



You alone are my Strength, my Shield; To You alone may my spirit yield;  
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship You.

## WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

God's Will for His People: Matthew 22:34-40

*Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"*

*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.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."*

Hymn of Response: "May the Mind of Christ, My Savior" LUYH #334

May the mind of Christ, my Savior, live in me from day to day,  
by His love and power controlling all I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,  
so that all may see I triumph only through His pow'r.

May the peace of God, my Father, rule my life in everything,  
that I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea.

Him exalting, self abasing: this is victory.

May we run the race before us, strong and brave to face the foe,  
looking only unto Jesus as we onward go.

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

The Setting: Slides of Ancient Shechem

Scripture Reading: John 4:1-26 (p 980 in pew Bible)

Now Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John—<sup>2</sup> although in fact it was not Jesus who baptized, but his disciples.<sup>3</sup> So he left Judea and went back once more to Galilee.

<sup>4</sup> Now he had to go through Samaria. <sup>5</sup> So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?” <sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

<sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”

<sup>11</sup> “Sir,” the woman said, “you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?”

<sup>13</sup> Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

<sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.”

<sup>16</sup> He told her, “Go, call your husband and come back.”

<sup>17</sup> “I have no husband,” she replied.

Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. <sup>18</sup> The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.”

<sup>19</sup> “Sir,” the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.”

<sup>21</sup> “Woman,” Jesus replied, “believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup> You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup> Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

<sup>25</sup> The woman said, “I know that Messiah” (called Christ) “is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.”

<sup>26</sup> Then Jesus declared, “I, the one speaking to you—I am he.”

Message: Worshiping the Father in Spirit and Truth

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### Prayer of Application

"A Prayer for the Nations"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #287*

Glorious things are spoken of you, God, the source of all springs.

**Our names are known by you and recorded in your book.**

Your blessing was pronounced on all families through your servant Abraham,  
**and you have established a home for all of us.**

We pray, O God, for all the nations of the earth,  
lands physically separated by geography—peoples divided by language,  
culture, custom, and color—  
**yet united as your children.**

As of old you claimed your people from all lands and nations—  
from Egypt and Babylon, Philistia and Ethiopia—  
even so, look with mercy upon your church in this land and in every nation.  
Guide us in your ways of justice and peace.

**We call upon you— from every tribe and every nation,  
in every tongue and language, joining our voices together  
in song proclaiming, all our springs are in you. Amen.**

\*Song of Response: "Here from All Nations" vs 1-4      *LUYH #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 DEPART TO SERVE

\*Blessing

\*Closing Song: "Here from All Nations"      vs 5      *LUYH #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: Rob Barnes

Message: Rev Tom Niehof

Musicians: Andrew Friend, Naomi Friend, Rex De Bruin, Natalie De Bruin

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

**Sunday School Classes** meet after fellowship time.

**Children and Worship** meets during the service, after the Children's Message.

**Young Adult Ministry** meets on Fridays and Sundays throughout the year. Contact Derek Ten Pas with questions.

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

**UFO** meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month.

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

**Pub Theology** meets monthly on a Sunday at The Mucky Duck. Next meeting is Jan 25 at 7:00 pm

**Hymn Sing** meets monthly on a Sunday. Next meeting is Sunday, Feb 1 at 5:00 pm

**Next Search Committee Meeting** is Jan 22 at 6:30 pm

**Next Council meeting** is Feb 11 at 6:30 pm

**Annual Congregational Meeting** will be Jan 29 at 7:00 pm

### **TCRC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The Special Offering on Jan 18 is for Food at First**, an organization that serves the Ames community by providing a free meal program and a perishable food pantry. The garden on the church property and financial gifts are ways Trinity supports this ministry.

**This Sunday, Rev. Tom Niehof will be leading** us in a study of John 4, Jesus' conversation with the Samaritan woman, while Rev. Raak is in Parkersburg on a classical preaching assignment. May God bless the preaching of His word.

**Intergenerational Sunday School – This Week:** This week, Sunday School for all ages will take place in the Fellowship Hall. We will gather for an intergenerational session based on John 4 and the message from the worship service. There will be no regular Sunday school classes. All ages are welcome to participate in this table-style discussion facilitated by the Education Committee. Let's reflect on God's Word together!

