

WORSHIP SERVICE
February 22, 2026
The Healing Beside the Pool

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship (Isaiah 55:1, 6-7)

Come, all you who are thirsty,

Come to the waters.

Seek the Lord while he may be found,

Call on him while he is near.

Let the wicked forsake their ways,

And the unrighteous their thoughts.

Let them turn to the Lord and he will have mercy on them,

And to our God, for he will freely pardon.

* Opening Song: "Come, Now Is the Time to Worship" *Lift Up Your Hearts* #526

Come, now is the time to worship;

Come now is the time to give your heart.

Come just as you are to worship;

Come just as you are before your God. Come.

One day every tongue will confess you are God.

One day every knee will bow,

Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose you now.

Come, now is the time to worship;

Come now is the time to give your heart.

Come just as you are to worship;

Come just as you are before your God. Come.

One day every tongue will confess you are God.

One day every knee will bow,

Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose you now.

Come. Come.

* Opening Prayer

* Song: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Lift Up Your Hearts #521

Come thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount - I'm fixed upon it - mount of God's unchanging love
Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood
Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee;
prone to wander, Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

God's Will for His People: 1 Thessalonians 5:14-24

And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all; hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil.

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

Song of Response: "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" *Lift Up Your Hearts* #325

O Master, let me walk with thee
In lowly paths of service free;
Tell me thy secret, help me bear
The strain of toil, the fret of care.
Help me the slow of heart to move
By some clear, winning word of love;
Teach me the wayward feet to stay,
And guide them in the homeward way.

Teach me thy patience; still with thee
In closer, dearer company,
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
In trust that triumphs over wrong.
In hope that sends a shining ray
Far down the future's broadening way,
In peace that only thou canst give,
With thee, O Master, let me live.

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

The Setting: Jerusalem in Jesus' Day

Scripture Reading: John 5:1-15 (p 981 in pew Bible)

Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. ² Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. ³ Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. ^[4] ⁵ One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?”

⁷ “Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.”

⁸ Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” ⁹ At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

The day on which this took place was a Sabbath, ¹⁰ and so the Jewish leaders said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat.”

¹¹ But he replied, “The man who made me well said to me, ‘Pick up your mat and walk.’ ”

¹² So they asked him, “Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?”

¹³ The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there.

¹⁴ Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, “See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you.” ¹⁵ The man went away and told the Jewish leaders that it was Jesus who had made him well.
Message: Pick It Up and Walk!

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response: “I Stand Amazed” *Lift Up Your Hearts #174*

I stand amazed in the presence Of Jesus the Nazarene,
And wonder how he could love me, A sinner, condemned, unclean.

Refrain:

How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be;
How marvelous! How wonderful! Is my Savior's love for me!
He took my sins and my sorrows, He made them his very own;
He bore the burden to Calvary And suffered and died alone.

[Refrain]

When with the ransomed in glory His face I at last shall see,
'Twill be my joy through the ages To sing of his love for me.

[Refrain]

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: “We Receive Your Blessing” *Lift Up Your Hearts #947*

We receive your blessing; we receive your grace,
as we walk in the light shining from your face.
May the peace that you give change the way that we live.

We receive your blessing as we leave this place.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him, all creatures here below.

Praise him above, you heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son, and praise the Holy Ghost.

We receive your blessing; we receive your grace,
as we walk in the light shining from your face.

May the peace that you give change the way that we live.

We receive your blessing as we leave this place.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him, all creatures here below.

Praise him above, you heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son, and praise the Holy Ghost.
We receive your blessing as we leave this place.

Postlude

*Please stand

Children's Message: Laura Hufford

Message: Rev. Tom Niehof

Musicians: Elijah Goossen, Alisabeth Copley, Natalie De Bruin, Rex De Bruin

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 to get connected.

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

UFO meets on the 3rd Monday of the month. Next meeting March 16 at 6:30pm for their annual soup swap. Contact Kelly Hobson for details.

Women's Bible Study meets on the first Monday of the month. Next meeting is March 2 at 9:00 am at the Ames Sixty Forward Center. Contact Pam Voss for details.

