

WORSHIP SERVICE
September 1, 2024

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

*Call to Worship Hebrews 11:1-2; Psalm 8:1-2

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for.

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens. From the lips of children, you have ordained praise.

*Opening Song: "This Is My Father's World"

Lift Up Your Hearts #21

This is my Father's world, And to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas-- His hand the wonders
wrought.

This is my Father's world: The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white, Declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world: O let me not forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world: Why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King: let the heavens ring! God reigns; let earth be
glad!

*Opening Prayer

*Song: "When We Walk With The Lord" *Lift Up Your Hearts* #327

When we walk with the Lord in the light of his Word,
what a glory he sheds on our way! While we do his good will
he abides with us still, and with all who will trust and obey.
Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus but
to trust and obey

But we never can prove the delights of his love
until all on the altar we lay; for the favor he shows,
and the joy he bestows are for them who will trust and obey.
Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus but
to trust and obey.

Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way; what he says we will do,
where he sends we will go - never fear, only trust and obey.
Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus but
to trust and obey.

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

*Our Father, you tell us that faith, hope, and love will abide. But like Job,
we might struggle to maintain our faith.*

**You tell us that if we have faith the size of a mustard seed, we
can move mountains. But like your disciples, we sometimes
struggle to accomplish anything for you.**

*Lord, we pray for the faith of the Canaanite woman, who knew you could
heal her daughter,*

**and the trust of Peter who stepped out of the boat to walk to
you on the water.**

*Through the power of the gospel and working of your Spirit, draw us to
ever-deeper faith in you. Amen.*

Assurance of Pardon Hebrews 11:13-16

*"All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not
receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from
a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.
People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of*

their own.... they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.”

Song of Entrusting: “We Are People On A Journey”

Lift Up Your Hearts #142

We are people on a journey, following where the Master walks.

We are people on a journey in the shadow of the cross.

What compels? The face of Jesus! Who Protects? Our faithful guide:

he who treads the road of service, Christ the Lord the crucified.

We are people on a journey, taking up the cross of Christ.

We are people on a journey, moving on from death to life.

We release the sin that tangles. We relinquish all acclaim.

We receive the suffering Savior, he our glory, wealth and fame.

We are people on a journey, to the table of the Lord,

We are people on a journey, fed by water and the Word.

We remember, we remember, how you wash disciples' feet;
we remember on the last night gifts of wine and bread to eat.

We are people on a journey, rising up in life reborn.

We are people on a journey, speaking peace, accepting scorn.

We are walking toward a homeland, to a mystery yet unknown;
to a kingdom coming quickly, to the light of God's own throne.

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Exodus 13:17-22

¹⁷ When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them on the road through the Philistine country, though that was shorter. For God said, “If they face war, they might change their minds and return to Egypt.” ¹⁸ So God led the people around by the desert road toward the Red Sea. The Israelites went up out of Egypt ready for battle. ¹⁹ Moses took the bones of Joseph with him because Joseph had made the Israelites swear an oath. He had said, “God will surely come to your aid, and then you must carry

my bones up with you from this place.”²⁰ After leaving Sukkoth they camped at Etham on the edge of the desert.²¹ By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night.²² Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people.

Message: Doubt, Faith, Certainty: The Walk of Faith

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response: “He Leadeth Me” *Lift Up Your Hearts #440*
He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort
fraught!

Whate'er I do, where'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

He leadeth me, he leadeth me; by his own hand he leadeth me:
his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom, sometimes where Eden's
flowers bloom,

by waters calm, o'er troubled sea, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth
me.

He leadeth me, he leadeth me; by his own hand he leadeth me:
his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see, since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

He leadeth me, he leadeth me; by his own hand he leadeth me:
his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

And when my task on earth is done, when, by thy grace, the victory's
won,

e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jordan
leadeth me.

He leadeth me, he leadeth me; by his own hand he leadeth me:
his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

WE CELEBRATE GOD’S COVENANT WITH US

The Lord's Supper

Communion song: "Come Unto Jesus"

Come unto Jesus all you who are weary
Come to the mercy seat fervently kneel
Here bring your wounded hearts broken and needy
Come unto Jesus mighty to heal
Joy of the comfortless Light for the straying
Hope of the penitent Peace in our strife
Here speaks the Comforter tenderly saying
My yoke is easy my burden is light
Come unto Jesus
Come unto Jesus
Lay down your burdens He is enough
Come unto Jesus rest in His love
Come taste the Bread of Life broken for sinners
Drink from the cup of His promise made sure
Feast at His table as sons and as daughters
Grace overflowing is yours evermore
Come now and follow Him this life forsaking
All that was gain count as nothing but loss
Trade all this world for His kingdom unfading
Come unto Jesus take up your cross
Come unto Jesus take up your cross
Life everlasting He offers to us
Come unto Jesus rest in His love

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: "Let All Things Now Living"

Lift Up Your Hearts #5

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God the
Creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, who guides
us and leads to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us, his light goes before us, a pillar of fire

shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished, as forward
we travel from light into light.
His law he enforces; the stars in their courses and sun in its orbit
obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the deeps of
the ocean proclaim him divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing; with glad
adoration a song let us raise,
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving: To God in the
highest, hosanna and praise!

