

# WORSHIP SERVICE

April 6, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Lent

## WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

\* God's Greeting

\* We Greet One Another

\* Call to Worship (From Revelation 19)

*Then a voice came from the throne, saying: "Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, both great and small!"*

**"Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!**

*Then the angel said to me..."Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!"*

**Let the birds of the heavens sing, and the beasts of the earth bow down, and the earth itself break forth in beauty, for the Lord will come in glory to welcome his own.**

\* Opening 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!

\* Opening

\* 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

## **WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD**

Prayer of Confession

*Almighty God, to you has been given all authority on heaven and on earth.*

**We confess that too often we don't acknowledge your rule in our lives, and we live to serve ourselves.**

*We see our work, our studies, our relationships, and our amusements first of all in how they will serve us, rather than in how they can honor you.*

**Help us to be your light in this world, and your salt of this earth, that others may see Your goodness reflected in our lives and give you praise. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon (*Revelation 1: 6-8*)

*"To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. "Look, he is coming with the clouds, and "every eye will see him....I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."*

Song of Entrusting: "Revelation Song"

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain Holy holy is He  
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on Heaven's mercy seat  
Holy holy holy Is the Lord God Almighty  
Who was and is and is to come With all creation I sing  
Praise to the King of kings You are my ev'rything  
And I will adore You Clothed in rainbows of living color

Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder Blessing and honor strength and glory  
And power be to You the only wise King Holy holy holy  
Is the Lord God Almighty Who was and is and is to come  
With all creation I sing Praise to the King of kings  
You are my ev'rything And I will adore You  
Filled with wonder awestruck wonder At the mention of Your name  
Jesus Your name is power breath and living water Such a marv'lous mystery yeah  
Holy holy holy Is the Lord God Almighty  
Who was and is and is to come With all creation I sing  
Praise to the King of kings You are my ev'rything  
And I will adore You  
Children's Message  
Congregational Prayer

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

Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12, Galatians 6:7-10

<sup>9</sup> Now about your love for one another we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. <sup>10</sup> And in fact, you do love all of God's family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, to do so more and more, <sup>11</sup> and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life: You should mind your own business and work with your hands, just as we told you, <sup>12</sup> so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.

<sup>7</sup> Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. <sup>8</sup> Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. <sup>9</sup> Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup> Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

Message: A Look in the Mirror - Stewardship vs Comfort

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

Prayer of Application

\* Song of Response: "Christian Hearts in Love United" *Lift Up Your Hearts #727*

Christian hearts in love united: search to know God's holy will.  
Let his love, in us ignited, more and more our spirits fill.  
Christ the head, and we his members-we reflect the light he is.  
Christ the master, we disciples-he is ours, and we are his.  
Grant, Lord, that with your direction, "Love each other," we comply.  
Help us live in true affection your love to exemplify,  
Let our mutual love be glowing, brightly so that all may view  
that we, as on one stem growing, living branches are in you.

Come, then, living church of Jesus, covenant with Him anew;  
unto Him who conquered for us, may we pledge our service true;  
May our lives reflect the brightness of God's love in Jesus shown.  
To the world we then bear witness: we belong to God alone.

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

The Lord's Supper

Communion 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 DEPART TO SERVE**

\* Blessing

\* Closing Song: "My Friends, May You Grow in Grace" *Lift Up Your Hearts #938*

My friends, may you grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior.  
My friends, may you grow in grace, and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.  
To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.  
To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.

Postlude

\* Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Stacy Hertz

Message: Pastor Randy Raak

Musicians: Elijah Goosen, Naomi Friend, Laura Hufford, Derek TenPas

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Communion:** Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper. All who are baptized into Christ and have made a public stand for him are welcome to the Lord's Table, to receive the nourishment and refreshment of the bread and cup of the Lord "as sure signs" in remembrance of Christ's body and blood poured out for us in his once-for-all sacrifice on the cross.

