and follow you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

Assurance of Pardon:

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord... All glory to Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood. He has made us a kingdom and priests to serve God his Father.*

Song of Entrusting: "Meekness and Majesty"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #157*

Meekness and majesty Manhood and Deity In perfect harmony The Man who is God

Lord of eternity Dwells in humanity Kneels in humility And washes our feet  
O what a mystery Meekness and majesty Bow down and worship For this is your God

Father's pure radiance Perfect in innocence Yet learns obedience To death on a cross

Suffering to give us life Conquering through sacrifice And as they crucify  
Prays 'Father forgive'

O what a mystery Meekness and majesty Bow down and worship For this is your God

Wisdom unsearchable God the invisible Love indestructible In frailty appears  
Lord of infinity

Stooping so tenderly Lifts our humanity To the heights of His throne

O what a mystery Meekness and majesty Bow down and worship For this is your God

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

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

Scripture Reading: Matthew 21:1-11 (p:910)

21 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of

you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.” <sup>4</sup> This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

<sup>5</sup> “Say to Daughter Zion, ‘See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’” <sup>6</sup> The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. <sup>7</sup> They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. <sup>8</sup> A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup> The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!” <sup>10</sup> When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?” <sup>11</sup> The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

Message: Substitutes

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

Prayer of Application

\*Song of Response: “In Christ Alone”

*Lift Up Your Hearts 770*

In Christ alone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!

My comforter, my all in all— Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe!

This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save.

Till on the cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;

For ev’ry sin on Him was laid— Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;

Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again!

And as He stands in victory, Sin’s curse has lost its grip on me;

For I am His and He is mine— Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death— This is the pow’r of Christ in me;

From life’s first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.

No pow'r of hell, no human plan, Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home— Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

## **WE CELEBRATE GOD'S COVENANT WITH US**

The Lord's Supper

Communion Songs: "Behold The Lamb"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #840*

sung during the passing of the bread

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, Slain for us and we remember

The promise made that all who come in faith Find forgiveness at the cross

So we share in this Bread of Life And we drink of His sacrifice

As a sign of our bonds of peace Around the table of the King

The body of our Saviour Jesus Christ Torn for you eat and remember

The wounds that heal the death that brings us life Paid the price to make us  
one

So we share in this Bread of Life And we drink of His sacrifice

As a sign of our bonds of love Around the table of the King

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin Shed for you drink and remember

He drained death's cup that all may enter in To receive the life of God

So we share in this Bread of Life And we drink of His sacrifice

As a sign of our bonds of grace Around the table of the King

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise To respond and to remember

Our call to follow in the steps of Christ As His body here on earth

As we share in His suffering We proclaim Christ will come again

And we'll join in the feast of heaven Around the table of the King

"Beneath The Cross"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #167*

sung during the passing of the wine

Beneath the cross of Jesus I find a place to stand,

And wonder at such mercy That calls me as I am;

For hands that should discard me Hold wounds which tell me, "Come."

Beneath the cross of Jesus My unworthy soul is won.

Beneath the cross of Jesus His family is my own—

Once strangers chasing selfish dreams, Now one through grace alone.

How could I now dishonor The ones that You have loved?

Beneath the cross of Jesus See the children called by God.

Beneath the cross of Jesus— The path before the crown—

We follow in His footsteps Where promised hope is found.

How great the joy before us To be His perfect bride;  
Beneath the cross of Jesus We will gladly live our lives.

## **WE DEPART TO SERVE**

\*Blessing

\*Closing Song: "We Receive Your Blessing"

Lift Up Your Hearts #947

We receive your blessing; we receive your grace,  
as we walk in the light shining from your face.

May the peace that you give change the way that we live.

We receive your blessing as we leave this place.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him, all creatures here below.

Praise him above, you heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son, and praise the Holy Ghost.

We receive your blessing; we receive your grace,  
as we walk in the light shining from your face.

May the peace that you give change the way that we live.

We receive your blessing as we leave this place.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him, all creatures here below.

Praise him above, you heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son, and praise the Holy Ghost.

We receive your blessing as we leave this place.

