

WORSHIP SERVICE

November 9, 2025

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

*Call to Worship (1 John 4:7-12)

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

*Opening Song: "Shout to the Lord"

Lift Up Your Hearts #603

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like you.

All of my days, I want to praise
the wonders of your mighty love.

My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength,
let every breath, all that I am,
never cease to worship you.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing
power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
at the sound of your name.

I sing for joy at the work of your hands:
forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.

Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

*Opening Prayer

*Song: "Lead Me, Guide Me"

Lift Up Your Hearts #329

Lead me, guide me, along the way, for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with you; lead me my whole life through.
I am weak, and I need your strength and power
to endure with grace my weakest hour.

Help me through the darkness your face to see.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
Lead me, guide me, along the way, for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with you; lead me my whole life through.
Help me walk in the paths of righteousness;
be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
I am trusting you whatever may be.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me
Lead me, guide me, along the way, for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with you; lead me my whole life through.
I am lost if you take your hand from me,
I am blind without your light to see.
Lord, forever may I your servant be.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
Lead me, guide me, along the way, for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with you; lead me my whole life through.

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Our Father, we are grateful that you care about each of us to know us fully.

But we are humbled that you also know our self-centeredness, and how it can lead us to be insincere in our love for you, or our friends and family around us.

Holy Spirit, work in us and through us, that our friendships may honor you and be strengthened by your guidance.

Help our relationships to be a testimony to those around us of your power at work in a human heart. In Christ we pray, amen.

Words of Assurance (1 Corinthians 13:8-13)

“Where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears... For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. And now these three will remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.”

Song of Entrusting: “Never Once”

Standing on this mountaintop looking just how far we've come
Knowing that for every step you were with us

Kneeling on this battle ground seeing just how much You've done
Knowing every victory was Your power in us

Scars and struggles on the way but with joy our hearts can say
Yes, our hearts can say

Never once did we ever walk alone never once did You leave us on our own
You are faithful, God, You are faithful

Kneeling on this battle ground seeing just how much You've done
Knowing every victory was Your power in us

Scars and struggles on the way but with joy our hearts can say
Yes, our hearts can say

Never once did we ever walk alone never once did You leave us on our own
You are faithful, God, You are faithful
You are faithful, God, You are faithful

Scars and struggles on the way but with joy our hearts can say
Never once did we ever walk alone carried by Your constant grace
Held within Your perfect peace never once, no, we never walk alone

Never once did we ever walk alone never once did You leave us on our own
You are faithful, God, You are faithful
Every step we are breathing in Your grace
Evermore we'll be breathing out Your praise
You are faithful, God, You are faithful
You are faithful, God, You are faithful
You are faithful, God, You are faithful
You are, You are faithful, God, You are faithful

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

⁹Two are better than one,

because they have a good return for their labor:

¹⁰ If either of them falls down,
one can help the other up.

But pity anyone who falls
and has no one to help them up.

¹¹ Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm.
But how can one keep warm alone?

¹² Though one may be overpowered,
two can defend themselves.

A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

Message: Friendship – Stronger This Way

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Application

*Song of Response: “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” *Lift Up Your Hearts* #897

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!

Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear

All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged, take it to the Lord in prayer

Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our every weakness, take it to the Lord in prayer

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?

Precious Savior, still our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer

Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer

In his arms he’ll take and shield you: you will find a solace there.

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: Rex De Bruin

Message: Pastor Randy Raak

Musicians: Elijah Goossen, Eli Hufford, Matt Haken

TCRC ANNOUNCEMENTS

The annual Peter Fish giving campaign for World Renew's effort to address world hunger is underway! Peter Fish can be picked up at church. Please help the children at Trinity fill them with change. We ask that they be returned by **November 9**. Checks (or cash) designated with "World Renew" in the memo will be accepted as well. The special offering on November 9 will be designated for the World Renew Peter Fish campaign.

Adult Sunday School will meet in Room 8/9 at 10:50 AM. Rev. Tom Niehof will lead in a study of the Gospel of Mark, chapter 7. All are welcome.

The council has put together a Search Committee to start looking for our next pastor. The members of the committee are Jeff Kopaska (chair), Melody Franje (council liaison), Rex DeBruin, Laura Hufford, Mindy Nikkel, Lyndee Ten Pas, and Rob Barnes. Please pray that God gives them guidance as they search and interview for our next pastor.

Nov 16 Congregational Gathering: After the worship service, we will meet together to follow up on the strategic planning discussions that took place a few weeks ago. The clearest challenge, by far, that we face is still that we continue to need to grow. We're doing more together and in the community, and it really helps that most people are involved, but it would be good to have more people in the mix. The second biggest challenge is HOW to invite people. Fortunately, TCRC's greatest strengths play into those needs. We have a good sense of fellowship and community, and a sense of vibrancy and of having something good to share with others. We also do fairly well at welcoming people and have improved our connection with the community. **SO...** please give some thought to some specific ways we can use our strengths to address our challenges before we meet next Sunday!

Following the gathering on Nov 16, there will be a lunch in the fellowship hall: baked potatoes with all the fixings—broccoli, cheese, chili, sour cream, bacon bits. Please bring along something to share—last names beginning with A-L bring a salad and M-Z bring a dessert.