Pub Theology meets monthly on a Sunday at The Mucky Duck. Next meeting is Feb 22 at 7:00 pm

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

Next Regular Council Meeting is March 11 at 6:30 pm

Next Search Committee Meeting is Feb 23 at 6:30 pm

TCRC ANNOUNCEMENTS

This week, Pastor Tom Niehof leads us in worship with a message focused on John 5:1-15—Jesus heals a paralyzed man by the pool in Bethesda.

Memory verses for this week: Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. (John 5: 8,9)

The special offering on March 1 will support The Bridge Home, a local nonprofit organization addressing homelessness by providing emergency shelter, supportive services, and pathways to stable housing for those experiencing or on the verge of homelessness. Your gifts help individuals and families in our community move from crisis to stability and renewed independence.

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.

During our pastor vacancy, if you or your family have a situation that requires prayer and/or pastoral care, please contact one of the elders. The elders will help in directing you to the appropriate care needed.

Upcoming Council meetings:

Council Workshop: Wednesday, February 25 at 6:45 pm

Elders Meeting: Saturday, March 7 at 9:00 am

Regular Council Meeting: Wednesday, March 11 at 6:45 pm

Council is requesting your prayerful consideration and nomination of TCRC members to serve in the offices of elder and deacon. The form, including instructions, for nominations is on the table in the entryway. Please put your completed nomination form in the box there labeled, "Nominations Elder & Deacon" **by March 8.**

Trinity is hosting the Classis meeting on Tuesday, Feb 24, from 8:30 to sometime in the afternoon. Christopher 't Hoen, Mark Voss, and Paul Kleinwolterink will participate as delegates. The Fellowship committee plans on providing refreshment and lunch for the delegates. If you would like to volunteer to help the Fellowship committee with that, please talk to any member of the committee. We will also need some help next Sunday setting up chairs in various rooms and moving the furniture at the front of the sanctuary.

Next Intergenerational Sunday School – March 8: Sunday School for all ages will gather in the Fellowship Hall on March 8th, for our third intergenerational session. Together, we'll explore John 11 and reflect on the message from the worship service. Instead of regular Sunday school classes, everyone is invited to join this engaging, table-style discussion led by the Education Committee. With several helpful hands-on activities designed to encourage connection and participation, there will be something for all ages to enjoy. We look forward to sharing this meaningful time as we continue reflecting on God's Word together!

Congregational meals were a frequent topic in last fall's elder discussion groups. The Fellowship Committee is working to coordinate more gatherings, with the next meal tentatively planned for March 8—following the intergenerational Sunday School time. Look for more details next week.

Women's Bible Study will meet next on Monday, March 2 at 9:00 am at the Ames Sixty Forward Center. We will study Essential #4: "We Will Invest in the generation Following Us" as part of the Seven Essentials for Finishing Well Bible Study. Questions? Contact Pam Voss.

UFO will meet on Monday, March 16th at 6:30pm for our annual Soup Swap. If you have any questions, please reach out to Kelly Hobson.

Ames Christian School will be using the building for an open house at 5:00pm Thursday, March 5. They will be showing prospective students around the spaces used for school, including classrooms, the library, and the fellowship hall.

Trinity CRC's Annual Family 2 Family Sale will be on Saturday, March 28, 2026. Time to clean out those closets and cupboards, reserve your sale space, and invite our community to participate! Find all the details and the space rental link on Trinity's website

(amestrinity.org). Grab some flyers to share and look for opportunities to promote on socials. Church proceeds support God's Mercy to Haiti. Let's make this the best sale yet!

Caring for the Roomba: Please be sure to pick up any dropped papers, etc. as you leave the sanctuary. The Roomba gets stuck when it attempts to vacuum larger items. If there is a need to send the Roomba back to its home base, hit the home button on the unit rather than picking it up and moving it.

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!

