

WORSHIP SERVICE

April 20, 2025

Easter Sunday

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship: The Resurrection of Jesus - Luke 24:1-9

Reader 1: On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb.

Reader 2: They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them.

Reader 3: In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' "

Reader 2: Then they remembered his words. When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others.

* Opening Song: "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

Lift Up Your Hearts #182

* Opening Prayer

* Song: "I Serve a Risen Savior"

Lift Up Your Hearts #365

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

What we believe about our resurrection:

Jesus told his disciples: "Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life...."

Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out." (John 5:24,28)

All men, women, and children, who have lived from the beginning until the end of the world, their spirits being joined and united with their own bodies in which they lived, will appear in person before the great judge. (

However, even the earthly bodies of believers cannot inherit the kingdom of God, they are planted in the ground when we die, but they will be raised to live forever. They are buried in brokenness, but they will be raised in glory. They are buried in weakness, but they will be raised in strength. They are buried as natural

human bodies, but they will be raised as spiritual bodies. (1 Corinthians 15:24-44, 50 - NLT)

Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus, on this day, you won victory over death, and opened the door to everlasting life.

Because you rose and live today, we know that nothing in the past, the present, or the future can separate us from your great love.

Forgive us for the times we give in to doubt and fear, and seek our peace in the ways of this world.

Help us to trust your power to change us and make us new. Bring new life where we are worn and tired, forgiveness where we have been wounded, and new love where we have become hard-hearted. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (1 Corinthians 15:20-22)

“But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man.

For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.”

Song of Entrusting: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” *Lift Up Your Hearts* #175

Children’s Message

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

Scripture Reading: Matthew 26:31-35, 69-75; John 21:15-19

Message: What If He Didn’t?

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response: “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)” *Lift Up Your Hearts* #693

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: “Crown Him With Many Crowns” verses 1-3 *Lift Up Your Hearts* #223
Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

Children’s Message: Pastor Randy Raak

Message: Mark Voss

Musicians: Andrew Friend, Elijah Hufford, Pam Voss, Alisabeth, others

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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**. Following the service will be an egg hunt for the kids. (There is no Sunday School today.)

Thank you to all who have ordered Easter flowers. It is wonderful to have the flowers as a part of our Sunday service as we proclaim that he has risen. Please remember to pick yours up after the service on Sunday. Families Bergman, Copley, Raak, Voss, Fee, Niehof, Oltman, Goossen, Kleinwolterink, and Ploegstra.

The special offering next week is for Mid-Iowa Community Action (MICA). MICA is a private, non-profit organization serving children and families affected by poverty in central Iowa. To learn more, visit micaonline.org.

Areopagus is joining with other campus ministries to create and distribute 1,000 care packages for ISU students during our upcoming Prep Week. Would you **help donate items** for the packages? Follow the link

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2XKAAG8MNWPOR?ref=wl_sharecom or find the QR Code in your announcements email. Giving Deadline is **April 28**. Call Lora for more info. (505-387-6861). Thank you!

Sue Fee will be having spinal fusion surgery the end of April, and it will spend several months recovering. A meal train has been created for her and Dennis for the first few weeks after surgery. Please follow the link to sign up to help if you can with a meal during this time. Questions or help signing up, please contact Pam. Meal train link: <https://mealtrain.com/53rz1y>

The fellowship committee would like to thank Mark Voss for all the donations over the last several months to the fellowship committee, it is very much appreciated by our church family.

Congregational meeting on May 4 after the morning service: We'll have a brief meeting to approve the new elders and deacons immediately following the service. The nominees are: Elder - Melody Franje and Paul Kleinwolterink; and Deacon - Mark Voss and Derek Ten Pas. Since this will be the only item on the agenda, we expect the meeting will conclude in time for the final Sunday School classes for the year.

On May 11th Kathlyn Copley, Amelia t'Hoen, Jackson Hufford, Brianna Kopaska, and Cassie Kopaska will publicly do their Profession of Faith during the morning service. Please join us in the fellowship hall for cake and punch provided by the fellowship committee.

Young Adults Ministry will not be meeting again until **May 4th**

Paul's Missionary Journeys in Greece (October 13 - 24, 2025): Travel by motor coach (6 days) and cruise ship (4 days) to sites connected with Paul's second and third missionary journeys, as well as visit other major sites of biblical, archaeological, and cultural interest. Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading

Pauline scholar, hosts this inspirational tour. For more information, contact Dr. Weima at 616-328-3110 or weimje@calvinseminary.edu.

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

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.

On Sunday, June 1st, we will celebrate the recent graduates and the conclusion of our church education year with a potluck lunch after the worship service. Caraline Hertz, Colton Niemeyer, Jadyn Niemeyer, Jackson Hufford, Alexa Kopaska, Elijah Goossen, Johnathan Copley, Joel Copley, Nima Sina, and McKenzie Niemeyer.

