

WORSHIP SERVICE
December 31, 2023

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship

Come and worship! Worship Christ who came as an Infant and yet is Infinite.

Worship Him who is both Lamb and Shepherd, both Crucified and King.

Worship Him who is above time and beyond time, and yet He was born in time and our times are now in His hands.

We come and worship. We join with angels and all creation— in all hours, and days, and years, and ages— in worshipping Christ, our eternal home and newborn King.

* Opening Son: "Angels, From The Realms Of Glory" vs 1, 4, 5

Lift Up Your Hearts #81

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
you who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:

come and worship, come and worship,

worship Christ, the newborn King.

Though an infant now we view him, he will share his Father's throne,
gather all the nations to him; every knee shall then bow down:

come and worship, come and worship,

worship Christ, the newborn King.

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:

come and worship, come and worship,

worship Christ, the newborn King.

* Opening Prayer

*Song: "Ten Thousand Reasons"

Lift Up Your Hearts #559

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul. Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your holy name.
The sun comes up it's a new day dawning it's time to sing Your song
again.

Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me. Let me be singing
when the evening comes. Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul.

Worship His holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your holy name.

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger. Your name is great and
Your heart is kind.

For all Your goodness I will keep on singing. Ten thousand reasons
for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul. Worship His holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your holy name.

And on that day when my strength is failing. The end draws near and
my time has come.

Still my soul will sing Your praise unending. Ten thousand years and
then forevermore.

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul. Worship His holy name. Sing like
never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your holy name. Worship Your
holy name. Worship Your holy name.

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Call to Confession (from Psalm 90)

*Lord, You have set our iniquities before You, our secret sins in the
light of Your presence. All our days pass away under your wrath, and
we finish our year with a moan.*

Who knows the power of your anger?

For your wrath is as great as the fear that is due You.

**Teach us to number our days rightly, that we may gain a heart of
wisdom.**

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth so great is His love for those who fear Him;

As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him, for He knows how we are formed,

He remembers that we are dust.

As for mortals, their days are like grass, man flourishes like a flower of the field; the wind blows over it and it is gone. Its place remembers it no more,

But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love abides with those who fear Him and His righteousness is with their children's children.

Song of Entrusting: "Abide With Me" vs 1, 2, 3

Lift Up Your Hearts #466

Abide with me: fast falls the even tide; the darkness deepens, Lord,
with me abide

When other helpers fail and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, o
abide with me

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; earths' joys grow dim, its
glories pass away

Change and decay in all around I see. O thou who changest not,
abide with me

I need thy presence every passing hour. What but thy grace can foil
the tempter's power

Who like thyself my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and
sunshine, O abide with me

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Psalm 90

¹ Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.
² Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. ³ You turn people back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, you mortals." ⁴ A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night. ⁵ Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death—they are like the new grass of the morning: ⁶ In the morning it springs up new, but by evening it is dry and withered. ⁷ We are consumed by your anger and terrified by your indignation. ⁸ You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence. ⁹ All our days pass away under your wrath; we finish our years with a moan. ¹⁰ Our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures; yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away. ¹¹ If only we knew the power of your anger! Your wrath is as great as the fear that is your due. ¹² Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. ¹³ Relent, Lord! How long will it be? Have compassion on your servants. ¹⁴ Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. ¹⁵ Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble. ¹⁶ May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendor to their children. ¹⁷ May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands.

Message: A Dwelling For Dust

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Application

*Song of Response: "O God, Our Help In Ages Past" vs 1-3, 6

Lift Up Your Hearts #405

Our God, our Help in ages past, our Hope for years to come,
our Shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal Home.

Under the shadow of your throne Your saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.
Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame,
from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: "Praise, My Soul, The King Of Heaven" vs 1, 2, 4, 5

Lift Up Your Hearts #571

Praise, my soul, the king of heaven; to his feat your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King
Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress.
Raise him, still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless
Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness!
Frail as summer's flower we flourish, blows the wind and it is gone;
But while mortals rise and perish God endures unchanging on.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the high, Eternal one.
Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face.
Sun and Moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and
space
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Deb Niehof

Message: Rev. Lora Copley

Musicians: Elijah Goossen, Maggie VanDyk, Mark Voss

ANNOUNCEMENTS :

Communion: Next week we will have the opportunity to celebrate the Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper is the family table at which we eat together and are nourished with Christ's sacrifice for us. Here (as in Baptism) we celebrate who we are - children of God – and are

reminded of God's promises to be our God, to care for us, love us, and be faithful to us. All who are baptized into Christ and have made a public stand for him are welcome to the Lord's Table.