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner Devotions: Faithfulness: Never Give Up - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Faithfulness: Never Give Up," at www.kidscorner.net. God is always with us and shows us what true loyalty looks like, no matter what we face. Discover how his never-ending love can help us become faithful, kind, and trustworthy friends to others! Prepare for Easter with all the great content at kidscorner.net, like Kids Corner's Lent Devotional.

Focus on the Cross - Lent is a season to focus on the hope of Jesus Christ. Receive a free Today devotional email series to help you refresh, refocus, and renew your faith during Lent. Or download the ebook! Subscribe at todaydevotional.com/lent.

Groundwork: In the Garden of Gethsemane: Jesus Prays, Judas Betrays, and Jesus is Arrested. - As Lent begins, let's prepare our hearts in this season by following Jesus to Golgotha and studying the biblical events that comprise the traditional stations of the cross. Join Groundwork as we begin our journey by studying Matthew 26:31-56 to reflect on what happened to Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane and consider the effects of his prayer, betrayal, and arrest for Jesus and for us. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Today is the first Sunday of Lent. The forty days of Lent bring to mind the forty years of Israel's sojourn in the wilderness and the forty days of fasting that preceded Jesus' public ministry. During Lent, Christians around the world reflect on the weight of sin, the cost of salvation, and the love that motivated Jesus' earthly sojourn and sacrificial death. This year during Lent, find an object that reminds you of the wilderness (like a small stone or a container of sand) and place it in plain sight. Whenever you see it, pause and remember the depth of Jesus' love and how far he went to rescue you from sin and death. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

Hiring! Director of Thrive - The Thrive Director will provide overall direction and leadership for Thrive, ensuring that strategic planning, fiscal management, programming, resource development, staff care and development, achievement of goals, and administrative

functions are effectively carried out. The Director will ensure the overall implementation, assessment, and success of Thrive's mandate serving churches in both Canada and the United States. This is a full-time, hybrid position based in Burlington, Ont., or Grand Rapids, Mich. Learn more and apply by March 23 at crcna.pinpointhq.com

VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: Hertz
Nursery: Mindy and Rachel
Sound: Tom Whitney
Children's Message: Laura Hufford
Congregational Prayer: Joel Copley

Greeters

Feb 22	Hertz	Mar 29	Kuyper
Mar 1	Irvin	Apr 5	Niehof
Mar 8	Nancy Klemme	Apr 12	Niemeyer
Mar 15	Kleinwolterink	Apr 19	Hufford
Mar 22	Kopaska	Apr 26	Oltman

Nursery

Feb 22	Mindy and Rachel	Mar 29	Lyndee and Sue
Mar 1	Sue and Kristy	Apr 5	Rachel and Elizabeth
Mar 8	Megan and Cassie	Apr 12	Melody and Clayton
Mar 15	Judy and Pam N	Apr 19	Jessica and Brianna
Mar 22	Mary and Kenzie	Apr 26	Donna and Alisabeth

Sound Tech

Feb 22	Tom Whitney	Apr 3	Tom Whitney
Mar 1	Rex De Bruin	Apr 5	Bryan Van Belle
Mar 8	Bryan Van Belle	Apr 12	Rob Barnes
Mar 15	Rob Barnes	Apr 19	Brian Sterenberg
Mar 22	Rex De Bruin	Apr 26	Tom Whitney
Mar 29	Brian Sterenberg		

Children's Message

Feb 22	Laura Hufford	Mar 29	Lora Copley
Mar 1	Derek Ten Pas	Apr 5	Laura Hufford
Mar 8	Rex De Bruin	Apr 12	Christopher 't Hoen
Mar 15	Rob Barnes	Apr 19	Jeff Kopaska
Mar 22	Stacy Hertz	Apr 26	Rex De Bruin

Congregational Prayer

Feb 22	Joel Copley	Mar 15	Tom Kuyper
Mar 1	Tom Niehof	Mar 22	Paul Kleinwolterink
Mar 8	Tom Niehof	Mar 29	Mark Voss

Apr 5 Rex De Bruin

Apr 12 Joel Copley

Apr 19 Jeff Kopaska

Apr 26 Tom Niehof

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

Tina VanDyk, Office Administrator: 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; 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