

WORSHIP SERVICE
April 30th, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Easter

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship (from Colossians 3:1-4)

Since you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Let us set our minds on things above, not on earthly things.

For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.

When Christ, who is our life, appears, then we also will appear with him in glory.

As we set our minds and hearts on you, Lord Jesus, please accept our praises as we raise our voices to you.

* Opening Song: "Oh, For A Thousand Tongues To Sing" vs. 1, 3, 5, 7

Lift Up Your Hearts #590

1 O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

3 The name of Jesus charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease,
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.

5 He speaks, and listening to his voice
New life the dead receives;
The mournful, broken heart rejoice;
The humble poor believes

7. Hear him, you deaf; you voiceless ones,
Your loosened tongues employ;

You blind, behold your Savior come,
And leap, you lame, for joy!

* Opening Prayer

* Song: "As The Deer"

Lift Up Your Hearts #503

As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after you;
you alone are my heart's desire,
and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield;
to you alone may my spirit yield;
you alone are my heart's desire,
and I long to worship you!

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Lord, we hear the well-intentioned voices around us. Sometimes they are from our culture and sometimes from fellow believers. When those voices supersede your teaching and your example with merely human wisdom, help us to tune them out. Help us to not rely on our own efforts or ideas to gain our redemption, but to rely only on your work and your sacrifice for us. May thankfulness overflow in our lives. Amen.

Words of Assurance (*Philippians 4:4-7*)

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Song of Entrusting: "Shine on Us"

Lord, let your light, light of your face shine on us.
Lord, let your light, light of your face shine on us.
That we may be saved, that we may have life;

to find our way in the darkest night,
let your light shine on us.
Lord, let your grace, grace from your hand fall on us.
Lord, let your grace, grace from your hand fall on us.
That we may be saved, that we may have life;
to find our way in the darkest night,
let your grace fall on us.
Lord, let your love, love with no end come over us.
Lord, let your love, love with no end come over us.
That we may be saved, that we may have life;
to find our way in the darkest night,
let your love come over us.
let your light shine on us.

Moment for Missions - Tyler and Christina Helpers live-feed
Children's Message
Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Colossians 2:1-23 (p:1098)

2 I want you to know how hard I am contending for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not met me personally. **2** My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, **3** in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. **4** I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments. **5** For though I am absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit and delight to see how disciplined you are and how firm your faith in Christ is.

Spiritual Fullness in Christ

6 So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, **7** rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.

⁹ For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, ¹⁰ and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. ¹¹ In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, ¹² having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

¹³ When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴ having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Freedom From Human Rules

¹⁶ Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. ¹⁷ These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ. ¹⁸ Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you. Such a person also goes into great detail about what they have seen; they are puffed up with idle notions by their unspiritual mind. ¹⁹ They have lost connection with the head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow.

²⁰ Since you died with Christ to the elemental spiritual forces of this world, why, as though you still belonged to the world, do you submit to its rules: ²¹ “Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!”? ²² These rules, which have to do with things that are all destined to perish with use, are based on merely human commands and

teachings. ²³ Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.

Message: Identity in Christ - Don't Focus on the Diversions

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response: "In Sweet Communion, Lord, with You" (vs 1-4)

Lift Up Your Hearts #346

In sweet communion, Lord, with you
I constantly abide; my hand you hold within your own
to keep me near your side.
Your counsel through my earthly way
shall guide me and control,
and then to glory afterward you will receive my soul.
Whom have I, Lord, in heaven but you,
to whom my thoughts aspire?
And, having you, what more on earth
is there I can desire?
Though flesh and heart should faint and fail,
the Lord will ever be
the strength and portion of my heart, my God eternally.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: "He Is Exalted" Sing! A New Creation #41

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high:
I will praise Him.
He is exalted, forever exalted,
and I will praise his name!
He is the Lord, forever his truth shall reign;
Heaven and earth rejoice in his holy name.
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high:
I will praise Him.
He is exalted, forever exalted,
and I will praise his name!
He is the Lord, forever his truth shall reign;
Heaven and earth rejoice in his holy name.
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Laura Hufford

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musicians: Rex DeBruin, Char Verkade, Pam Voss

ANNOUNCEMENTS :

Communion: We look forward to celebrating the Lord's Supper next Sunday morning. All who are trusting in Christ and have made a public stand for him are encouraged to join.

