

WORSHIP SERVICE
March 10, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Lent

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship (Psalm 133:1,3; 57:5)

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity.

For there the LORD bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, let your glory be over all the earth.

* Opening Song: "Sing To The King" *Lift Up Your Hearts #474*

Sing to the King who is coming to reign, Glory to Jesus, the Lamb that was slain, Life and salvation his empire shall bring and Joy to the nations when Jesus is King.

Come let us sing a song, a song declaring that we belong to Jesus; he is all we need. Lift up a heart of praise. Sing now with voices raised to Jesus; sing to the King.

For his returning we watch and we pray; We will be ready the dawn of that day. We'll join in singing with all the redeemed, 'cause Satan is vanquished and Jesus is King.

Come let us sing a song, a song declaring that we belong to Jesus; he is all we need. Lift up a heart of praise. Sing now with voices raised to Jesus; sing to the King.

* Opening Prayer

* Song: "I Rejoiced When I Heard Them Say" vs1, 2, 4, 5

Lift Up Your Hearts #508

I rejoiced when I heard them say, "Let us go to the house of God"

And now our feet are standing, In your gates, O Jerusalem

Shalom, shalom, The peace of God be here

Shalom, shalom, God's justice be ever near

Like a temple of unity Is the city, Jerusalem

It is there all tribes will gather All the tribes of the house of God
Shalom, shalom, The peace of God be here
Shalom, shalom, God's justice be ever near
For the peace of all nations, pray For God's peace within your homes
May God's lasting peace surround us May it dwell in Jerusalem
Shalom, shalom, The peace of God be here
Shalom, shalom, God's justice be ever near
For the love of my friends and kin I will bless you with signs of peace
For the love of God's own people I will labor and pray for you
Shalom, shalom, The peace of God be here
Shalom, shalom, God's justice be ever near

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Dear Father, we may experience loneliness and long for fellowship with others.

But, by caring for ourselves first, we can cause isolation and even division.

We desire recognition, but don't see how that can also alienate us from others.

We want others to love us for who we are, but don't follow your ways to become lovable.

Lord, open our eyes to your truth, and our hearts to your love. In Christ we pray, Amen.

Words of Assurance *from Ezekiel 34:25-31*

"I will make a covenant of peace with them... I will make them and the places surrounding my hill a blessing. I will send down showers in season; there will be showers of blessing.... They will live in safety, and no one will make them afraid.... Then they will know that I, the Lord their God, am with them and that they... are my people, declares the Sovereign Lord. You are my sheep, the sheep of my pasture, and I am your God, declares the Sovereign Lord."

Song of Entrusting: "In Sweet Communion Lord With You" vs 1, 2, 5
Lift Up Your Hearts #346

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 37:21-28

²¹ and say to them, 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I will take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I will gather them from all around and bring them back into their own land. ²² I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel. There will be one king over all of them and they will never again be two nations or be divided into two kingdoms. ²³ They will no longer defile themselves with their idols and vile images or with any of their offenses, for I will save them from all their sinful backsliding, and I will cleanse them. They will be my people, and I will be their God. ²⁴ "My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd. They will follow my laws and be careful to keep my decrees. ²⁵ They will live in the land I gave to my servant Jacob, the land where your ancestors lived. They and their children and their children's children will live there forever, and David my servant will be their prince forever. ²⁶ I will make a covenant of peace with them; it will be an everlasting covenant. I will establish them and increase their numbers, and I will put my sanctuary among them forever. ²⁷ My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people. ²⁸ Then the nations will know that I the Lord make Israel holy, when my sanctuary is among them forever.'"

Message: Journey to Shalom: Come Together

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response: "Blest Be the Tie that Binds" vs 1, 2, 3, 6

Lift Up Your Hearts 257

Bless be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.
Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.
We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear,

And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.
From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin, we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: "Song of Hope"

Lift Up Your Hearts #941

May the God of Hope go with us everyday Filling all our lives with
love and joy and peace

May the GOD of justice speed us on our way Bringing light and hope
to every land and race

Praying let us work for peace Singing, share our joy with all

Working for a world that's new Faithful when we hear Christ call

God will be our Shepard as we go our way And will not forsake us
when we go astray

Even though the load of life is hard to bear We must not forget that
God is always there

Praying let us work for peace Singing, share our joy with all

Working for a world that's new Faithful when we hear Christ call

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Rev. Randy Raak

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Musicians: Mark and Pam Voss, Char Verkade

ANNOUNCEMENTS :

Reminder there is no Sunday School classes this week due to spring
break.

Easter Sunday, we'll have our Sunrise Service at **6:30 am** by the fire pit
on the church lawn, and then our regular Easter service at **9:30**. More
info to come

The special offering this week is to support **Midwest B.A.S.I.C** (Brothers
And Sisters In Christ) **Youth Bible Camp**, which has been such a blessing
to our young people each summer. This years camp will be August 3 –

7th. The theme will be **HIS**tory, Jesus life. Spending a day each on the prophets, birth, Gospels, Easter, and resurrection. Ending with final day on present.