**We invite the congregation and friends to a retirement/moving away party for Pastor Randy and Holly.** To thank them for their years of service and dedication to our church family, let's celebrate with a fun meal and fellowship on Saturday, January 24th at 5:00pm at the church. Pulled pork sandwiches, beans, cheesy potatoes and salad along with drinks will be provided. There is a sign-up sheet for desserts on the counter in the fellowship hall. Questions? Contact Rachel De Bruin or Kristy Kopaska.

**The Annual Congregation Meeting** is scheduled for Thursday, Jan 29 at 7:00 pm. We will also have updates from the following: the congregational conversations about strategic planning (3 focal points that consistently came up); the pastoral search committee; the council about preaching and pastoral care after Pastor Randy leaves; the various committees. The upcoming year will have its share of challenges, but the council has been working ahead to prepare for these. Together we have some good work to do for God's kingdom in 2026.

**Mark your calendar** for the 2026 Family 2 Family Sale on March 28.

**December 2025 Finance Report from Deacons:** The total income for the General Fund was \$ 23,148. The breakdown of this income is: General Offerings—\$20,420, Bank Interest—\$728, and Ames Christian School—\$2,000. As of the end of the year, 99.88% of the budgeted income was received, and 88.07% of the budgeted expenses were spent. Special offering funds dispensed: Ames Ecumenical Housing—\$2400, Church Beyond Borders—\$5665, Resonate-Helpers—\$800, and Areopagus—\$2425.

**Committee Chairs & Ministry Leaders**, please submit your 2025 report to the office ([office@amestrinity.org](mailto:office@amestrinity.org)) by January 25 for inclusion in the materials for the congregational meeting on January 29.

**Committee Chairs**, please submit completed endowment request forms by the end of January. Thanks!

**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](mailto: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. If you leave a written message in the office, please be sure to include your name in case a follow-up is necessary. Thank you!

**If you or your group will be using the church building** for anything, please let Tina ([office@amestrinity.org](mailto:office@amestrinity.org)) know so we can keep an accurate facility-use calendar. Thank you!

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#### DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

ReFrame Ministries

**Kids Corner Devotions: Goodness: Are You a Good Person?** - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Goodness: Are You a Good Person?" at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Want to know what it really means to be good? When we let God fill our hearts with love, kindness, and patience, we can grow "good fruit" and make the world a brighter, better place. Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net), like KC's The Bible in One Year Plan.

**Job Opening! Director of ReFrame Ministries** - The Director of ReFrame Ministries will provide executive leadership and vision for the agency. This role involves strategically planning and implementing policies and decisions. Additionally, the Director will ensure that all organizational activities comply with established bylaws and frameworks, effectively supporting the mission of ReFrame Ministries, the denominational strategic ministry plan, and the mission of the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA). This is a full-time, hybrid position based in Burlington, Ont., or Grand Rapids, Mich. Apply at [crcna.pinpointhq.com](http://crcna.pinpointhq.com)

**Job Opening! ReFrame Advancement Director** - The ReFrame Advancement Director will give leadership to ReFrame Ministries' donor relations and communications teams by providing vision, strategic direction, and initiatives to advance the mission of the ministry. This is a full-time, hybrid position based in Burlington, Ont., or Grand Rapids, Mich. Apply at [crcna.pinpointhq.com](http://crcna.pinpointhq.com)

**Celebrating 75 Years of Today** - For 75 years, *Today* has been part of the daily rhythms of faith for readers around the world, and we thank God for the ways these devotions continue to point people to Christ. ReFrame Ministries invites you to a special virtual Direct Connect on Thursday, January 29 at 1:00 pm EST as we celebrate this milestone, reflect on God's faithfulness, and look ahead to what God is still doing through *Today*. Register at [reframeministries.org/events](http://reframeministries.org/events). A recording will be shared with all who sign up.

