

WORSHIP SERVICE
November 26, 2023

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship (from Colossians 3:12-16)

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

We will bear with each other and forgive one another if any of us has a grievance against someone. We will forgive as the Lord forgave us.

And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

We will strive to let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, since as members of one body we were called to peace, and to be thankful.

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

* Opening Song: "Rock Of Ages"

Rock of Ages, cleft for me Let me hide myself in Thee
Let the water and the blood From Thy wounded side which flowed
Be of sin the double cure Save from wrath and make me pure
Could my tears forever flow Could my zeal no languor know
These for sin could not atone Thou must save and Thou alone
In my hand no price I bring Simply to Thy cross I cling
While I draw this final breath When my eyes shall close in death
When I rise to worlds unknown And behold Thee on Thy throne
Rock of Ages cleft for me Let me hide myself in Thee

* Opening Prayer

* Song: "Speak, O Lord"

Lift Up Your Hearts #755

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to receive the food of your holy Word.

Take your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in your likeness –

that the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.

Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all your purposes for your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility.

Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of your purity.

Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see your majestic love and authority.

Words of power that can never fail; let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.

Truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity.

And by grace we'll stand on your promises, and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.

Speak, O Lord, till your church is built, and the earth is filled with your glory.

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Dear Father, we confess that we can be so quick to judge others.

We might judge their actions when we have little idea of the context of their lives.

And we might quickly judge their motives even though we have little idea what is in their heart or going through their mind.

Forgive us, Lord, and give us the compassion and empathy we need to better understand each other and live in grace and peace.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Romans 3:21-24 (NLT)

“But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.”

Song of Entrusting: “Breathe On Me, Breath of God”

Lift Up Your Hearts #747

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love the way you love, and do what you would do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with yours, to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,
but live with you the perfect life for all eternity.

Children’s Message

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

Scripture Reading: Matthew 7: 1-6

⁷ “Do not judge, or you too will be judged. ² For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. ³ “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? ⁴ How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye. ⁶ “Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

Message: “With the Measure You Use...”

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response: "Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

Lift Up Your Hearts 737 (vs 1,2,4)

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!

Thou art the potter, I am the clay.

Mold me and make me after thy will,

while I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!

Search me and try me, Master today!

Open mine eyes, my sin show me now,

as in thy presence humbly I bow.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!

Hold o'er my being absolute sway.

Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see

Christ only, always, living in me!

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: "They'll Know We Are Christians"

Lift Up Your Hearts #256

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,

and we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.

Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand

and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.

Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will work with each other, we will work side by side.
We will work with each other, we will work side by side
and we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, his only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us all one.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Laura Hufford

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musicians: Laura Hufford, Holly, Raak, Maggie VanDyk

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Communion: Next week we will gather at the Lord's Table. Come, all who are sorry for their sins, who believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, have confessed his name, and desire to live in obedience to him. Come, for Christ our risen Lord invites you to fellowship with him at his table.

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/>

Children and Worship - During our morning worship service, immediately following the children's message, children ages three through third grade are invited to attend Children and Worship, which meets in room 3, located to the south of the sanctuary. Children

experience worship in the same order as in the sanctuary: we approach God in reverence, hear His Word proclaimed, respond in praise, and go forth in peace and love to serve in God's name. Visitors are welcome to attend. Please come pick up your child(ren) at the end of the service.

Advent Poinsettia Sign up Sponsor a poinsettia plant to enhance our worship services through Advent. Cost will be \$10.25 per plant. Money for your order due **November 26th**. Please put your payment in the offering with Memo: Poinsettia Plant. You may take it home after December 31st service. Questions contact Pam Voss

The church fellowship hall will be used on Sunday evenings from 5 – 7 pm by Areopagus. They will be viewing "The Chosen" through November.

The next Pub Theology (or Beers & Bibles/Spirits & Spirit/Brews & Truths) night at the Mucky Duck will be this Sunday evening (Nov 26) at 6:30. Bring your thirst, sense of humor, and hunger for off-the-wall theology questions ;) We've got some good questions coming in already – keep 'em coming! At this point we're planning on the 4th Sunday evening of each month.

