

WORSHIP SERVICE

August 31, 2025

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship (Psalm 24:1-4)

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it,

The world, and all who live in it;

For he founded it on the seas.

And established it on the waters.

Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord?

Who may stand in his holy place?

The one who has clean hands and a pure heart,

Who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god.

* Opening Songs: "Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" *Lift Up Your Hearts* #590

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,

the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,

to spread thro' all the earth abroad the honors of your name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease,

'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin, he sets the prisoner free;

his blood can make the foulest clean; his blood availed for me.

He speaks, and listening to his voice New life the dead receives;

The mournful, broken heart rejoice; The humble poor believes.

Look unto him, your Savior own, O fallen human race!

Look and be saved through faith alone, Be justified by grace!

Hear him, you deaf; you voiceless ones, Your loosened tongues employ;

You blind, behold your Savior come, And leap, you lame, for joy!

To God all glory, praise, and love Be now and ever given

By saits below and saints above, The church in earth and heaven

* Opening Prayer

* Song: "Here from All Nations" (vs 1-4)

Lift Up Your Hearts #490

Here from all nations, all tongues, and all peoples, countless the crowd but their voices are one. Vast is the sight and majestic their singing: "God has the victory: he reigns from the throne!"

These have come out of the great tribulation; now they may stand in the presence of God, serving their Lord day and night in his temple, ransomed and cleansed by the Lamb's precious blood.

Gone is their thirst and no more shall they hunger; God is their shelter, his power at their side. Sun shall not pain them, no burning will torture; Jesus the Lamb is their shepherd and guide.

He will go with them to clear living water flowing from springs which his mercy supplies. Gone is their grief, and their trials are over. God wipes away every tear from their eyes.

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Our Confession: Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 21 (Q&A 54)

What do you believe concerning "the holy catholic church"?

I believe that the Son of God through his Spirit and Word, out of the entire human race, from the beginning of the world to its end, gathers, protects, and preserves for himself a community chosen for eternal life and united in the truth faith. And of this community I am and always will be a living member.

Song of Response: "O Christ, the Great Foundation" Sing A New Creation #177

O Christ, the great foundation on which your people stand
To preach your true salvation in every age and land,
Pour out your Holy Spirit to make us strong and pure
To keep the faith unbroken as long as worlds endure
Baptized in one confession, one Church in all the Earth,
We bear our Lord's impression, the sign of second birth.
One holy people gathered in love beyond our own.
By grace we were invited, by grace we make you known
Where tyrants' hold is tightened, where strong devour the weak,
Where innocents are frightened, the righteous fear to speak,
There let your church awaking attack the powers of sin,
And, all their ramparts breaking with you the victory win.
This is the moment glorious when he who once was dead
Shall lead his Church victorious, their champion and their head.
The Lord of all creation his heav'nly kingdom brings,
The final consummation, the glory of all things

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Matthew 15:21-28

²¹ Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²² A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly." ²³ Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel." ²⁵ The woman came and knelt before him. "Lord, help me!" she said. ²⁶ He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs." ²⁷ "Yes it is, Lord," she said. "Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." ²⁸ Then Jesus said to her, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed at that moment.

Message: The Good Shepard and a Lost Sheep

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response: "Faith Begins by Letting Go" *Lift Up Your Hearts #852*

Faith begins by letting go, giving up what had seemed sure,
taking risks and pressing on, though the way feels less secure:
pilgrimage both right and odd, trusting all our life to God.
Faith endures by holding on, keeping memory's roots alive
so that hope may bear its fruit; promise-fed, our souls will thrive,
not through merit we possess but by God's great faithfulness.
Faith matures by reaching out, stretching minds, enlarging hearts,
sharing struggles, living prayer, binding up the broken parts;
till we find the commonplace ripe with witness to God's grace.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: "Here from All Nations"(vs 5) *Lift Up Your Hearts #490*

Blessing and glory and wisdom and power be to the Savior again and again. Might and thanksgiving and honor forever be to our God: Alleluia! Amen.

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Laura Hufford

Message: Rev. Tom Niehof

Musicians: Andrew Friend, Maggie VanDyk, Rex De Bruin

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Communion: Next week we will gather at the Lord's Table. Come, all who are sorry for their sins, who believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, have confessed his name, and desire to live in obedience to him. Come, for Christ our risen Lord invites you to fellowship with him at his table.

This week's special offering is for the **Sawyer Food Pantry**. As school is about to start again, we will be helping out our local community by buying those perishable items for the pantry each week. We have great volunteers who buy these each week, thank you to them as well.