**Next Week's Special Offering is for the TCRC Building Fund.** Our building committee works hard to keep our church in good repair. We are excited about all the things that happen in our building and your offerings allow us to keep our church a great

place for these events. Every dollar counts and no amount of giving is too small. Pray fully consider your giving to help with this church family need.

**The Trinity Family would like to thank Laura Hufford** for all the work she did as our Worship Coordinator. We are very grateful for the thoughtful consideration to making sure that our songs were reflective of each scripture passage and lesson. We recognize the effort that you put into so many aspects of worship, such as coordinating the singers, musicians, and sound technicians for each week - all requiring a lot of dedication, time, and attention to detail. Again, THANK YOU for all you have done.

**Our local sister church, the Ames Korean CRC** is inviting us to celebrate their 40th anniversary with them. This will be part of their **11:30 a.m. service on Sunday, April 6**, held at **Northminster Presbyterian Church** here in Ames, (1416 20th St). They also have plans to share Korean food on Saturday, April 5 from 12:00 - 2:30 p.m. for fundraising. Prices will vary depending on the food.

**Maundy Thursday service (4/17 at 6:30pm)**. We'll gather to remember Jesus' final evening with his disciples and his suffering that led to the cross. We'll be celebrating the Lord's Supper during this service

**Many Ukrainian families** sought refuge in Ames after Russian troops invaded their home in 2022. Humanitarian Parole provided a legal way for them to live, work, and learn in central Iowa. Recent executive actions have made life much more difficult for new comers, as legal pathways are paused or canceled. The stress of navigating the unknown in the United States while worrying about friends and family in Ukraine is unimaginable. We invite you to join us as we hold our Ukrainian friends in prayer: 1. For lasting peace, 2 they will find a warm welcome in Iowa, 3 children will flourish, 4. Continue to contact family and friends far away, and 5. Difficult decisions in the days ahead.

**Easter Sunday**, we'll have our Sunrise Service at **(4/20 at 6:30 am)** by the fire pit on the church lawn, followed by breakfast provided by the fellowship committee, and then our regular Easter service at **9:30 am**.

**Good Neighbor** thanks us for our support and invites us to a picnic on Sunday May 8<sup>th</sup> at 600 Clark Avenue. There will be free food live band (Cherry Pickers) and activities for all ages.

**Please sign up for a flowering plant(s) for our Easter service on April 20.** You may take your plant home after the Easter Sunday service. The plants are \$10.25 each. Please put a check in the collection plate made out to TCRC with "Easter Plant" on the memo line. The due date for the order and payment is **Sunday April 6**. Contact : Pam Voss

**Adult Sunday School (Room 7):** This year, 2025 AD, is the 1700 anniversary of the Council of Nicea. This is a good time to do a quick (five week) survey of Church

History. We will meet in Room 7 at 10:50 a.m. beginning this Sunday, March 30. The schedule for the semester is posted on the door. Hope you can join us, Pastor Tom.

**The Family 2 Family** sale will happen again this spring, Saturday, April 5th, 2025, 9:00am - 1:00pm.

Please share with you family and friends, visit the webpage below for more details.  
<https://www.amestrinity.org/church-events/family2family-spring-sale/>

The United States, it may be important to note that there is also a National Day of Prayer on **Thursday, May 1, 2025**. U.S. Councils, if you feel that participating in an Annual Day of Prayer can be done more meaningfully in conjunction with this National Day of Prayer (U.S.), please do so.

**If your group** or committee has an announcement, please be sure to get me an update by 10:30 am on Thursday so I have time to get it into the announcements for the week.  
Thanks Pam

**There is printout of Birthdays, Greeters, Congregational Prayer, Nursery, and Children's message** on the table outside the office. This has been updated into early 2025. 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.

