

**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**September 3, 2023**

**WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

Prelude

Welcome

\* God's Greeting

\* We Greet One Another

\* Call to Worship From Psalm 62 and 57

*Truly my soul finds rest in God; my salvation comes from him.*

**Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.**

*Trust in him at all times; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.*

**My heart, O God, is steadfast, so I will awaken the dawn with songs  
For great is your love, reaching to the heavens; and your  
faithfulness reaches to the skies.**

\* Opening Song: "Blessed Assurance" *Lift Up Your Hearts #363*

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his  
blood.

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior, all the day long;  
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on  
my sight;

angels descending, bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of  
love.

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior, all the day long;  
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in  
his love.

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior, all the day long;  
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

\* 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

*Our loving Father, we get weary, and our fatigue is often as much  
mental as it is physical.*

**Sometimes we forget your providence, and underneath our  
busyness dwells the anxiety that comes from thinking we need to  
do this all by ourselves.**

*Perhaps we think we'll find acceptance and peace through our  
accomplishments and the approval of others - or at least escape their  
disapproval.*

**Calm our hearts and minds here this Sabbath morning, help us to  
find our rest in you. Amen.**

Words of Assurance (Psalm 46:10-11)

*"Be still", He says, "and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations, will be exalted in the earth."*

**The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Song of Entrusting: "God, Be Merciful To Me" vs 1, 2, 3

*Lift Up Your Hearts #623*

God, be merciful to me; on your grace I rest my plea. My  
transgressions I confess; grief and guilt my soul oppress. Wash me,  
make me pure within; cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.  
Gracious God, my heart renew; make my spirit right and true. In your  
presence let me stay; by your Spirit show the way. Your salvation's  
joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.  
So shall sinners be restored and return to you, their Lord; Savior, all  
my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing your love; touch my silent  
lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.

Children's Message

## Congregational Prayer

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

Scripture Reading: Mark 6:30-31, Psalm 127:1-2

Mark 6:30-31

<sup>30</sup>The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup>Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."

#### **Psalm 127**

<sup>1</sup>Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

Unless the Lord watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.

<sup>2</sup>In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat—for he grants sleep to those he loves.

Message: The Art of Living - Holiday!

### **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

Prayer of Application

\*Song of Response: "My Soul Finds Rest" *Lift Up Your Hearts* 370

My soul finds rest in God alone My rock and my salvation

A fortress strong against my foes And I will not be shaken

Though lips may bless and hearts may curse And lies like arrows pierce me

I'll fix my heart on righteousness I'll look to him who hears me

O praise him, hallelujah My delight and my reward

Everlasting, never failing My Redeemer, my God

Find rest, my soul, in God alone Amid the world's temptations

When evil seeks to take ahold I'll cling to my salvation

Though riches come and riches go Don't set your heart upon them

The fields of hope in which I sow Are harvested in heaven

O praise him, hallelujah My delight and my reward

Everlasting, never failing My Redeemer, my God

I'll set my gaze on God alone And trust in him completely

With every day pour out my soul And he will prove his mercy

Though life is but a fleeting breath A sigh too brief to measure  
My King has crushed the curse of death And I am his forever  
O praise him, hallelujah My delight and my reward  
Everlasting, never failing My Redeemer, my God

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

The Lord's Supper

Communion song

Song: "Gift Of Finest Wheat"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #815*

You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat. Come, give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

As when a shepherd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;  
so when you call your family, Lord, we follow and rejoice. You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat. Come, give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

With joyful lips we sing to you our praise and gratitude, that you should count us worthy, Lord, to share this heavenly food. You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat. Come, give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured? Do not one cup, one loaf declare our oneness in the Lord? You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat. Come, give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

The mystery of your presence, Lord, no mortal tongue can tell: whom all the world cannot contain comes in our hearts to dwell. You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat. Come, give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

You give yourself to us, O Lord; then selfless let us be to serve each other in your name in truth and charity. You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat. Come, give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

## **WE DEPART TO SERVE**

\* Blessing

\* Closing Song: "Sent Forth By God's Blessing" *Lift Up Your Hearts* #936

Sent forth by God's blessing, Our true faith confessing,  
The people of God from his dwelling take leave.

The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended  
the fruits of this service in all who believe.

The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,  
shall blossom in action for God and for all.

Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us  
to work for your kingdom and answer your call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,  
the tasks of our everyday life we will face-

our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring  
embracing God's children, the whole human race.

With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;  
unite us as one in this life that we share.

Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving  
give honor to Christ and his name we bear.

Postlude

\*Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Laura Hufford

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musicians: Elijah Goossen, Nancy Berns, Chloe Berns-Schweingruber,  
Nate VanDyk

### **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.

**The next week's special offering** is for Resonate Global Missions, Benjamin Groenewold and Trica VanDyk (John VanDyk's sister). They are missionaries to Lithuania. They both teach at LCC International University in Klaipeda Lithuania. LCC is a Christian liberal arts university that is uniquely placed to develop future leaders in a region of the world deeply damaged by Soviet rule. They have a few flyers on the table outside the sanctuary.

