

WORSHIP SERVICE

July 23, 2023

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship - *adapted from the Belgic Confession, art 13*

O, how deep the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments and unexplainable His ways!

In all humility and awe, we adore the just judgments of God, which are hidden from us. We are content to be Jesus' disciples.

Nothing happens to us by chance but only by the arrangement of our gracious heavenly Father.

We praise our good God for leading and loving this world so that not even a little bird can fall to the ground without Him.

We do entirely trust Him, being persuaded that he holds in check the devils and all our enemies, who cannot hurt us without His will.

In this thought we rest, and come now to Him.

* Opening Song: "In Thee Is Gladness" *Lift Up Your Hearts #344*

In Thee is gladness amid all sadness, Jesus, day-star of my heart!
By Thee are given the gifts of heaven, thou the true Redeemer art!
Our souls thou wakest; our bonds thou breakest.

Who trusts Thee surely has built securely and stands forever:

Allelujah!

Our hearts are longing to see thy dawning. Living or dying, in thee abiding,

naught can us sever: Allelujah!

Jesus is ours! We fear no powers, not of earth or sin or death.

He sees and blesses in worst distresses; he can change them with a breath.

Wherefore the story - tell of His glory with hearts and voices;

all heaven rejoices in him forever: Allelujah! We shout for gladness,

triumph o'er sadness, love him and praise him,
and still shall raise him glad hymns forever: Allelujah!

* Opening Prayer

* Song: "Our God Will Go Before Us"

Our God will go before us, And guide us by His presence
What confidence this promise is We will never walk alone
Through unknown paths, through shadows, Our hearts fear not
tomorrow
For every step, His faithfulness, Is truth that lights our way
Our God will go before us; The Lord of hosts is with us
Praise the One who leads us on For His grace will bring us home
Though evil forms against us All heaven will defend us
The gates of hell shall not prevail For the battle is the Lord's
Our God will go before us The Lord of hosts is with us
Praise the One who leads us on For His grace will bring us home
Now send us with your presence And lead us on to heaven
Where songs of sorrow strain no more And our every breath is praise
Oh let our ev'ry breath be praise! Our God will go before us
The Lord of hosts is with us Praise the One who leads us on
For His grace will bring us home Our God will go before us
The Lord of hosts is with us Praise the One who leads us on
For His grace will bring us home For His grace will bring us home

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Trustworthy God, we confess we have sinned against You – in our thoughts, our words and our deeds. We are wise in our own eyes. We think we could do a better job running things than you. We are often eaten up with worry, complaints and fears. Forgive us for making our circumstances our confidence more than You. Forgive us, dear Lord. It is in Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Let us take Jesus at His word: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Receive the good news and be at peace.

Song of Entrusting: "When Peace Like A River" *Lift Up Your Hearts #451*

When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll; whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."

It is well(*It is well*) with my soul (*with my soul*)

It is well, it is well with my soul

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control: that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed his own blood for my soul.

It is well(*It is well*) with my soul (*with my soul*)

It is well, it is well with my soul

My sin - oh, the bliss of this glorious thought! - my sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more; praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

It is well(*It is well*) with my soul (*with my soul*)

It is well, it is well with my soul

O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll; the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend; even so, it is well with my soul.

It is well(*It is well*) with my soul (*with my soul*)

It is well, it is well with my soul

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Litany: Proverbs on Plans –

Proverbs 16:1,3,9, 33; 19:21; 27:1; 3:5-7, 23-26

To humans belong the plans of the heart

but the tongue's answer is from the Lord.

A person may plan his course,

but the Lord directs his steps.

Commit to the LORD whatever you do,

and he will establish your plans.

The lot is cast into the lap,

but its every decision is from the Lord.

Many are the plans in a person's heart,

But it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.

Do not boast about tomorrow,

for you do not know what a day may bring.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;

in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil.

Then you will go on your way in safety,

when you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.

Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the onslaught of the wicked

for the Lord will be your confidence and He will keep your foot from being caught.

Scripture Reading: Assorted Proverbs; Jeremiah 29:1-14

29 This is the text of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the surviving elders among the exiles and to the priests, the prophets and all the other people Nebuchadnezzar had carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. ² (This was after King Jehoiachin and the queen mother, the court officials and the leaders of Judah and Jerusalem, the skilled workers and the artisans had gone into exile from Jerusalem.) ³ He entrusted the letter to Elasah son of Shaphan and to Gemariah son of Hilkiyah, whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent to King Nebuchadnezzar in Babylon. It said:⁴ This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵ "Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. ⁶ Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters

in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. ⁷ Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” ⁸ Yes, this is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: “Do not let the prophets and diviners among you deceive you. Do not listen to the dreams you encourage them to have. ⁹ They are prophesying lies to you in my name. I have not sent them,” declares the Lord. ¹⁰ This is what the Lord says: “When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place. ¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. ¹² Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. ¹³ You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. ¹⁴ I will be found by you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile.”

