

WORSHIP SERVICE
September 28, 2025

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship (From Psalm 51)

Come to me now says the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be like wool.

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and generous in mercy. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins.

Lord, cleanse me and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

* Opening Songs: "Ten Thousand Reasons"

Lift Up Your Hearts #559

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul. Worship His holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning it's time to sing Your song again.

Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me. Let me be singing when the evening comes. Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul. Worship His holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your holy name.

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger. Your name is great and Your heart is kind.

For all Your goodness I will keep on singing. Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul. Worship His holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your holy name.

And on that day when my strength is failing. The end draws near and my time has come.

Still my soul will sing Your praise unending. Ten thousand years and then forevermore.

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul. Worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your holy name. Worship Your holy name. Worship Your holy name.

* Opening Prayer

* Song: "Beneath the Cross"

Lift Up Your Hearts #825

Beneath the cross of Jesus I find a place to stand,

And wonder at such mercy That calls me as I am;

For hands that should discard me Hold wounds which tell me, "Come."

Beneath the cross of Jesus My unworthy soul is won.

Beneath the cross of Jesus His family is my own—
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams, Now one through grace alone.
How could I now dishonor The ones that You have loved?
Beneath the cross of Jesus See the children called by God.
Beneath the cross of Jesus— The path before the crown—
We follow in His footsteps Where promised hope is found.
How great the joy before us To be His perfect bride;
Beneath the cross of Jesus We will gladly live our lives.

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

What We Believe About Forgiveness: Catechism Lord's Day 51

What does "Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors" mean?

Because of Christ's blood, do not hold against us, poor sinners that we are, any of the sins we do or the evil that constantly clings to us. Forgive us just as we are fully determined, as evidence of your grace in us, to forgive our neighbors.

Prayer of Confession

Prince of Peace, it is so easy to repay evil with evil and insult for insult, to lash out instead of doing good.

It is so easy to hold onto offenses and cherish our desire for retaliation against those who have wronged us.

Yet you call us to overcome evil with good, to repay curses with blessings, to love our enemies, and pray for those who persecute us.

Lord, help us to trust in your justice, to look beyond our pain and work for peace.

Amen.

Words of Assurance: 1 Peter 3:10-12

"Whoever would love life and see good days must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech. They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

Song of Entrusting: "How Blest Are They Whose Trespass" (vs 1-3)

Lift Up Your Hearts #669

How blest are they whose trespass has freely been forgiven,
whose sins are wholly covered before the sight of heaven.
Blest they to whom the Lord God does not impute their sin,
who have a guileless spirit, whose heart is true within.
While I kept guilty silence my strength was spent with grief:
your hand was heavy on me; my soul found no relief.

But when I owned my trespass and did not hide my sin,
then you forgave my guilt, Lord, restored my life within.
So let the godly seek you in times when you are near;
no whelming floods shall reach them or cause their hearts to fear.
O Lord, you are my refuge, you are my hiding place,
and you surround me always with songs of saving grace.

Children's Message: Rex DeBruin
Congregational Prayer: Melody Franje

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Matthew 18:21-35
Message: The Forgiveness Equation

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response: "Amazing Grace" *Lift Up Your Hearts #691*

Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come:
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: "Freely, Freely"

God forgave my sin in Jesus' name, I've been born again in Jesus name;
And in Jesus' name I come to you To share His love as he told me to:
He said, "Freely, freely you have received. Freely, freely give;
Go in my name and, because you believe, Others will know that I live
All pow'r is giv'n in Jesus' name, In earth and heav'n in Jesus name;
And in Jesus' name I come to you To share his pow'r as He told me to:
He said, "Freely, freely you have received. Freely, freely give;
Go in my name and, because you believe, Others will know that I live

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Rex DeBruin

Message: Pastor Randy Raak

Musicians: Char Verkade, Maggie VanDyk, Pam Voss, Marlies 't Hoen

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Communion: Next week we will have the opportunity to celebrate the Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper is the family table at which we eat together and are nourished with Christ's sacrifice for us. Here (as in Baptism) we celebrate who we are - children of God – and are reminded of God's promises to be our God, to care for us, love us, and be faithful to us. All who are baptized into Christ and have made a public stand for him are welcome to the Lord's Table.

This week's special offering is for Areopagus, a ministry to Iowa State University. Areopagus aims to reflect the relevance of the Gospel and a Reformed Christian worldview to the world of higher education, and in the lives of students and faculty. For more information, please talk with Lora Copley (director), or follow us on Instagram or face book, more followers is always welcome.

Sawyer Elementary School will be having a **winter clothing drive** again this year. This is an opportunity to provide decent winter gear for K-5th grade children who need it **in our own community**. The items they need include: winter coats, hats, mittens & gloves (waterproof preferred), and snow pants. We will collect these items for the next 3 weeks, until Sunday, October 5 in a tub in the church lobby.

Church Clean up is scheduled for Wednesday Oct 1st. starting at 6 pm. The Roots group will be helping the church family with this annual event. There will be pizza available for those who come to help. (Weather date is Oct 15th)

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.

Adult Sunday School will meet in Room 8/9 at 10:50 a.m. Rev. Tom Niehof will lead us in a study of the Gospel of Mark, chapter 3. All are welcome.

Trunk or Treat is happening again this year, with Halloween on a Friday, the date has been moved to the Friday before, Oct 24th. Time will be from 4pm to 6:30pm. A sign-up sheet is on the table by the office.

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 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 After fellowship

Children and Worship – After Children's message.

Young Adult Ministry – 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.

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 Council meeting is **October 8th @ 6:30pm**

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner Devotions: Living God's Story - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Living God's Story" at www.kidscorner.net. Proverbs 13:20 encourages us to find wise friends.

Who do you think is wise? Who can teach you about God and the Bible? Talk to your parents. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the classic “Liz and Friends” podcast!

Groundwork: When Discipleship Growth Stalls - Sometimes the things we do and say are out of sync with the faith we profess to believe. Study Acts 10:34-48, Galatians 2:11-16, James 1:22-27, 1 John 1:8-10, and Philippians 3:12-14 with Groundwork to understand what God does for us in these situations and what we need to continue growing again as Christ’s disciples today. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - God’s family is beautifully diverse. Revelation 7:9 gives us a glimpse of heaven as a great multitude “from every nation, tribe, people, and language” worshipping together (Rev. 7:9). As you celebrate All Nations Heritage Week this week, ask a Christian from another nation or culture to share with you one meaningful way in which people in their tradition worship God. Or look online for stories about Christians in other cultures and how they worship God. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

All Nations Heritage Sunday - October 5 - Next week, Thrive invites congregations to celebrate the diverse and multicultural church of Christ. Did you know that a rapidly growing number of CRCs (30%) are multicultural or multilingual? Consider giving to Thrive's translation efforts and discover resources for All Nations Heritage Sunday now at: crcna.org/AllNations

VOLUNTEERS

Congregational Prayer: Melody Franje
Sound: Rob Barnes
Nursery Sue and Kristy
Children's message: Rex De Bruin
Greeters: Oltman

Greeters

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

Nursery

Sept 28	Sue and Kristy
Oct 5	Sue and Cassie
Oct 12	Sue and Pam
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 Kathryn
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
Jan 11	Mary and Sue

Children's Message

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

Sept 28	Melody Franje
Oct 5	Rex De Bruin
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