**Groundwork: Did Paul and James Agree on Salvation?** - Paul emphasizes salvation by grace, but James teaches the importance of our works. Do our works contribute to our righteousness? Join Groundwork as we study James 1:1-8, James 2:14-26, Colossians 3:5-10, and 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 to compare what we learn from James to what Paul teaches about the relationship between God's grace and our works, and then consider what it means for our daily lives. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

### Resonate Global Mission

**Young Adult Opportunity with Resonate** - Are you around 16-20 years old? Speak some Spanish? Interested in getting a taste of ministry in Central America? Join an unforgettable two-week journey with Resonate Global Mission—travel through Guatemala and El Salvador where you'll dive into real-life mission work, get to know Central American young people, experience God's love, and discover how God might be calling you to make a difference now and in the future. The trip is July 1-15, 2026 and the application deadline is February 28, 2026. Learn more at [www.resonateglobalmission.org/encounter](http://www.resonateglobalmission.org/encounter)

### Thrive

**Thrive Faith Formation Tip** - Because we are called to honor and uphold the sanctity of every human life—from the womb to the tomb—we invite you on this Sanctity of Human Life Sunday to put this calling into action. Consider volunteering your time at a local pregnancy center or elder care home as a tangible expression of your commitment to life. As you serve, reflect on how the experience deepens your understanding and strengthens

your role as an advocate for the dignity and value of every human life. Take time to write down how this experience has shaped your heart and perspective. Brought to you by Thrive: [crcna.org/Thrive](http://crcna.org/Thrive)

### Calvin University

**The January Series** - The January Series at Calvin University returns on January 19, 2026. Join us in-person or online. Speaker lineup and registration (for online viewing) can be found at [www.calvin.edu/january](http://www.calvin.edu/january)

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### VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: Hobson  
Nursery: Lyndee and Elizabeth  
Sound: Tom Whitney  
Children's Message: Rob Barnes  
Congregational Prayer: Melody Franje

#### **Greeters**

Jan 18	Hobson	Mar 1	Hertz
Jan 25	Voss	Mar 8	Irvin
Feb 1	Hubert	Mar 15	Nancy Klemme
Feb 8	Hufford	Mar 22	Kleinwolterink
Feb 15	Friend	Mar 29	Kopaska
Feb 22	Hallihan		

#### **Nursery**

Jan 18	Lyndee and Elizabeth	Mar 1	Mindy and Kristy
Jan 25	Rachel and Clayton	Mar 8	Megan and Cassie
Feb 1	Melody and Brianna	Mar 15	Judy and Pam N
Feb 8	Jessica and Alisabeth	Mar 22	Mary and Kenzie
Feb 15	Donna and Kathlyn	Mar 29	Lyndee and Sue
Feb 22	Sue and Natalie		

#### **Children's Message**

Jan 18	Rob Barnes	Mar 1	Derek Ten Pas
Jan 25	Stacy Hertz	Mar 8	Rex De Bruin
Feb 1	Christopher 't Hoen	Mar 15	Jeff Kopaska
Feb 8	Jeff Kopaska	Mar 22	Stacy Hertz
Feb 15	Lora Copley	Mar 29	Lora Copley
Feb 22	Laura Hufford		

#### **Congregational Prayer**

Jan 18	Melody Franje	Feb 15	Rex De Bruin
Jan 25	Randy Raak	Feb 22	Joel Copley
Feb 1	Paul Kleinwolterink	Mar 1	Jeff Kopaska
Feb 8	Mark Voss	Mar 8	Tom Niehof

Mar 15      Tom Kuyper  
Mar 22      Paul Kleinwolterink

Mar 29 Mark Voss

Pastor Randy Raak, TCRC Pastor: [pastor@amestrinity.org](mailto:pastor@amestrinity.org) or 928-699-9329  
Lora Copley, Areopagus Campus Ministry Director: [director@isu-areopagus.org](mailto:director@isu-areopagus.org) or 505-387-6861

Tina VanDyk, Office Administrator: [office@amestrinity.org](mailto:office@amestrinity.org)  
Office Hours: Tue & Thu, 9:00 am–3:00 pm

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

**Deacons:** A-G = Derek Ten Pas: 712-578-9149; 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 – Rex De Bruin;  
Outreach and Enfolding – Mark Voss; Worship – Laura Hufford