

WORSHIP SERVICE
Third Sunday of Lent
March 8, 2026

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship (based on Psalm 23 and Psalm 16)

Let us worship Him who leads us on the Lenten path for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil, for He is with me.

With the Lord at our right hand, we will not be shaken.

Therefore, my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because the Lord will not abandon me to the realm of the dead.

Amen! Lord, you make us to know the path of life. You fill us with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasure at your right hand.

* Opening Song:

"Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights" vs 1, 4-6 *LUYH #134*

Throughout these Lenten days and nights we turn to walk the inward way,
where, meeting Christ, our guide and light, we live in hope till Easter day.

And though the road is hard and steep, the Spirit ever calls us on
through Calvary's dying, dark and deep, until we see the coming dawn.

So let us choose the path of one who wore, for us, the crown of thorn,
and slept in death, that we might wake to life on Resurrection Morn!

Rejoice, O sons and daughters! Sing and shout hosannas! Raise the strain!
For Christ, whose death Good Friday brings, on Easter day will live again!

* Opening Prayer

* Song of Praise: "Christ, the Life of All the Living" *Lift Up Your Hearts #137*

Christ, the life of all the living, Christ, the death of death, our foe;
Christ, for us your-self once giving to the darkest depths of woe,
through your suffering, death and merit life eternal we inherit;
thousand, thousand thanks are due dearest Jesus, unto you.

You have suffered great affliction and have borne it patiently,
even death by crucifixion: our atonement full and free
Lord, you chose to be tormented, that our doom should be prevented;
thousand, thousand thanks are due dearest Jesus, unto you.

Lord, for all that bought our pardon, for the sorrows deep and sore,
for the anguish in the garden, we will thank you evermore.

For the victory of your dying sinful nature mortifying
thousand, thousand thanks are due dearest Jesus, unto you.

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon (from *Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 1, Q&A 1*)

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I am not my own but belong, body and soul, in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all our sins with his precious blood, and he has set us free from the tyranny of the devil.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready, from now on to live for him.

Song of Entrusting: "Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me" vs 1-3

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer

There is no more for heaven now to give

He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom

My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus

For my life is wholly bound to His

Oh how strange and divine, I can sing, all is mine

Yet not I, but through Christ in me

The night is dark but I am not forsaken

For by my side, the Savior He will stay

I labor on in weakness and rejoicing

For in my need, His power is displayed

To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me

Through the deepest valley He will lead

Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome
Yet not I, but through Christ in me
No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future sure, the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave
To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released, I can sing, I am free
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: John 11:11-47a

¹¹ After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up."

¹² His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." ¹³ Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.

¹⁴ So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

¹⁶ Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

²¹ "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

²⁴ Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

²⁷ “Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

²⁸ After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. “The Teacher is here,” she said, “and is asking for you.” ²⁹ When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.

³² When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”

³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. ³⁴ “Where have you laid him?” he asked.

“Come and see, Lord,” they replied.

³⁵ Jesus wept.

³⁶ Then the Jews said, “See how he loved him!”

³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸ Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹ “Take away the stone,” he said.

“But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.”

⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?”

⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.”

⁴³ When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”

⁴⁵ Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him. ⁴⁶ But some of them went to the Pharisees

and told them what Jesus had done. ⁴⁷ Then the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the Sanhedrin.

Message: I AM the Resurrection and the Life

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response: "Praise the Savior, Now and Ever" *Lift Up Your Hearts* #191

Praise the Savior now and ever; praise him, all beneath the skies;
self denying, suffering, dying on the cross, a sacrifice.

Victory gaining, life obtaining, now in glory he doth rise.

Our work faileth, Christ's availeth; he is all our righteousness;
he, our Savior, has forever set us free from dire distress.

Through his merit we inherit light and peace and happiness.

Sin's bonds severed, we're delivered; Christ has crushed the serpent's head;
death no longer is the stronger; hell itself is captive led.

Christ has risen from death's prison; o'er the tomb he light has shed.

For his favor, praise forever unto God the Father sing;

praise the Savior, praise him ever, Son of God, our Lord and King.

Praise the Spirit; through Christ's merit he doth us salvation bring.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: "By the Sea of Crystal"

Lift Up Your Hearts #489

By the sea of crystal saints in glory stand,
myriads in number, drawn from every land.

Robed in white apparel, washed in Jesus' blood,
they now reign in heaven with the Lamb of God.

Out of tribulation, death, and Satan's hand,
they have been translated at the Lord's command.

In their hands they're holding palms of victory.

Hark! The jubilant chorus shouts triumphantly:

"Unto God Almighty, sitting on the throne,
and the Lamb, victorious, be the praise alone."

God has wrought salvation; he did wondrous things.

Who shall not extol thee, holy King of kings!

Postlude

* Please stand

Children's Message: Lora Copley

Message: Rev. Lora Copley

Musicians: Char Verkade, Naomi Friend, Matt Haken, Maggie VanDyk

Small Groups, Committees, & Sunday School Updates

Sunday School Classes meet after fellowship time. No class on Mar 15-Spring Break.