**Fantasy Football is back!** The TCRC Fantasy Football league has room for 4 more teams, so you're welcome to join us. Who'll take home the championship this year? You can click on this invite to join the league. [https://football.fantasysports.yahoo.com/f1/659345/invitation?key=6c7025fad717f200&soc\\_trk=lnk&ikey=9e8281a8ef1e2eef](https://football.fantasysports.yahoo.com/f1/659345/invitation?key=6c7025fad717f200&soc_trk=lnk&ikey=9e8281a8ef1e2eef) If you have any questions about this league, or how fantasy football works, feel free to contact Pastor Randy.

**Adult Sunday School Class:** Visual Tour of Biblical History. This class will cover some of the key persons and places in the Biblical story, illumined with Tom Niehof's slides of each location. We will begin on September 10 with Abraham and Sarah, our father and mother in the faith. We meet in Room 7. All are welcome.

Carroll Nikkel is moving to Bridges on the North Side of Ankeny for a couple more weeks, and then plans to return home.. Continue prayers for strength and to ease some of the pain that results from the rehab.

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.

**We still need some teachers for 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 ages.

**As the weather gets cooler** and Sunday school classes and Bible studies are about to begin, please try not to throw things in the classroom trash that might attract insects or small animals, like food or cups with liquids. As the church is not cleaned till later in the week, these types of items will draw some unwanted visitors. A good practice is if you carried into the room, please carry it out with you. Thanks for your help with this, as it will definitely help keep the church clean.

Do you sing, play an instrument or want to learn how to play an instrument? Perhaps you are gifted in implementing technology and blending sound. Come join our musicians and sound technicians on the worship team. We welcome all skill levels and gifts. We also have a specific need for a guitarist. If you play or want to learn to play-let us know. As part of the worship team you can continue to grow the gifts God has given you and honor God by facilitating congregational worship. If you are interested, please contact Laura Hufford at: [worship@amestrinity.org](mailto:worship@amestrinity.org) (9/10)

Coming soon, this years Trunk or Treat. Get the date on your calendar, October 27<sup>th</sup>. More information to come.

### **Small Groups, Committees, & Sunday School Updates**

**Sunday School Classes** will begin September 10<sup>th</sup> and continue Sept 17, 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov 5, 12, 19, (no class 26), Dec 3, 10, 17 (Christmas Program), (no class 24 or the 31), Jan 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb 4, 11,18,25, March 3, (no class 10), 17, 24, (no class 31), April 7, 14, 21, 28, and May 5.

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

**UFO** will meet 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month.

**Women's Bible Study** Will not meet in September, next meeting will be Monday October 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Next Council meeting** is September 13<sup>th</sup>

## **DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

ReFrame Ministries

**Kids Corner: Following God's Lead** - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Imagine if a neighbor was building a new house, and you decided by yourself the work that needed to be done. Yikes! This week's devotion is all about following what God wants us to do. Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) like the KC eBook "Helping Kids Find Their Role in God's Story."

**Groundwork: Stand Firm In The Reality Of Christ's Resurrection.** - As Paul responds to false teachings in Corinth, he is adamant that it is necessary to believe in the truth of Christ's bodily resurrection. Join Groundwork as we study 1 Corinthians 15 to discover why this truth is crucial to the gospel message. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Resonate Global Mission

### **Greeters**

September 3	Hufford
September 10	Friend
September 17	Hallihan
September 24	Hertz
October 1	Irvin
October 8	N Klemme
October 15	Kleinwolterink
October 22	Kopaska
October 29	Kuyper
November 5	Niehof

### **Nursery**

September 3	Mindy and Pam
September 10	Megan and Kenzie
September 17	Judy and Brianna
September 24	Sue F and Jayden
October 1	Mary K and Caraline
October 8	Rachel and Stacy

October 15	Melody and Alisabeth
October 22	Jessica and Kathlyn
October 29	Donna and Brianna
November 5	Elaine and Kristy

### **Children's Message**

September 3	Laura Hufford
September 10	Jeff Kopaska
September 17	Deb Niehof
September 24	Stacy Hertz
October 1	Rex De Bruin
October 8	Randy Raak
October 15	Laura Hufford
October 22	Lora Copley
October 29	Jeff Kopaska
November 5	Deb Niehof

### **Congregational Prayer**

September 3	Nancy Berns
September 10	Randy Raak
September 17	Melody Franje
September 24	Tom Kuyper
October 1	Randy Raak
October 8	Rex De Bruin
October 15	Mark Voss
October 22	Paul Kleinwolterink
October 29	Randy Raak
November 5	Jeff Kopaska

**Pastor Randy Raak:** [pastor@amestrinity.org](mailto:pastor@amestrinity.org) or 928-699-9329

**Lora Copley:** [director@isu-areopagus.org](mailto: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