

## WORSHIP SERVICE

January 21, 2024

### WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

\* God's Greeting

\* We Greet One Another

\* Call to Worship (based on John 20:21, Our World Belongs to God, articles 41-42)

*Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."*

**In a world where happiness and peace are offered in many names, and where millions face confusing choices, the church is sent with the message Jesus Christ:**

*Grace is found in his love, peace is found in his forgiveness, transformation is found in his truth, and eternal life is found in his sacrifice.*

**We are sent to give sight and hope to the lost, to feed the hungry, and to share new life through following Jesus.**

\* Opening Song: "Oh For A Thousand Tongues To Sing" vs 1, 2, 5, 6  
Lift Up Your Hearts #590

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace  
My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,  
to spread thro' all the earth abroad the honors of your name.  
He speaks, and listening to his voice New life the dead receives;  
The mournful, broken heart rejoice; The humble poor believes.  
Look unto him, your Savior own, O fallen human race!  
Look and be saved through faith alone, Be justified by grace!

\* Opening Prayer

Song: "Be Still For The Presence of The Lord" Sing! A New Creation #11  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here. Come,  
bow before him now, with reverence and fear. In him no sin is found;

we stand on holy ground. Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around. He burns with holy fire; with splendor he is crowned. How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light! Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place. He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace. No work too hard for him; in faith receive from him. Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

## **WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD**

Prayer of Confession

**Dear Father, it's so easy to get consumed with our own needs, desires, and self-care that we often don't make others a priority. Help us to listen well and to take a real interest in the people you put in our lives. Prompt us to encourage each other and to build each other up. Help us to deepen the friendships we have, and to open the door for new friendships too. Most of all, thank you for your commitment to us. In our Savior's name we pray, amen.**

Assurance of Pardon *John 15:5-9*

*"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers.... If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love."*

Song of Entrusting: "Seek Ye First"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #899*

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find;  
knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia.

Children's Message  
Congregational Prayer

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

Scripture Reading: Luke 15:1-7

**15**<sup>1</sup> Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. <sup>2</sup> But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup> Then Jesus told them this parable: <sup>4</sup> "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders <sup>6</sup> and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' <sup>7</sup> I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

Message: Living in 3D

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

Prayer of Application

\*Song of Response: "Freely Freely"

God forgave my sin in Jesus' name, I've been born again in Jesus name;

And in Jesus' name I come to you To share His love as he told me to:

He said, "Freely, freely you have received. Freely, freely give;

Go in my name and, because you believe, Others will know that I live

All pow'r is giv'n in Jesus' name, In earth and heav'n in Jesus name;

And in Jesus' name I come to you To share his pow'r as He told me to:

He said, "Freely, freely you have received. Freely, freely give;

Go in my name and, because you believe, Others will know that I live

## **WE DEPART TO SERVE**

\* Blessing

\* Closing Song: "Hear the Call of the Kingdom"

Hear the call of the kingdom Lift your eyes to the King

Let His song rise within you As a fragrant offering

Of how God rich in mercy Came in Christ to redeem

All who trust in His unfailing grace

Hear the call of the Kingdom To be children of light

With the mercy of heaven The humility of Christ

Walking justly before Him Loving all that is right

That the life of Christ may shine through us

King of Heaven we will answer the call We will follow bringing hope  
to the world

Filled with passion, filled with power to proclaim Salvation in Jesus'  
name

Hear the call of the Kingdom To reach out to the lost

With the Father's compassion In the wonder of the cross

Bringing peace and forgiveness And a hope yet to come

Let the nations put their trust in Him

King of Heaven we will answer the call We will follow bringing hope  
to the world

Filled with passion, filled with power to proclaim Salvation in Jesus'  
name

King of Heaven we will answer the call We will follow bringing hope  
to the world

Filled with passion, filled with power to proclaim Salvation in Jesus'  
name

Postlude

\*Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Rex DeBruin

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musicians: Rex DeBruin, Char Verkade, Pam Voss

**ANNOUNCEMENTS :**

The next special offering 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!

Committee chairs are requested to have their reports to Pam by the 24<sup>th</sup>. Please send to [Office@amestrinity.org](mailto:Office@amestrinity.org)

There will be a congregational meeting on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 6:30 pm.

The Niemeysers wanted to thank you for reaching out with kind words, prayers, and cards of encouragement during this difficult time. Your prayers and kind words are very much appreciated!

Located on the table outside the office, there are pamphlets for “**Read the Bible in a Year**”. Please take one if you would like, makes for a great way to keep on track for reading the bible.

**The next Pub Theology** (or Beers & Bibles/Spirits & Spirit/Brews & Truths) night at the Mucky Duck will be Sunday evening (Jan 28<sup>th</sup>) at 6:30. Bring your thirst, sense of humor, and hunger for off-the-wall theology questions. – keep those questions coming Meeting the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday evening of each month.

**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.



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** Jan 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** UFO meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month

**Women's Bible Study** meet the first Monday of the Month.

**Pub Theology** meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at 6:30 pm, This month Mucky Duck

**Next Council meeting** is February 21th

## **DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

ReFrame Ministries

**Kids Corner: Feeling Like Enough** - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). It's easy to compare ourselves to others and end up feeling disappointed. Especially today, when people post so many photos of their lives online, it can be hard to feel good enough. Here's the good news: as a child of God, you are always enough! Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net), like KC's The Bible in One Year Plan.

**Groundwork: Thankfulness and Gratitude** - Why are thanksgiving and gratitude important virtues for Jesus' followers to cultivate? Join our Groundwork conversation as we study Luke 17:11-19, 1 Corinthians 10:16-17, Philippians 4:4-9, and Colossians 2:6-7 to discover why grateful hearts and expressing thankfulness are essential virtues and to discuss the difference these virtues can make in our thoughts and our lives. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive

**Thrive Faith Formation Tip** - Phil Reinders writes, "Through the Holy Spirit, the Word shakes off ink, paper, and pixels, stepping out of the page or screen and into our daily lives. That comes through patient attentiveness, a listening that is slow and savours." Invite the Spirit to bring God's Word alive to you in ever deeper ways. Learn more at [crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject](http://crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject)

## **VOLUNTEERS**

Congregational Prayer: Randy Raak  
Sound: Tom Whitney  
Nursery Mindy and Kristy  
Children's message: Rex De Bruin  
Greeters: VanDyk

### **Greeters**

January 21 VanDyk  
January 28 Verkade  
February 4 Voss  
February 11 Sanders/Bassham  
February 18 Yoder  
February 25 Bakker

### **Nursery**

January 21 Mindy and Kristy  
January 28 Megan and Cassie  
February 4 Judy and Pam  
February 11 Sue and Kenzie  
February 18 Mary and Kathlyn  
February 25 Rachel and Jayden

### **Children's Message**

January 21 Rex De Bruin  
January 28 Randy Raak  
February 4 Lora Copley  
February 11 Jeff Kopaska  
February 18 Deb Niehof  
February 25 Stacy Hertz

### **Congregational Prayer**

January 21 Randy Raak  
January 28 Paul Kleinwolterink  
February 4 Lora Copley  
February 11 Randy Raak  
February 18 Melody Franje  
February 25 Tom Niehof

**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: 515-230-2358; H-K = Rex De Bruin: 515-240-7947; L-S = Tom Kuyper: 515-451-3463; T-Z = Jeff Kopaska: 515-291-0074

**Deacons:** A-G = Joseph Yoder: 515-203-5953; H-K = Pam Niemeyer: 515-290-5933; L-S = Tom Whitney: 515-290-9655; T-Z = Mark Irvin: 217-649-9014

**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