Postlude

\*Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Mary Saucedo

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musicians: Rex DeBruin, Andrew Friend, Pam Voss

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS :**

**Communion:** Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper. All who are baptized into Christ and have made a public stand for him are welcome to the Lord's Table, to receive the nourishment and refreshment of the bread and cup of the Lord "as sure signs" in remembrance of Christ's body and blood poured out for us in his once-for-all sacrifice on the cross.

**Next Week's Special Offering** is for the TCRC Building Fund. Our building committee works hard to keep our church in good repair. Pray fully consider your giving to help with this church family need.

Deb Niehof was diagnosed with breast cancer on Feb. 20. Surgery is set for tomorrow morning (March 31), with arrival at the hospital at 6:30. Please pray for an efficient surgery and a good recovery. They say the surgery will last 2 to 3 hours, keeping them in your prayers as the day progresses, The goodness of the Lord, and his healing hand, cover Deb, Tom, and family.

**Anastasia** has set up a meal signup in Meal Train for Tom and Deb Niehof. Deb will be having surgery soon, and they'd love some help with meals during April when she is recovering. See full details and sign up at <https://mealtrain.com/kw3y2d>. If you'd prefer, you can simply email Anastasia at [atuckness@gmail.com](mailto:atuckness@gmail.com) and she will get you the information and put you on the schedule. Thanks so much for your support during this time

**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.

Thanks for your feedback to **the Flagstaff Mission Trip** questionnaire! Based on the good response, we have clarity about 2 things: #1 - We definitely have enough people interested in going to make this trip happen, and #2 we will be going with the week **of June 18-25**. For those riding in the van we'll rent, we'll plan on leaving on Saturday, June 17, and returning on Sunday, June 25. For those who want to fly there, there are still cheap flights available on Allegiant for both June 17 and June 19. Obviously, the van won't be there by June 17 so we'd need to some make arrangements for you to get up to Flagstaff and arrangements for a place to stay on Saturday evening. There will short meeting to talk about travel arrangements right after the worship service THIS SUNDAY, April 2. If you're interested in going but can't make it to that meeting, send me a text (928-699-9329) or email to let me know if you're planning on riding with the van, or if you're planning on flying on June 17 or 19. We'll have an additional meeting or two before the trip to discuss additional details.

**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.

**Sunday School Schedule for 2022/23** 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** Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month



**Women's Bible Study** will meet Mon April 3, at 9 am in the fellowship hall. We will be discussing "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 April 12th

## **DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

World Renew

**Today is World Renew Sunday** - Today, we will receive an offering to support the work of World Renew. World Renew comes alongside communities experiencing poverty, hunger, injustice, and violence to help build long-term pathways towards flourishing. We are excited to join in this work as a faithful response to the God who can accomplish abundantly more than all we ask or imagine. Thank you for giving as you are able to help end global poverty. You can also give online at [worldrenew.net/world-renew-sunday](http://worldrenew.net/world-renew-sunday)

**Mississippi Tornado Response** - On March 25, a massive tornado ripped across 170 miles of Mississippi and Alabama, leveling entire communities. More than 25 people were killed, dozens more are injured or missing. World Renew is collaborating with officials and other organizations to respond. Please pray for those who lost their homes and loved ones. Pray for rescue teams searching for survivors. Pray for our partners and ministries in Hattiesburg and Cary, MS. Pray for our supporting churches and local families. Pray for World Renew DRS as we expand our current MS responses to include this disaster. Please see [worldrenew.net](http://worldrenew.net) for developing information.

ReFrame Ministries

**Kids Corner: Jesus' Palm Sunday** - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). How do you picture Jesus' entry into Jerusalem? No marching band. No banners waving. Doesn't sound like how Aladdin arrived in that popular Disney movie, does it? Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) like the Bible story podcast "Palm Sunday and the Arrest."

## **VOLUNTEERS**

Congregational Prayer: Rex De Bruin

Sound : Tom Whitney

Nursery: Donna and Pam N

Children's message: Mary Saucedo

**Greeters:** Oftendal

**Greeters**

April 2 Oftendal

April 9 Oltman

April 16 Raak

April 23 Saldana

April 30 Sanders/Bassham

**Nursery**

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