This Sunday, August 31, Rev. Tom Niehof will lead us in a study of Matthew 15:21-28, Jesus and the Canaanite Woman. May God bless the preaching of His Word.

As we look forward to the time of prayer, listening, and discussion during the Sunday School time after the **September 14** service, the council asks that you be in prayer about some specific things. What has changed about TCRC since we engaged in this process 4 years ago? Where do you see our biggest challenges today, both within the church and from the outside? How has TCRC been equipped by God to best serve and reach the community within and around us? We currently pour our efforts and resources into (in declining order) worship, education, administration & fellowship (roughly equal), property maintenance & outreach (roughly equal). Is our current mixture appropriate? Are there other ways to support the Areopagus Campus Ministry? The high school and junior high classes are welcome to join in the discussion. The Fellowship Committee will be hosting a lunch after the discussion time. A pasta bar, with gluten free options, will be provided. Please consider bringing some type of side dish or desert.

September 14 the congregation is invited to share in a meal, the Fellowship Committee will provide of a pasta buffet, lettuce salad, and fruit. A signup sheet to bring a dessert in on the counter in the kitchen

Ames Christian School – ACS is back at Trinity this fall for the 2025-2026 school year. It is at this time as well that we remind everyone who uses the church to be mindful of any mess you create. The school is here every day, and should not have to clean up after our events. They use the fellowship hall, kitchen, and class rooms. Please be mindful of any messes made by your group or yourself while using the church, including dishes.

Sunday school and Children in Worship: Will start on September 7th, the first Sunday after Labor Day

Roots (Youth Group) is starting on September 10 @ 7:00 pm at the church, hope to see you all there for the start of the new year.

Adult Sunday School will meet in Room 7 at 10:50 a.m. Rev. Tom Niehof will lead us in a study of the Gospel of Mark. Feel free to bring your Bible, so you can make notes in the margins. All are welcome for this new study.

Amelia goes to Spain! You're invited to Amelia's farewell party. Amelia departs for Spain on September 11th to study abroad for a full academic year. The party will be held on Saturday August 30, between 1pm – 3pm (ROOTS-people, you're invited from 5pm – 9pm). Feel free to stop by to just say hi or stay a while. We will provide drinks and food.

Trunk or Treat is happening again this year, with Halloween on a Friday, the date has been moved to the Friday before, Oct 24th. Please watch for a sign-up sheet to volunteer and more information for this great event.

The church will be host to 2 more weddings this year. Niemeyer on Oct. 18th and De Penning wedding on Oct 25th

Paul's Missionary Journeys in Greece (April 3 - 13. 2026): Travel by motor coach (6 days) and cruise ship (3 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](tel:616-328-3110) or weimje@calvinseminary.edu.

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.

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

Small Groups, Committees, & Sunday School Updates

Sunday School Classes Will resume September 7th.

Children and Worship – Will resume September 7th.

Young Adult Ministry – Will host summer events on Fridays and Saturdays, Text Derek 712-578-9149, Will start again on Sept 28th, contact Derek before then for updates.

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

UFO Meets the 3rd Monday of the Month. will meet on Monday, September 15th @ 6:30pm at Kelly's home

Women's Bible Study Meets the first Monday of the month

Pub Theology meets the last Sunday of the month, **September 28th at 7 pm** Mucky Duck.

Hymn Sing first Sunday of the Month at 5 pm, next one **September 7th**

Next Council meeting is **September 10th @ 6:30pm**

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner Devotions: Praying for Someone Else - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Praying for Someone Else" at www.kidscorner.net. Prayer is a special way to show love to others. When you pray for someone, you're helping them and growing closer to God at the same time! Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the classic "Liz and Friends" podcast!

Groundwork: Jesus' Kingdom Parables - Jesus often used parables to teach his followers about the kingdom of God. Join Groundwork as we dig into Matthew 13, Matthew 20:1-16, Matthew 22:1-14, Luke 17:20-21, and Matthew 25:1-13 to learn from Jesus what God's kingdom looks like, what its values are, and how the people of his kingdom behave. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive

Get Involved with Generation Spark - Generation Spark offers hands-on coaching, practical strategies, and extensive support to help all generations form meaningful relationships that result in sustained, lifelong faith. Thrive, the CRC's congregational support agency, invites you to learn more about what it might look like for your church to invest in intergeneration mentoring! An informational webinar will be offered on September 11, 11:30am ET. Register here: shorturl.at/d7DEO