**Children and Worship** - During our morning worship service, immediately following the children's message, ages 3 through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade are invited to attend, meeting 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 pick up your child(ren) at the end of the service

### **Small Groups, Committees, & Sunday School Updates**

**Sunday School Classes** Happening at 10.50, after fellowship

**Children and Worship** – Happening after the children's message

**Young Adult Ministry** – Meets Sunday after Sunday School

**Breakfast Club** meets 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 the first Monday of the month

**Pub Theology** meets the last Sunday of the month, April 27<sup>th</sup> 7 pm Mucky Duck.

**Hymn Sing** will be the first Sunday of the Month at 5 pm at the Church. April 6<sup>th</sup> is the next one.

**Next Council meeting** is April 9<sup>th</sup>

## DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CRC Communications

**Forty Days of Prayer for Synod** - You're invited into 40 days of intentional, guided prayer leading up to Synod 2025. Echoing the Emmaus Road theme from Gather events, we hope to "Journey With Jesus" as we ask for God's guidance, with prayers written by a wide variety of CRC contributors. Learn more and sign up at [crcna.org/synod/prayer](http://crcna.org/synod/prayer) for either daily Scripture and prayers OR a week's worth of Scripture and prayers that will be emailed to you. The 40 days of prayer will begin on Sunday, May 4.

### ReFrame Ministries

**Kids Corner: Lent: God's Will Be Done** - Check out this week's kids' devotion "Lent: God's Will Be Done" at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). What do you do when it's hard to obey God? Discover how Jesus prayed for strength and trusted God's plan in tough times. Learn how to follow his example and seek God's help when obedience feels hard! Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net), like KC's Lent and Easter Collection.

**Groundwork: What Jesus Taught in His Final Days** - As Jesus' time on earth brought him closer to the cross, he wanted his disciples, and now us, to understand some important lessons. Join Groundwork as we explore Mark 9:30-37, Mark 10:13-40, Luke 12:35-40, Matthew 24:36-51, and Matthew 25:31-45 to learn what it means to be a watchful servant as we wait for the day when Jesus will return. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

### World Renew

**Help Myanmar Earthquake Survivors** - On March 28, two powerful earthquakes struck central Myanmar, leaving devastation in their wake. World Renew is working to bring emergency assistance to those affected by this disaster. With your support, we can bring hope and relief to people already struggling with poverty, displacement, and limited healthcare access in Myanmar. Please join us in prayer and donate to help earthquake survivors at [worldrenew.net/myanmar-earthquake-response](http://worldrenew.net/myanmar-earthquake-response), by calling 1-800-552-7972, or by mailing a check made out to World Renew, with "Myanmar Earthquake 2025" in the memo line, to: World Renew, 8970 Byron Commerce Dr SW, Byron Center, MI 49315.

### Resonate Global Mission

**Your Gift Will Go Twice as Far** - As we prepare to celebrate our Savior who is the Resurrection and the Life, let's go out with joy in our hearts to join God's mission! This Easter, you can help Christian Reformed church planters, missionaries, and campus ministers live out the good news by making a gift to Resonate while your gift will go twice as far! Find out how at [www.resonateglobalmission.org/Double](http://www.resonateglobalmission.org/Double)

### Other

**The Awakening** - The Awakening is a 1-week worship arts summer camp at Hope College. Close to 400 high school students have come from 17 states to grow their hearts deeper toward God and develop their worship arts gifts of all things musical, visual arts,

dance, sound tech, and preaching. The camp is from June 8 (pm) to June 13 (noon). Most students say it was the best week of their lives. Learn more at [hope.edu/awakening](http://hope.edu/awakening)  
The Banner

**The Annual Banner Appeal is underway!** - The 2025 appeal for The Banner, the CRC's award-winning monthly magazine, has started. The Banner is delivered free in print and online, and this annual donation appeal makes it possible. To help keep this community conversation going please give online now at: [TheBanner.org/Give](http://TheBanner.org/Give)

Thrive

**Thrive Faith Formation Tip** - Katherine Wolf, coauthor of Hope Heals, said, "Before Jesus worked all things together for good, he wept over all the things that were not good. He made himself vulnerable to every kind of hurt to guarantee that we would never be alone in our pain. He offered us solidarity within his sovereignty." What are you, or the people in other parts of the world, weeping about right now? What can we do to be reminded that Jesus weeps with us? Brought to you by Thrive: [crcna.org/Thrive](http://crcna.org/Thrive)