There will be Easter color pages available on the table outside the office. Please color and pin to the bulletin board outside the Library. Lets share our Church Family' talents with coloring. Put your name on them so they can be returned after the holiday..

As Easter approaches, it is again time to purchase flowers for our sanctuary. Flowers will cost \$13 each and can be ordered from now till March 17th. If you have questions, please contact Pam Voss , be sure to leave a message. There will be a sign up sheet on the table outside the office. Payment can be made in the offering, noting to use money for Easter Flowers. If paying online, use special offering with memo of Easter Flowers.

A memorial service for Carl Vander Wal will be held on Saturday, **March 16** at 1:00 pm at First Christian Church, 250 W. E Avenue in Nevada. The family will be available for visitation for an hour immediately before the service.

<https://www.rasmussonfh.com/obituaries/Carl-L-Vander-Wal?obId=30739654>

Adult Sunday School 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.

Save the date: Our next Family2Family Sale will be **Saturday, April 6**. It's a great way to help neighborhood families by recycling your kids' (and your own) outdated or outgrown clothes into some extra cash! Check out our church web site for all the details.

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, and Children's message on the table outside the office. I will print this out at the beginning 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.

If you are not on our weekly emails and updates, please supply your email address to Pam Whitney at office@amestrinity.org. Please update the directory on the table outside the office as well. I will make a new version at the end of March.

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 March 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 week of the month.

Women's Bible Study meet last Sunday of the month.

Pub Theology meets the 4th Sunday of the month

Next Council meeting is March 20th

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Listening to God often involves listening for God's still, small voice (see 1 Kings 19). How might you quiet other

voices so you can be attentive to God's voice this week? Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject

ReFrame Ministries

Groundwork: The Paradox Of The Cross - In the Roman empire, the cross brought death in a brutal, humiliating way. But believers of Jesus Christ find life in the cross. Join Groundwork as we study 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Romans 5:1-11, and Ephesians 2:8-10 to study the paradox of the cross, remember the profound love of God, and learn how we should live in light of this paradox. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Family Fire - is an online community exploring Spirit-led family, marriage, parenting, in-laws, blended families, and intimacy. Find encouraging articles and devotions at familyfire.com. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

Kids Corner: Healing Love - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Jesus goes to the tomb where Lazarus' family laid him to rest, and miraculously restores Lazarus to life. Jesus also healed Lazarus' family's broken hearts. It restored their joy. We might not be able to heal physically those we love as Jesus did. But, like Jesus, we can come alongside them and demonstrate God's never-ending, always-present love. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC's Lent and Easter Collection.

Other

Crossroads Prison Ministries - Bethel Christian Reformed Church in Sioux Center, IA, will host a volunteer training workshop for all Crossroads Prison Ministries mentors and anyone who is interested in learning more about the ministry. You will hear from Crossroads' president, Joe Pryor, and director of church mobilization, Douglas Cupery. Please consider bringing a friend with you! Date: April 9, 2024; Time: 6:30 p.m.– 8:00 p.m. Location: Bethel CRC (341 S Main Ave Sioux Center, IA 51250). Register for the event at forms.office.com/r/t8FfKaX83d

VOLUNTEERS

Congregational Prayer: Tom Kuyper
Sound: Tom Whitney
Nursery Jessica and Stacy
Children's message: Randy Raak
Greeters: Franje

Greeters

March 10 Franje
March 17 De Bruin
March 24 Copley
March 31 Hobson
April 7 Voss
April 14 Hubert
April 21 Hufford
April 28 Friend
May 5 Hallihan
May 12 Hertz
May 19 Irvin
May 26 N Klemme

Nursery

March 10 Jessica and Stacy
March 17 Melody and Alisabeth
March 24 Elaine and Kathlyn
March 31 Mindy and Brianna
April 7 Megan and Kristy
April 14 Judy and Cassie
April 21 Sue F and Pam N
April 28 Mary K and Kenzie
May 5 Rachel and Sue F
May 12 Melody and Jayden
May 19 Jessica and Caraline
May 26 Donna and Stacy

Children's Message

March 10 Randy Raak

March 17 Lora Copley
March 24 Laura Hufford
March 31 Jeff Kopaska
April 7 Deb Niehof
April 14 Stacy Hertz
April 21 Rex De Bruin
April 28 Laura Hufford
May 5 Lora Copley
May 12 Jeff Kopaska
May 19 Deb Niehof
May 26 Stacy Hertz

Congregational Prayer

March 10 Tom Kuyper
March 17 Randy Raak
March 24 Mark Voss
March 31 Rex De Bruin
April 7 Mark Voss
April 14 Paul Kleinwolterink
April 21 Randy Raak
April 28 Jeff Kopaska
May 5 Lora Copley
May 12 Randy Raak
May 19 Mark Voss
May 26 Tom Niehof

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