Thank you to those of you who donated poinsettias to enhance our sanctuary during our holiday season! They were beautiful, especially during our evening services with the candle light. If you donated a poinsettia, please take it with you after the December 31 service.

TCRC is the parent church for the new **Church Beyond Borders church**, planted by Rev. SJ Kim. This is a cutting edge "hybrid" church with a combination of on-line worship in Korean and English, small groups, and 1-to-1 discipleship and pastoral care. The church ministers to 2nd-generation Korean Americans who have disconnected from their parents' Korean-speaking churches. We hope to have Rev. Kim here to update us again soon. Church Beyond Borders is off to a good start and growing, with a steering team of young Korean-Americans along with Pastor SJ! The church runs on a very small budget with most funds coming from the CRC's Resonate Global Mission and Classis Northcentral Iowa. As the parent church, TCRC also committed \$5,000 a year to this church plant. We have raised \$3,550 so far, so we still have a little bit to raise yet this year. Please consider supporting them. Checks can be made out to Church Beyond Borders or Trinity Christian Reformed Church (with "Church Beyond Borders" in the memo line) and put in our offering basket, or you can go to churchbeyondborders.com. Donations can also be made on line, picking Church Beyond Borders for the account. Visit our web page for the link to online giving.

Trinity would like to present the pastor and each of the other church staff members with gifts from the congregation during this advent season. Should you wish to contribute, gifts may be placed in the offering on Sundays, **December 31th or January 7th**. Please be sure to mark your contribution as "staff gift". This can also be done online using the link below, special offering, and staff gift in memo

This year the outreach committee is doing a food drive for **Salvation Army**. Instead of giving food we are giving a dollar donation to Salvation Army. Most purchases come from The Food Bank of Iowa. Food is purchased for about 20 cents a pound, a gallon of milk costs about \$1.80, a pound of hamburger costs about 20 cents and a five-pound bag of chicken breasts cost about \$1.00. Food can be purchased very economically. If you wish to donate feel free to give a check made out to TCRC or Salvation Army, or donate online as a special offering with memo of Salvation Army. The food drive will go thru January 14. If you have any questions feel free to contact Mark Voss.

The next Pub Theology (or Beers & Bibles/Spirits & Spirit/Brews & Truths) night at the Mucky Duck will be Sunday evening (Jan 7th) 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, but since the holiday is there, we moved it to the first Sunday in January, for our December meeting.

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.



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

Reminder as we come upon the winter season, please be sure to wipe your shoes before you come into the church to help with keeping our church home clean.

Small Groups, Committees, & Sunday School Updates

Sunday School Classes Dec (no class 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 January 8 at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall. We will be discussing the Spiritual Discipline of "Retreat".

Next Council meeting is January 10th

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

World Renew

Giving Thanks at Christmas - Thank you for sharing God's love through the World Renew Gift Catalog during Advent. Your donation of a chicken, water filter, or goat can be a miracle for people who face poverty and hunger. You can also give in the New Year! Go to worldrenew.net/gifts or call 800-552-7972. Thank you!

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner: Big Plans - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Do you like to make plans? By making plans, you can be excited about what's coming and anticipate what you may need to prepare. But did you know God has made even bigger plans for you? Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC's The Bible in One Year Plan.

Groundwork: Your Questions about Scripture and Hope - Join Groundwork as we study Matthew 6:9-13, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Hebrews 11:13-16, Revelation 20:1-6, John 15:18-25, and Psalm 46 to look at some of the questions you asked this year in response to our discussions on the Lord's Prayer, Joshua, and Revelation; then we'll talk about the issues that feel most pressing for our faith right now and where we can find the hope and encouragement to keep living

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

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Eugene Peterson says of Scripture engagement, "Reading is an immense gift, but only if the words are assimilated, taken into the soul—eaten, chewed, gnawed, received in unhurried delight." Read your favorite Scripture passage that way today. Take time to savor and "gnaw" on it, noticing any new insights that come to mind. Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject

Greeters

December 31	Schweingruber/Berns
January 7	Sterenberg
January 14	t' Hoen
January 21	VanDyk
January 28	Verkade

Nursery

December 31	Jessica and Alisabeth
January 7	Donna and Kathlyn
January 14	Elaine and Brianna
January 21	Mindy and Kristy
January 28	Megan and Cassie

Children's Message

December 31	Deb Niehof
January 7	Stacy Hertz
January 14	Randy Raak
January 21	Rex De Bruin
January 28	Laura Hufford

Congregational Prayer

December 31	Rex De Bruin
January 7	Jeff Kopaska
January 14	Mark Voss
January 21	Randy Raak
January 28	Paul Kleinwolterink

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