You are invited to worship with us at our Blue Christmas Service on December 21st at 7PM, the longest night of the year.

Pastor Randy will be on vacation December 26th through the 31st. Please reach out to your elders during this time.

Pam Whitney will be on vacation from November 29th through December 10th. Please have your announcements in as soon as possible for these two weeks.

The Church has an event happening the December 14th through the 16th. Please be sure if you come to the church, you do not interrupt the event.

The education committee invites the congregation, family and friends to our youth **Christmas Program, Dec 17th**, following the service. After the program fellowship committee invites all to stay for a potluck meal of soup, sides and dessert!

Small Groups, Committees, & Sunday School Updates

Sunday School Classes (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 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at the Lincoln Center Hy-Vee at 8:30 AM.

UFO will meet the 3rd Monday of the month.

Women's Bible Study will be meeting Mon Dec 4th at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall. We will be discussing the Spiritual Discipline of "Rest".

Areopagus – Sunday night from 5 – 7 in the fellowship hall.

Next Council meeting is December 13th.

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Our God is a generous God. Read Psalm 36:5-9, and spend some time thinking about the abundant gifts God has lavished on us in creation and in other ways. Make a list of everything you can think of that testifies to God's generosity. If there are kids in your home, invite them to draw pictures of those things. Hang your list where you can see it often! Learn more at

crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject

ReFrame Ministries

Groundwork: Love God By Loving One Another - Differences and disagreements are inevitable, even among Christians, because the gospel calls people of many ages, backgrounds, and experiences. Join Groundwork as we study Paul's instructions for Christian living in Romans 14-16 to discover what it looks like to live in a community and to hear the heart of Paul's message—love for God and love for each

other. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thank You from World Renew - Thank you for supporting the Free A Family® Offering! Your support is building capacity for families to join World Renew's programming and journey out of poverty. To learn more about the Free A Family program and find out about our monthly giving program, visit worldrenew.ca/FreeAFamily.

Light the World Renew Giving Tree - Help people who live in poverty experience more of God's love for them by joining in our Christmas Giving Tree! Through the World Renew Gift Catalog, each ornament on the tree is a giving suggestion for people living in poverty worldwide. Just choose an ornament and bring it, along with your donation, to put in our World Renew offering on Christmas Day. If you're traveling this Christmas, you can also go to worldrenew.net/gifts or call 800-552-7972 to give instead!

Resonate Global Mission

"Advent in the Neighborhood" Free Webinar - How do you share the hope and peace of the gospel with your neighbors this season? Many of your neighbors might not know what Advent is, but most of them likely get into the festive spirit of Christmas. Advent is a wonderful opportunity to share the love of Christ, but how? Join us Monday, December 4 from 7-8:30 pm EST for a free webinar. Learn more and register at: www.resonateglobalmission.org/adventwebinar

VOLUNTEERS

Congregational Prayer:	Melody Franje
Sound:	Tom Whitney
Nursery:	Judy and Kenzie
Children's message:	Laura Hufford
Greeters:	Oftedal

Greeters

November 26	Oftedal
December 3	Oltman

December 10 Raak
December 17 Saldana
December 24 Whitney
December 31 Schweingruber/Berns

Nursery

November 26 Judy and Kenzie
December 3 Melody and Alisabeth
December 10 Mary and Jayden
December 17 Rachel and Mindy

Children's Message

November 26 Laura Hufford
December 3 Deb Niehof
December 10 Lora Copley
December 17 Randy Raak
December 24 Jeff Kopaska
December 31 Deb Niehof
January 7 Stacy Hertz

Congregational Prayer

November 26 Melody Franje
December 3 Lora Copley
December 10 Randy Raak
December 17 Tom Kuyper

Pastor Randy Raak: pastor@amestrinity.org or 928-699-9329 (TCRC Pastor)

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