Next Week's Special Offering Tyler and Christina Helfers (Stellenbosch International Fellowship-SIF)

Tyler and Christina are in Stellenbosch, South Africa, where Tyler is serve as pastor to an international church (SIF). The church exists to be a "global family in Christ", serving students, migrant workers, and refugees from around the world. Please consider a gift towards Tyler and Christina's work to reach out to non-Christians with the Gospel, and to disciple Christians to be witnesses to Christ and the Kingdom in all areas of life.

Congregational meeting: On April 30 after the morning service, we'll have a brief congregational meeting to consider 2 items. **First**, the council is presenting the following names for the office of elder (2 positions): Rex DeBruin and Tom Kuyper; and the following names for the office of deacon (3 positions): Mark Irvin, Tom Whitney, and Joseph

Yoder. If anyone has questions or reservations, you are welcome to submit them to any council member.

Second, Rev. SJ Kim has been working diligently over the past months to launch a hybrid on-line/micro-church, named Church Beyond Borders. The purpose is to provide worship, spiritual care, and discipleship opportunities to 2nd generation Korean Americans who have dis-engaged from traditional Korean churches. This is considered a church plant by our Classis NorthCentral Iowa and Resonate Global Ministries. As such, it needs a “mother church”. And as Rev. Kim’s home church, that privilege would come to us. We’ll hear about Church Beyond Borders and have an opportunity to ask questions at that meeting. You can learn more at churchbeyondborders.com – and we’ll get more information to you in advance of the meeting.

Council has had the privilege of meeting with Sue Fee and welcoming her into full membership of Trinity CRC. We are thankful to have you, Sue!

Thanks for your feedback to **the Flagstaff Mission Trip** questionnaire! Based on the good response, we have clarity about 1 thing: #1 - We definitely have enough people interested in going to make this trip happen. The dates selected earlier will not work for the Church there, so more discussion will be taking place.

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. This years’ theme is Super Heros. 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.

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.

Reminder to the new online giving option for Trinity. Just visit the church web site, click on the GIVE header, and follow the instructions. The online giving can be set up as a “onetime” or “reoccurring” give. It also allows you to specify which special offerings you would like to give to and how much, so no need to split them up. Pam sent out instruction earlier this year, but if you need them or would like some help, please let her know.

Sunday School Schedule for 2022/23 April 30 , 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 3rd Monday of the month

Women’s Bible Study meets 1st Monday of the month

Next Council meeting will be May 10th

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner: Never Alone, God's Promise To Us - Check out this week’s kids’ devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Do you ever feel alone, even in a group of people? You may feel lonely, but God promised that he is with us. He promised to make us strong and be with us (Isaiah 41:10). He is a promise-keeper! Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net like the Bible story podcast “The Woman at the Well”.

Groundwork: Believe: Jesus and the Disciples - Studying Jesus’ first appearance to his disciples and later his appearance to Thomas offers us encouragement for our faith even when believing in Jesus isn’t easy. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study John 20:19-31 to learn why belief in Jesus is a lifestyle, not a one time event, and why Jesus’ promises to his disciples give us hope yet today. Listen now at

GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

VOLUNTEERS

Congregational Prayer: Randy Raak
Sound : Bryan Van Belle
Nursery: Judy and Caraline
Children's message: Laura Hufford
Greeters: Sanders/Bassham

Greeters

April 30 Sanders/Bassham
May 7 Saucedo
May 14 Schweingruber/Berns
May 21 Sterenberg
May 28 t Hoen
June 4 VanDyk
June 11 Verkade
June 18 Voss
June 25 Whitney
July 2 Yoder
July 9 Baker

Nursery

April 30 Judy and Caraline
May 7 Sue F and Stacy
May 14 Mary K and Alisabeth
May 21 Rachel and Kathlyn
May 28 Melody and Brianna
June 4 Jessica and Kristy

Childrens Message

April 30 Laura Hufford
May 7 Rex De Bruin
May 14 Laura Hufford
May 21 Jeff Kopaska
May 28 Randy Raak

June 4

Lora Copley

June 11

Stacy Hertz

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