

WORSHIP SERVICE

February 11, 2024

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship (from John 1)

The true light that gives light to everyone has come into the world.

In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

To all who receive him, to those who believe in his name, he gives the right to become children of God.

* Opening Songs: "Gather Us In"

Sing! A New Creation #8

Here in this place the new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away; see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of the day. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery, we are the old who yearn for your face; we have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away here in this place the new light is shining now is the kingdom, and now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever,

gather us in and make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

*Opening Prayer

*Song: "Holy Spirit Living Breath Of God"

Lift Up Your Hearts #746

Holy Spirit, living Breath of God, breathe new life into my willing soul.

Bring the presence of the risen Lord to renew my heart and make me whole.

Cause your Word to come alive in me; give me faith for what I cannot see;

give me passion for your purity; Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within, may your joy be seen in all I do.

Love enough to cover every sin, in each thought and deed and attitude.

Kindness to the greatest and the least, gentleness that sows the path of peace.

Turn my striving into works of grace; Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth, giving life to all that God has made, show your power once again on earth, cause your church to hunger for your ways.

Let the fragrance of our prayers arise; lead us on the road of sacrifice,

that in unity the face of Christ may be clear for all the world to see.

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Lord, you call us to be the light of the world and salt of the earth.

But sometimes our actions neither honor you nor reflect your goodness. And too often, we don't make the effort to bring that salt and light to where it is needed. Help us to let our light shine in ways that give light to others that they may see their path to you.

In the grace of Christ we pray, amen.

Words of Assurance *John 8:12,31-32*

“When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.... To those who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

Song of Entrusting: “Open Our Eyes” vs 1, 3, 4, 5

Lift Up Your Hearts #297

(Refrain) Come and bring light to a people in darkness

Come set us free from the chains we have made

We are Your people the flock that You tend

Lord open our eyes once again

To the ones broken hearted: Open our eyes To the plight of the poor: Open our eyes

To the innocent children: Open our eyes Teach us compassion and love

(Refrain)

To the victims of violence: Open our eyes To the ones who seek justice: Open our eyes

To those sitting in prison: Open our eyes Teach us compassion and love

(Refrain)

When a color divides us: Open our eyes When the darkness surrounds us: Open our eyes

When we choose to look elsewhere: Open our eyes Teach us compassion and love

(Refrain)

To those full of life's sorrow: Open our eyes To the needs of the lowly: Open our eyes

To the ones who seek peace: Open our eyes Teach us compassion and love

(Refrain)

To those suffering illness: Open our eyes To those trapped by addiction: Open our eyes

To those lost or forgotten: Open our eyes Teach us compassion and love

Come and bring light to a people in darkness
Come set us free from the chains we have made
We are Your people the flock that You tend
Lord open our eyes once again
Open our eyes once again

Children's Message
Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading:

Matthew 4:18-22: (p:894) **Jesus Calls His First Disciples**

¹⁸ As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." ²⁰ At once they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, ²² and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Matthew 9:9-12 (p:897) **The Calling of Matthew**

⁹ As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

¹⁰ While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.

Message: Matthew Parties

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Application

*Song of Response: "I Will Sing of My Redeemer" vs 1, 2, 4

Lift Up Your Hearts #568

I will sing of my Redeemer and his wondrous love to me;
on the cruel cross he suffered, from the curse to set me free.
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer! With his blood he purchased me;
on the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt, and made me free.
I will tell the wondrous story, how my lost estate to save,
in his boundless love and mercy, he the ransom freely gave.
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer! With his blood he purchased me;
on the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt, and made me free.
I will sing of my Redeemer and his heavenly love for me;
he from death to life has brought me, Son of God, with him to be.
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer! With his blood he purchased me;
on the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt, and made me free.

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: Jeff Kopaska

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musicians: Char Verkade, Mark Voss, Pam Voss

ANNOUNCEMENTS :

This 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.

Adult Sunday School starting February 18th in Room 7: Join Rex De Bruin and Andrew Friend as they lead a class on the Holy Spirit with the help of Francis Chan's "Forgotten God" book and DVD series. Thorough scriptural support and compelling narrative form Chan's invitation to stop and remember the One we forget all too often, the Spirit of the living God.

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.

The next Pub Theology (or Beers & Bibles/Spirits & Spirit/Brews & Truths) night at the Mucky Duck will be Sunday evening (Feb 25th) at 6:30. Bring your thirst, sense of humor, and hunger for off-the-wall theology questions. – keep those questions coming Meeting the 4th 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.

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.



Small Groups, Committees, & Sunday School Updates

Sunday School Classes Feb 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 3rd Monday of the month

Women's Bible Study meet the first Monday of the month.

Pub Theology meets the 4th Sunday of the month (at 6:30 pm, This month at Mucky Duck

Next Council meeting is February 21st

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner: Names of God: I Am Who I Am - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. God identifies himself as "I AM WHO I AM" (Exodus 3:14). God shows that he will forever keep his promises. He is still the great I AM; because of this, he is everything and gives us everything we need. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC's Valentine Cards.

Groundwork: Forgiveness - Most people would agree that true forgiveness can be quite difficult and often takes a lot of time and work. Join Groundwork as we study Colossians 3:13, Matthew 6:9-15, Matthew 18:21-22, and Ephesians 4:31-32 to better understand what it means to forgive, why we forgive, the importance of recognizing forgiveness as a process, and useful steps for cultivating the virtue of forgiveness in our lives. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Practicing justice and mercy is a powerful way to bless others—and to become more like Jesus. If there are kids in your home, check out [5 Ways to Practice Justice with Kids](http://5waysjustice.com) (tinyurl.com/5waysjustice). Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject

World Renew

Flood Response in California - In the wake of extreme flooding and mudslides, World Renew DRS asks for prayer for the Los Angeles, California, community. An atmospheric river event, which transports saturated air to regions as rain or snow, has caused storms leading to "one of the wettest two-day periods in southern California's record." So far, the flooding has resulted in 475 mudslides and 390 fallen trees, causing damage to many homes and yards. Pray for the extreme rainfall to cease. Pray for endurance for local leaders and authorities guiding recovery from this event. Pray for families grieving the loss of loved ones from this storm.

VOLUNTEERS

Congregational Prayer: Randy Raak
Sound: Rex DeBruin

Nursery Sue and Kenzie
Children's message: Jeff Kopaska
Greeters: Sanders/Bassham

Greeters

February 11 Sanders/Bassham
February 18 Yoder
February 25 Bakker
March 3 Bergman
March 10 De Bruin
March 17 Franje
March 24 Copley
March 31 Hobson

Nursery

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 11 Jeff Kopaska
February 18 Deb Niehof
February 25 Stacy Hertz
March 3 Rex De Bruin
March 10 Randy Raak

Congregational Prayer

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 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