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Jeff Kopaska

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musicians: Elizabeth Hobson, Elijah Hufford, Laura Hufford, Char
Verkade

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. Through this celebration,
we remember that:

- a. The Lord's Supper is a thanksgiving to God.
- b. The Lord's Supper is a memorial of Christ.
- c. The Lord's Supper is a participation in the body and the blood
of Christ.
- d. The Lord's Supper signifies the work of the Spirit.

The Lord's Supper seals the present and coming kingdom of God..

The special offering next Sunday is for Resonate Global Missions,
Benjamin Groenewold and Trica VanDyk (John VanDyk's sister).
They are missionaries to Lithuania. They both teach at LCC
International University in Klaipeda Lithuania. LCC is a Christian

liberal arts university that is uniquely placed to develop future leaders in a region of the world deeply damaged by Soviet rule. They have a few flyers on the table outside the sanctuary.

Sunday school for Preschool - High School grades will start September 8th. We will also offer an adult Sunday school class this fall; details and a start date will be announced soon.

Reminder that the **Ames Christian School** started their lease agreement on August 1st. Please be understanding if you come to the church, as they will be using parts of it for the next 10 months. We welcome this opportunity to serve those wishing to have a Christian education for their children.

Baby Laura is growing well and coming home soon! Please join our church for a baby shower for Rachel Iyare and baby Laura Saturday, September 7 at 2 PM in the Fellowship Hall. The registry link is included below. (Please note that although Laura was just a tiny, little one when she was born, she will be nearly 8 pounds when she comes home so please no newborn or preemie clothing.) Here is the link to baby registry <https://www.target.com/gift-registry/gift-giver?registryId=308dfbf0-5fdc-11ef-9cbf-d3573a0fcdb7&type=BABY>

In-person and zoom support groups meet each week locally through NAMI Central Iowa, the National Alliance for Mental Health. These and other programs are for support and education for people with mental illness and their families. Check out <https://namicentraliowa.org> or contact Erik at egustafson@namicentraliowa.org or 515-292-9400, or Tom & Deb Niehof's daughter Anastasia Tuckness (atuckness@gmail.com) for more information.

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.

The directory with the newest updates. Is on the table outside the office. Please review your changes if you made any. If you have changes or need to add info, please do it on this sheet. Thanks Pam

Small Groups, Committees, & Sunday School Updates

Sunday School Classes will resume September 8th

Children and Worship – will resume September 8th

Breakfast Club meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at the Lincoln Center Hy-Vee at 8:30 AM.

UFO will meet on the third Monday of the month.

Women's Bible Study The monthly women's Bible study will be meeting at 9am on Mon, Sept 9th. We are studying Spiritual Disciplines. New members are welcomed. Any questions contact Melody Franje. They will meet in the High School Sunday School classroom.

Pub Theology meets the last Sunday of the month, Sep 29th 7 pm Mucky Duck.

Next Council meeting is September 11th

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

ReFrame Ministries

Groundwork: Dramatic Messages From God - God repeatedly gives the prophet Ezekiel both a verbal message and instructions on how to also convey that message visually. Join Groundwork as we study Ezekiel 4-7 and 12 to witness God's heartbreak, his deep love for his people, and his great effort to get their attention. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Kids Corner: God Is Talking to Me? - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. It's okay to have questions about the things that happen in a church service. The good news is that God's happy when we all come together and worship him, whether we've been to that church a hundred times or are new for the first time. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Bible Story Podcast The Story of Samuel.

VOLUNTEERS

Congregational Prayer: Randy Raak
Sound: Brian Sterenberg
Nursery Judy and Brianna
Children's message: Jeff Kopaska
Greeters: VanDyk

Greeters

September 1	VanDyk	October 6	Bakker
September 8	Whitney	October 13	Bergman
September 15	Voss	October 20	De Bruin
September 22	Verkade	October 27	Franje
September 29	Yoder		

Nursery

September 1	Judy and Brianna	October 6	Jessica and Sue F
September 8	Lyndee and Kristy	October 13	Donna and Elizabeth H
September 15	Mary K and Cassie	October 20	Elaine and Caraline
September 22	Rachel and Pam N	October 27	Mindy and Stacy
September 29	Melody and Kenzie	November 3	Megan and Alisabeth

Children's Message

September 1	Jeff Kopaska	September 8	Tom Kuyper
September 8	Rex DeBruin	September 15	Randy Raak
September 15	Laura Hufford	September 22	Mark Voss
September 22	Lora Copley	September 29	Rex DeBruin
September 29	Stacey Hertz	October 6	Paul Kleinwolterink
October 6	Deb Niehof	October 13	Randy Raak
October 13	Stacy Hertz	October 20	Jeff Kopaska
October 20	Rex De Bruin	October 27	Tom Kuyper
October 27	Randy Raak		
September 1	Randy Raak		

Pastor Randy Raak: pastor@amestrinity.org or 928-699-9329

Lora Copley: director@isu-areopagus.org or 505-387-6861
(Areopagus Campus Ministry)

Worship Coordinator: Laura Hufford: worship@amestrinity.org

Office Coordinator: office@amestrinity.org

Elders: A-G = Tom Kuyper; H-K = Rex De Bruin; L-S = Joel Copley; T-Z = Naomi Friend

Deacons: A-G = Joseph Yoder; H-K = Christopher 't Hoen; L-S = Tom Whitney; T-Z = Donna Bergman