Message: The Art of Living - PLANS OF MICE AND MEN

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Application

*Song of Response: “God Moves in a Mysterious Way” vs 1-4

Lift Up Your Hearts# 25

God move in a mysterious way, his wonders to perform.
He plants his footsteps in the sea, and rides upon the storm.
Deep in unfathomable mines, of never-failing skill,
he treasures up his bright designs, and works his sovereign will.
You fearful saints, fresh courage take; the clouds you so much dread
are big with mercy and shall break, in blessings on your head.
His purposes will ripen fast, unfolding every hour.
The bud may have a bitter taste, but sweet will be the flower

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: "He Leadeth Me"

Lift Up Your Hearts #440

He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort
fraught!

Whate'er I do, where'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

He leadeth me, he leadeth me; by his own hand he leadeth me:
his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom, sometimes where Eden's
flowers bloom,

by waters calm, o'er troubled sea, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth
me.

He leadeth me, he leadeth me; by his own hand he leadeth me:
his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see, since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

He leadeth me, he leadeth me; by his own hand he leadeth me:
his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

And when my task on earth is done, when, by thy grace, the victory's
won,

e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jordan
leadeth me.

He leadeth me, he leadeth me; by his own hand he leadeth me:
his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Rev. Lora Copley

Message: Rev. Lora Copley

Musicians: Rex DeBruin, Char Verkade, Pam Voss

ANNOUNCEMENTS :

This week special offering this will be for **World Renew**, which helps
alleviate long-term poverty through integrated programs in health,

agriculture, income-earning, literacy, and leadership development. Your prayers, involvement, and contributions make this work possible!

Deb Niehof completed her chemotherapy on July 7th. It was a challenge, but not as bad as expected. Thanks for your prayers over the last few months. Tom and Deb.

There is a sign-up schedule outside the office if you want to go see Eleanor. We can group together to save cost of travel and make the trip a little less dull. Please sign up and let others know when you can go. If you have questions, please ask Judy Oltman or Pam Whitney know and we will see if we can find the answers. Her daughter, Nancy Ann will be out of town August 14 – 18. This would be a great time to visit, to help Eleanor pass this time while her daughter is away.

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. There are information/registration sheets on the table by the office.

Registration link is

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1FfAUZH_3int78DAcGrU9woN72HtlQTUrgnmlkWNTY0/edit.

Please let Pam know if you have questions. The church will pay for part of you camp fee, so please let Pam know if you are planning to attend.

Even though we are in the dog days of summer it's time to start to think about fall and Sunday school! Please reach out to any Education board member to discuss possible teaching opportunities to help foster Christian education for our youth and adults. Opportunities to be a regular teacher or substitute available for all age of classes.

Lora Copley has the **Areopagus web site** up and running, check it out at <http://isu-areopagus.org/>

Small Groups, Committees, & Sunday School Updates

Sunday School Classes Will resume this fall

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

UFO will meet the 3rd Monday of the month
Women's Bible Study next meeting will be August 7th.
Next Council meeting will be August 9th

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

ReFrame Ministries

Groundwork: Holy People, God's Wisdom, And The Power Of The Cross - The Corinthian church was full of imperfect believers sorting out the impact of their faith on how they lived in the world. Join our Groundwork conversation as we examine 1 Corinthians 1-2 and hear Paul's reminder to return back to the basics and the heart of the gospel message. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Kids Corner: Trusting God - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. In Genesis 22:1-13, God tested Abraham's trust in a major way. As Abraham followed God's command, he might have wondered what God was doing, but because Abraham knew who God was and how much God loved him and his family, he trusted God's plan. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net like the Bible story podcast "God's Promise to Abraham."

VOLUNTEERS

Congregational Prayer: Paul Kleinwolterink
Sound : Tom Whitney
Nursery: Mary K and Stacy H
Children's message: Lora Copley
Greeters: De Bruin

Greeters

July 23	De Bruin
July 30	Franje
August 6	Copley
August 13	Hobson
August 20	Voss
August 27	Hebert
September 3	Hufford

September 10 Friend

Nursery

July 23 Mary K and Stacy H
July 30 Rachel and Alisabeth
August 6 Melody and Kathlyn
August 13 Jessica and Brianna
August 20 Donna and Kathlyn
August 27 Elaine and Cassie
September 3 Mindy and Pam
September 10 Megan and Kenzie

Children's Message

July 23 Lora Copley
July 30 Laura Hufford
August 6 Deb Niehof
August 13 Alexa Kopaska
August 20 Jeff Kopaska
August 27 Laura Hufford
September 3 Lora Copley
September 10 Jeff Kopaska

Congregational Prayer

July 23 Paul Kleinwolterink
July 30 Randy Raak
August 6 Jeff Kopaska
August 13 Lora Copley
August 20 Randy Raak
August 27 Tom Niehof
September 3 Nancy Berns
September 10 Randy Raak

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 = Rex De Bruin; L-S = Tom Kuyper;
T-Z = Jeff Kopaska

Deacons: A-G = Joseph Yoder; H-K = Pam Niemeyer; L-S = Tom Whitney;
T-Z = Mark Irvin