

## WORSHIP SERVICE

February 4, 2024

### WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

\* God's Greeting

\* We Greet One Another

\* Call to Worship (based on Psalm 48:9-14)

*Within your house, O God, we meditate on your unfailing love.*

**Your people will lift up your name around the world today, and raise praises to you above any heroes of this world.**

*Your works and your wisdom bring us joy, so we pass this on from generation to generation.*

**You will be our God forever, and our guide until our journey's end.**

\* Opening Songs: "Praise To The Lord The Almighty"

*Lift Up*

*Your Hearts* #575

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation! Come, all who hear; brothers and sisters draw near, join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wonderously reigning, sheltering you under his wings, oh, so gently sustaining. Have you not seen all that is needful has been sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you; surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you. Ponder anew what the Almighty can do as with his love he befriends you.

Praise to the Lord! O, let all that is in me adore him! All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him! Let the amen sound from his people again. Gladly forever adore him!

"And Can It Be" vs 1, 3, 4

*Lift Up Your Hearts* #695

And can it be that I should gain An int'rest in the Savior's blood?

Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who caused his bitter death?

Amazing love! How can it be That you, my Lord, should die for me?

Amazing love! How can it be That you, my Lord, should die for me?

Long my imprisoned spirit lay Fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Your sunrise turned that night to day; I woke, the dungeon flamed  
with light;

My chains fell off, your voice I knew; I rose, went out and followed  
you.

Amazing love! How can it be That you, my Lord, should die for me?  
No condemnation now I dread; for Christ, and all in him, is mine!  
Alive in Him, my living Head, And clothed in righteousness divine,  
Bold I approach the eternal throne, And claim the crown, through  
Christ my own.

Amazing love! How can it be That you, my Lord, should die for me?

## **WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD**

Prayer of Confession

*Our Father, your grace and love to us seem to have no limits.*

**You teach us right from wrong, and yet you forgive us time and  
again without holding grudges. You offer your embrace, even when  
we push you away.**

*Lord, we can be so far from your example - holding grudges for slight  
offenses, or rejecting those who don't agree with us or measure up to  
standards we create.*

**May your grace and love abide within us, and may we then reflect  
that to others. Amen.**

Words of Assurance *Ephesians 3:17-19*

*"And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have  
power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide  
and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this  
love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the  
measure of all the fullness of God."*

Song of Entrusting: "Thy Word"

*Sing! A New Creation #86*

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, Think I've lost my way, Still you're there right  
beside me.

And nothing will I fear As long as you are near. Please be near me to the end.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

I will not forget Your love for me and yet My heart forever is wandering.

Jesus be my guide, And hold me to your side, I will love you to the end.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

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

Scripture Reading: Luke 15:11-32 (p:964)

<sup>11</sup> Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. <sup>14</sup> After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! <sup>18</sup> I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' <sup>20</sup> So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup> "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals

on his feet. <sup>23</sup> Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. <sup>25</sup> "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. <sup>27</sup> 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup> "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!' <sup>31</sup> "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

Message: "2 Lost Sons, 1 Open Door"

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

Prayer of Application

\*Song of Response: "Amazing Grace - My Chains Are Gone"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #693*

Amazing grace how sweet the sound

That saved a wretch like me

I once was lost but now I'm found

Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear And grace my fears relieved

How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed

My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has

ransomed me

And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me His word my hope secures

He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures

Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come; '

tis grace hath brought me Safe thus far, and grace will lead me home  
My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has  
ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace  
When we've been there ten thousand years Bright shining as the sun  
We've no less days to sing God's Praise Than when we'd first begun.

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

\*The Lord's Supper

Communion song: "I Stand Amazed"

*Lift Up Your*

*Hearts #174*

I stand amazed in the presence Of Jesus the Nazarene,  
And wonder how he could love me, A sinner, condemned, unclean.

### **Refrain:**

How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be;  
How marvelous! How wonderful! Is my Savior's love for me!  
He took my sins and my sorrows, He made them his very own;  
He bore the burden to Calv'ry, And suffered and died alone.

### **[Refrain]**

When with the ransomed in glory His face I at last shall see,  
'Twill be my joy through the ages To sing of his love for me. **[Refrain]**

## **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 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

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: Rev. Lora Copley

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musicians: Andrew Friend, Naomi Friend, Elijah Hufford, Holly Raak

### **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.

Next week's special offering will be for the **Christian Education Tuition Assistance Fund**. Please consider giving to this fund as one of the ways in which we can support families and children of Trinity and as an action following from the promises we make at baptism to nurture the faith of the children of our congregation.