## **VOLUNTEERS**

Congregational Prayer: Randy Raak  
Sound: Bryan Van Belle  
Nursery: Lyndee and Lora  
Children's message: Stacy Hertz  
Greeters: Bergman

### **Greeters**

April 6	Bergman	July 6	Hufford
April 13	t' Hoen	July 13	Friend
April 20	VanDyk	July 20	Hallihan
April 27	Verkade	July 27	Hertz
May 4	Kopaska	August 3	Irvin
May 11	Bakker	August 10	Nancy Klemme
May 18	Nikkel	August 17	Kleinwolterink
May 25	De Bruin	August 24	Kopaska
June 1	Franje	August 31	Kuyper
June 8	Copley	September 7	Niehof
June 15	Hobson	September 14	Niemeyer
June 22	Voss	September 21	Nikkel
June 29	Hubert	September 28	Oftedal

### **Nursery**

April 6	Lyndee and Lora	May 11	Donna and Pam
April 13	Mary and Kathlyn	May 18	Sue F and Kenzie
April 20	Rachel and Sue F	May 25	Mindy and Sue F
April 27	Melody and Kristy	June 1	Megan and Elizabeth
May 4	Jessica and Cassie	June 8	Sue and Caraline/Stacy



June 15 Mary and Brianna  
June 22 Lyndee and Alisabeth  
June 29 Rachel and Kathlyn  
July 6 Melody and Sue F  
July 13 Jessica and Kristy  
July 20 Donna and Cassie  
July 27 Elaine and Pam  
August 3 Mindy and Kenzie

August 10 Megan and Sue F  
August 17 Kopaska and Elizabeth H  
August 24 Mary and Caraline  
August 31 Lyndee and Brianna  
September 7 Rachel and Alisabeth  
September 14 Melody and Kathlyn  
September 21 Jessica and Sue F  
September 28 Donna and Kristy

### Children's Message

April 6 Stacy Hertz  
April 13 Rex De Bruin  
April 20 Randy Raak  
April 27 Laura Hufford  
May 4 Lora Copley  
May 11 Jeff Kopaska  
May 18 Stacy Hertz  
May 25 Rex De Bruin  
June 1 Randy Raak  
June 8 Laura Hufford  
June 15 Lora Copley  
June 22 Jeff Kopaska  
June 29 Stacy Hertz

July 6 Rex De Bruin  
July 13 Randy Raak  
July 20 Laura Hufford  
July 27 Lora Copley  
August 3 Jeff Kopaska  
August 10 Stacy Hertz  
August 17 Rex De Bruin  
August 24 Randy Raak  
August 31 Laura Hufford  
September 7 Lora Copley  
September 14 Jeff Kopaska  
September 21 Stacy Hertz  
September 28 Rex De Bruin

### Congregational Prayer

April 6 Randy Raak  
April 13 Randy Raak  
April 20 Mark Voss  
April 27 Randy Raak  
May 4 Tom Niehof  
May 11 Paul Kleinwolterink  
May 18 Randy Raak  
May 25 Jeff Kopaska  
June 1 Tom Niehof  
June 8 Randy Raak  
June 15 Lora Copley  
June 22 Tom Kuyper  
June 29 Randy Raak

July 6 Rex De Bruin  
July 13 Randy Raak  
July 20 Laura Hufford  
July 27 Lora Copley  
August 3 Jeff Kopaska  
August 10 Stacy Hertz  
August 17 Rex De Bruin  
August 24 Randy Raak  
August 31 Laura Hufford  
September 7 Lora Copley  
September 14 Jeff Kopaska  
September 21 Stacy Hertz  
September 28 Rex De Bruin

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

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

**Pam Whitney** Office Administrator: 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

**Committee Chairs:** Building & Grounds – Jim Bergman; Education – Andrew Friend; Endowment – Paul Kleinwolterink; Fellowship – Sue Fee; Technology – Tom Kuyper; Outreach and Enfoldng – Mark Voss; Worship – Randy Raak