UFO will meet on Monday November 17th at 6:30pm. Please reach out to Kelly Hobson for more information.

Sponsor a poinsettia to enhance our sanctuary during Advent. This year's poinsettia theme will be white in 6.5" gold-foiled pots. The cost is \$11/plant. If you would like to sponsor one, please add your name to the signup sheet on the table by the office, and drop your payment—**designated for "poinsettia"**—in the offering basket. The deadline to order and pay is Sunday **November 23**. Please direct any questions to Pam Voss.

Church Family, you are invited to our **Christmas Program on Sunday, December 14** at 11 AM, with a potluck lunch to follow. Please invite your relative and friends.

Parents, we will **practice at the church on Saturday, December 13,** 10:00 am to noon, with a lunch of pizza provided. Please reach out to Kelly Hobson with any questions or for more information.

Our new Roomba is busily toiling away each evening on a mission to clean the sanctuary floor. Please help keep it on the right path by leaving the sanctuary doors closed (especially in the evening).

There is a printout of Birthdays, Greeters, Congregational Prayer, Nursery, and Children's message on the table outside the office. The latest church directory is on the table as well. If you have changes or need to add info, please make notes on this sheet or send an email to office@amestrinity.org.

If your group or committee has an announcement, please be sure to get an update to the church office by 10:30 am on Thursdays to be included in the announcements for the week. Thank you!

Small Groups, Committees, & Sunday School Updates

Sunday School Classes meet after fellowship time.

Children and Worship meets after the Children's Message.

Young Adult Ministry: This group will be meeting on Fridays and Sundays throughout the year.

Get added to the GroupMe for details on events! See Derek Ten Pas with questions.

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

UFO meets on the 3rd Monday of the month.

Women's Bible Study meets on the first Monday of the month.

Pub Theology meets the last Sunday of the month at Mucky Duck; next meeting will be Nov 30 at 7 PM.

Hymn Sing meets on the first Sunday of the month; the next meeting is Sunday, Dec 7 at 5:00 PM

Next Council meeting is Nov 12 at 6:30 PM.

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

World Renew

Thank You for Your World Hunger Sunday Offering! - World Renew gives praise to God for the generous-hearted people who, through their gifts, support our mission and help us to share Christ's hope with communities facing hunger and poverty. This generosity not only helps equip families with the resources they need to increase income and improve food security, but it also reflects God's love and abundance. To learn more about how compassion like yours can make a difference, visit worldrenew.net

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner Devotions: Faith for the Whole Family - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Faith for the Whole Family" at www.kidscorner.net. You can make a big difference at church just by being you—your smile, ideas, and kindness can brighten someone's day! Whether you're singing, helping, or asking great questions, God can use every little thing you do to share His love. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the KC video series, "Kids in Action", telling stories of kids who serve God right now!

Groundwork: Understanding Jesus' Beatitudes - Jesus preached and taught the ways of his kingdom as he traveled from place to place with his disciples. One of his most famous sermons is The Sermon on the Mount. Join Groundwork as we study Matthew 5:1-12 and Luke 6:20-26 with our guest, Dr. Danny Daley, to understand what his opening list of blessings, the Beatitudes, means for us as

disciples of Jesus Christ today. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Today is the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. Every day, millions of Christians around the world face persecution for their faith. Use the Open Doors International website (opendoors.org) to learn about the top five to ten countries in the world where Christians are persecuted. Then take time each day this week to pray for Christians living in one of those countries. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/ThriveThrive

VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: Verkade
Nursery: Sue and Clayton
Sound: Brian Sterenberg
Children's Message: Rex De Bruin
Congregational Prayer: Rex De Bruin

Greeters

Nov 9	VanDyk	Dec 21	Bergman
Nov 16	Verkade	Dec 28	De Bruin
Nov 23	Niemeyer	Jan 4	Franje
Nov 30	Voss	Jan 11	Copley
Dec 7	Yoder	Jan 18	Hobson
Dec 14	Bakker	Jan 25	Voss

Nursery

Nov 9	Sue and Clayton	Dec 21	Mindy and Cassie
Nov 16	Rachel and Brianna	Dec 28	Megan and Pam N
Nov 23	Melody and Alisabeth	Jan 4	Judy and Kenzie
Nov 30	Jessica and Kathryn	Jan 11	Mary and Sue
Dec 7	Donna and Sue	Jan 18	Lyndee and Elizabeth
Dec 14	Lyndee and Kristy	Jan 25	Rachel and Clayton

Children's Message

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

Dec 21 Rex De Bruin
Dec 28 Randy Raak
Jan 4 Laura Hufford

Jan 11 Lora Copley
Jan 18 Jeff Kopaska
Jan 25 Stacy Hertz

Congregational Prayer

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
Jan 18 Tom Niehof
Jan 25 Randy Raak

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

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

Tina VanDyk, 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 – Christopher 't Hoen; Endowment – Paul Kleinwolterink; Fellowship – Sue Fee; Technology – Tom Kuyper; Outreach and Enfolding – Mark Voss; Worship – Randy Raak