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - When asked about the greatest commandment, Jesus replied, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself'" (Matt. 22:37-39, NIV). How can you show love to God through loving your neighbors this week? Whether it be in helping someone in your building carry groceries, bringing flowers to someone on your street, or buying a special treat for someone in your broader community, find a way to extend an act of love to one of your neighbors. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

Calvin University

Calvin on the Road Events - Calvin University is turning 150, and we're bringing the celebration to you! Throughout the anniversary year, Calvin will be visiting 30 cities

across the USA and Canada – we'd love to see you! For a full list of locations and dates, visit calvin.edu/150

The Banner

Support The Banner Magazine - The Banner's annual fundraising campaign continues! More than just an award-winning magazine, The Banner is a journalistic ministry dedicated to informing, inspiring, and connecting our CRC community. Available to you in both print and online, this vital resource is made possible by the generous support of individuals like you. Help meet the ambitious \$500,000 goal for the 2025 campaign by giving today! thebanner.org/donate

CRC Communications, Thrive

Prayer for Our Immigrant Neighbors - Over the past few months, many Christian Reformed Church leaders and members have been deeply impacted by the increased immigration enforcement activities taking place across the United States. We are asking every CRC congregation to set aside a special time of prayer for our immigrant brothers and sisters during worship on Sunday, Sept. 7. All congregations and members are also invited to join a virtual prayer vigil on Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 7:00 p.m. EST at youtube.com/crcna

VOLUNTEERS

Congregational Prayer: Tom Niehof

Sound: Tom Whitney

Nursery Sue F and Brianna

Children's message: Laura Hufford

Greeters: Kuyper

Greeters

August 31	Kuyper	Nov 9	VanDyk
Sept 7	Niehof	Nov 16	Verkade
Sept 14	Niemeyer	Nov 23	Whitney
Sept 21	Nikkel	Nov 30	Voss
Sept 28	Oltman	Dec 7	Yoder
Oct 5	Raak	Dec 14	Bakker
Oct 12	Saldana	Dec 21	Bergman
Oct 19	Sanders/Bassham	Dec 28	De Bruin
Oct 26	Sterneberg	Jan 4	Franje
Nov 2	t' Hoen	Jan 11	Copley

Nursery

August 31	Sue F and Brianna	Sept 28	Sue and Kristy
Sept 7	Sue F and Alisabeth	Oct 5	Sue and Cassie
Sept 14	Mindy and Kathlyn	Oct 12	Sue and Pam
Sept 21	Jessica and Donna	Oct 19	Megan and Kenzie

Oct 26	Judy and Sue
Nov 2	Mary and Elizabeth
Nov 9	Lyndee and Clayton
Nov 16	Rachel and Brianna
Nov 23	Melody and Alisabeth
Nov 30	Jessica and Kathlyn
Jan 11	Mary and Sue

Dec 7	Donna and Sue
Dec 14	Sue and Kristy
Dec 21	Mindy and Cassie
Dec 28	Megan and Pam
Jan 4	Judy and Kenzie

Children's Message

August 31	Laura Hufford
Sept 7	Lora Copley
Sept 14	Jeff Kopaska
Sept 21	Stacy Hertz
Sept 28	Rex De Bruin
Oct 5	Randy Raak
Oct 12	Laura Hufford
Oct 19	Lora Copley
Oct 26	Jeff Kopaska
Nov 2	Stacy Hertz

Nov 9	Rex De Bruin
Nov 16	Randy Raak
Nov 23	Laura Hufford
Nov 30	Lora Copley
Dec 7	Jeff Kopaska
Dec 14	Stacy Hertz
Dec 21	Rex De Bruin
Dec 28	Randy Raak
Jan 4	Laura Hufford
Jan 11	Lora Copley

Congregational Prayer

August 31	Tom Niehof
Sept 7	Jeff Kopaska
Sept 14	Randy Raak
Sept 21	Randy Raak
Sept 28	Rex De Bruin
Oct 5	Melody Franje
Oct 12	Randy Raak
Oct 19	Tom Niehof
Oct 26	Rex De Bruin
Nov 2	Randy Raak

Nov 9	Rex De Bruin
Nov 16	Tom Niehof
Nov 23	Randy Raak
Nov 30	Mark Voss
Dec 7	Paul Kleinwolterink
Dec 14	Randy Raak
Dec 21	Jeff Kopaska
Dec 28	Tom Niehof
Jan 4	Randy Raak
Jan 11	Lora Copley

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 = Paul Kleinwolterink; H-K = Melody Franje; L-S = Joel Copley; T-Z = Naomi Friend:

Deacons: A-G = Derek Ten Pas;; H-K = Christopher 't Hoen;; L-S = Mark Voss;; 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