**Thank You! Dear beloved Trinity Church**, on behalf of Areopagus Campus ministry – our board, leader team and students—please accept our deep appreciation for your incredible financial gifts and prayer support of our ministry. We are humbled by the multiple ways you have invested into God's work on ISU and shown tangible care and encouragement. Truly, we feel about you exactly what Paul wrote: that your giving and service ***“not only supplies the needs of the Lord's***

***people but it also overflows in many expressions of thanks to God.” 2***

Cor 9:12

Gratefully together with you, for Christ's glory and gospel, Lora Copley

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.

**There is printout of Birthdays, Greeters, Congregational Prayer, Nursery, Children and Worship, and Children’s message on the table outside the office. I will print this out at the beginning of each month.**

**A HUGE THANK YOU** to those who gave to the staff gift special offering. Laura, Mae, Randy, and Pam would like to thank you all for the wonderful gift We all love being able to serve our church family.

**Church friends and family,** Rachel is going to need some homemade, white, paper snowflakes for an upcoming bulletin board! If anyone can make a few (or a dozen) and bring them to church by 2/4 that would be amazing! The more unique the better! We have some paper with a letter head from a previous pastor, that have been trimmed down and placed on the table outside the office, if you would like to use it for your snowflakes

**The next Pub Theology** (or Beers & Bibles/Spirits & Spirit/Brews & Truths) night at the Mucky Duck will be Sunday evening (Feb 25<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.

Each year, the second Wednesday in March is designated as the CRC Day of Prayer. On this date, all CRC congregations are requested to take time to seek God’s leading, blessing, and transformation to become more like Christ.

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

**Women's Bible Study** will meet on Monday, February 5th, at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. We will be discussing the spiritual discipline of Gratitude. Copies of the lesson can be found on the bulletin table.

Please join us - all are welcome!

**Pub Theology** meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month (February 25<sup>th</sup>) at 6:30 pm, This month at Mucky Duck

**Next Council meeting** is February 21<sup>st</sup>

## **DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner: Names of God: The Father of Compassion - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Check out the story of Joseph. He was sold into slavery by his brothers, wrongly accused, thrown in jail, and forgotten for a long time. He comes face to face with his brothers and forgives them! When you receive God's mercy, you extend that mercy to others, even those who have hurt you. Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net), like KC's Valentine Cards.

Groundwork: Truthfulness - As humans, we tend to value honesty over lying, but have you ever considered truthfulness a virtue? Join Groundwork as we explore Numbers 23:19; John 17:13-18; John 1:1-2, 14; and Ephesians 4:17-25 to discuss the Christlike virtue of truthfulness, why it's important, and the practical ways we can embody it in our daily lives. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Proverbs 14:31 says, "He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God." Who in your community is needy? What might you

do to show kindness to that person or group of people? Learn more at [crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject](http://crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject) **Calvin Symposium on Worship (Feb. 7-9, 2024)** - Join us as leaders from churches and worshipping communities of all sizes and settings gather February 7–9, 2024, on the campus of Calvin University & Seminary in Grand Rapids, Michigan, to learn and worship together.

### **VOLUNTEERS**

Congregational Prayer: Lora Copley

Sound: Bryan Van Belle

Nursery Judy and Pam

Children's message: Lora Copley

Greeters: Verkade

### **Greeters**

February 4 Verkade

February 11 Sanders/Bassham

February 18 Yoder

February 25 Bakker

March 3 Bergman

March 10 De Bruin

### **Nursery**

February 4 Judy and Pam

February 11 Sue and Kenzie

February 18 Mary and Kathlyn

February 25 Rachel and Jayden

March 3 Melody and Caraline

March 10 Jessica and Stacy

### **Children's Message**

February 4 Lora Copley

February 11 Jeff Kopaska

February 18 Deb Niehof

February 25 Stacy Hertz

March 3 Rex De Bruin

March 10 Randy Raak

## **Congregational Prayer**

February 4 Lora Copley

February 11 Randy Raak

February 18 Melody Franje

February 25 Tom Niehof

March 3 Randy Raak

March 10 Tom Kuyper

**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