This summer's BBQ (Grill, Thrill, and Chill) will be held Friday June 13th. Get it on your calendar and save the date.

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 3rd 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 will resume next week

Children and Worship – Happening after the children's message

Young Adult Ministry – Meets Again on May 4th

Breakfast Club meets 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 Will meet the first Monday of the month

Pub Theology meets the last Sunday of the month, April 27th 7 pm Mucky Duck.

Hymn Sing will be the first Sunday of the Month at 5 pm at the Church. May 5th is the next one.

Next Council meeting is May 14th

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

CRC Communications

40 Days of Prayer for Synod - You're invited into 40 days of intentional, guided prayer leading up to Synod 2025. The theme, Journey With Jesus, has been engaged with by a wide variety of CRC contributors. Learn more and sign up for either daily Scripture and prayers OR a week's worth of Scripture and prayers that will be emailed to you.

crcna.org/synod/prayer

CRC Heritage Fund

Eggs in the Giving Basket - Savvy farmers who put some of their eggs – or grains, almonds, berries, corn, or even livestock – in the giving basket avoid taxes AND have tremendous Kingdom impact. Commodities are often more cost-effective to give than cash! Are commodities the right giving option for you? We'd love to tell you more.

Write to plannedgiving@crcna.org or call Josh Remer, CRCNA Planned Giving Advisor at 616-223-5885

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner: Good News at Easter - Check out this week's kids' devotion "Good News at Easter" at www.kidscorner.net. Just like we know the voice of someone we love, Mary Magdalene knew it was Jesus when he called her name outside the empty tomb on Easter morning. That special moment changed everything for her! It reminds us to share the amazing news that Jesus is alive and loves us so much. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC's Lent and Easter Collection.

Groundwork: Easter: Jesus is Risen! - Christians around the world celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study the story of Jesus' resurrection in Mark 16:1-8, Matthew 28:1-10, Luke 24:1-12, and John 20:1-10 to grow in faith by remembering and celebrating Christ's victory over death, and to see how we're invited to participate in telling the gospel story again. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Resonate Global Mission

Easter Greetings from Resonate - He is risen! When we follow Jesus, we have an opportunity to live into that truth a little more every day. We also step into a calling to work toward the kingdom transformation Jesus brought to earth. Resonate Global Mission, your mission agency, walks alongside you and your church as you join God on mission. Thank you for your prayer, care, and support for your missionaries and church planters! This Easter season we have a special opportunity for you to double your impact—see details at www.resonateglobalmission.org/double

Thrive

Abuse Awareness Sunday - April 27 - Next week, Thrive invites our church to imagine a more holistic approach to nurturing a safe and healthy church community where abuse itself becomes unthinkable and where survivors feel supported and safe. In preparation, learn more about Thrive's work toward safer churches and consider giving now to this valuable ministry that empowers all CRCs at their website: crcna.org/SafeChurch

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Easter Sunday - This is the day we celebrate Jesus' resurrection. Read John 20:1-18, which tells us how Jesus' friend, Mary Magdalene, met Jesus in the garden soon after he had risen from the dead. At first she thought he was the gardener. Imagine experiencing this as Mary did. What words would you use to describe how she felt? What did she say when she finally recognized Jesus? Share with the people around you how Jesus has shown up in surprising ways throughout your life. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

VOLUNTEERS

Congregational Prayer: Mark Voss

Sound: Brian Sterenberg

Nursery Rachel and Sue F

Children's message: Randy Raak

Greeters: VanDyk

Greeters

April 20 VanDyk

April 27 Bakker

May 4 Kopaska

May 11 Verkade

May 18 Nikkel

May 25 De Bruin

June 1 Franje

June 8 Copley

June 15 Hobson

June 22 Voss

June 29 Hubert

July 6 Hufford

July 13 Friend

July 20 Hallihan

July 27 Hertz

August 3 Irvin

August 10 Nancy Klemme

August 17 Kleinwolterink

August 24 Kopaska

August 31 Kuyper

September 7 Niehof

September 14 Niemeyer

September 21 Nikkel

September 28 Oftedal

Nursery

April 20 Rachel and Sue F

April 27 Melody and Kristy

May 4 Jessica and Cassie

May 11 Donna and Pam

May 18 Rachel and Kenzie

May 25 Mindy and Melody

June 1 Megan and Elizabeth

June 8 Stacy and Caraline

June 15 Mary and Brianna

June 22 Lyndee and Alisabeth

June 29 Rachel and Kathlyn

July 6 Melody and Lyndee

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 Sue F and Brianna
 September 7 Sue F and Alisabeth
 September 14 Sue F and Kathlyn
 September 21 Jessica and Sue F
 September 28 Donna and Kristy

Children's Message

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 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 Enfolding – Mark Voss; Worship – Randy Raak