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

Roots Youth Group meets weekly on Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 pm

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 April 6. Contact Pam Voss for details.

Pub Theology meets monthly on a Sunday at The Mucky Duck. Next meeting is March 29 at 7:00 pm.

Hymn Sing meets monthly on a Sunday. Next meeting is April 12 at 5:00 pm.

Next Regular Council Meeting is March 11 at 6:45 pm.

Next Search Committee Meeting is March 26 at 6:30 pm.

TCRC ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Sunday, Rev. Lora Copley will lead us in reflecting on John 11:11–47, the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead and revealing His power over death.

Memory verse for this week: Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live." (John 11:25)

The special offering on March 15 will support participation by youth from Trinity CRC in the **Midwest B.A.S.I.C** (Brothers And Sisters In Christ) **Youth Bible Camp**. The camp is open for students who have completed grades 6-12 and is held at Pine Lake Christian Camp in Eldora, Iowa. Typically, families are asked pay the pre-registration fee (\$50/student) with Trinity covering the remainder. Bible Camp 2026 will be August 2-6. Pictures and videos from past camps can be found by searching for "Midwest B.A.S.I.C. Youth Bible Camp" on Facebook. Questions? See Pam Whitney.

Dave Renfeldt, a long-time member of Trinity Church, passed away at home on February 25, aged 98. The funeral service was February 28 here at Trinity. We thank God for Dave's years of faithful service, and we commend his family to God's care and comfort.

Due this Sunday—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.

Intergenerational Sunday School – This Sunday, 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 another meaningful time as we continue reflecting on God's Word together! Stay for the church meal immediately following the discussions.

Congregational Potluck Meal – March 8: Let us fellowship together over a potluck meal after the intergenerational Sunday School time on March 8. Please bring something to share – categories based on your last name: A-G bring a dessert, H-Q bring a main dish, and R-Z bring a salad or side. Hope to see you there!

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.

Easter Flowers for Easter Sunday: Sign up by March 29 to sponsor an Easter flower to adorn the sanctuary for our Easter Service on April 5. Find the signup sheet on the table in the church entryway. Plants are \$11 each. You may leave cash in an envelope or a check to Trinity CRC in the offering basket, noting "Easter Flowers". (Please do not pay for flowers with an online contribution.) Flowers may be taken home after Easter. Questions? Contact Pam Voss.

Repairs inside the building: There will be some drywall repair work happening in the building over Spring Break (March 16-20).

Trinity CRC's Annual Family2Family Sale is coming up soon—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.

Resonate's March/April Gift Matching Opportunity. The Deacons are excited to share a special giving opportunity with Resonate Global Mission! From **March 13 through April 30**, every gift to Resonate's *Where Most Needed* fund will be matched dollar for dollar by a generous group of donors—up to \$275,000. This is a wonderful chance to double the impact of your support. If you would like to give directly, please visit: www.resonateglobalmission.org/double

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.

The Rehoboth Christian High School Band invites you to attend their concerts while they are touring in your local area.

March 26: Shalom CRC Sioux Falls, SD 5:00-6:30 PM Navajo Taco Meal, 7:00 PM Concert

March 27: Dordt University, BJ Haan Auditorium 7:00 PM Concert

March 28: Calvary CRC Orange City, IA 5:00-6:30 PM Navajo Taco Meal, 7:00 PM Concert

March 29: Trinity CRC Rock Valley, IA 9:30 AM Service Participation

March 29: Luverne CRC. Luverne, MN 6:30 PM Concert

All concerts are free to attend with a free-will offering taken. For more information visit <https://www.rcsnm.org/admissions/schools/finearts.cfm> or email Laura Blystra at lblystra@rcsnm.org.

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: Lent: Washing Stinky Feet - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Lent: Washing Stinky Feet" at www.kidscorner.net. In John 13, Jesus washed his disciples' feet—a humble act of service that surprised everyone. He demonstrated that love isn't just about words; it's about doing for others, even in unexpected ways. Prepare for Easter with all the great content at kidscorner.net, like Kids Corner's Lent Devotional.

Groundwork: Jesus: Judged, Beaten, and Crowned with Thorns - At the fifth Station of the Cross, we reflect on Jesus before Pilate, and at the sixth, we witness Jesus endure mocking and beating from Roman soldiers as they placed a crown of thorns on his head. Join Groundwork as we study Mark 15:1-15 and John 19:1-3 for a Lenten reflection on Jesus' suffering and persecution, and what it means for his followers. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Annual Day of Prayer (March 11) - On the night of his arrest, Jesus asked his disciples to stay with him, watch, and pray. Prayer is a discipline that requires the dedication of our precious time and attention. It is also a practice through which Jesus invites all disciples to experience sweet communion with him. Today is the CRCNA's Annual Day of Prayer. This week set aside intentional time to pray for your local church, our denomination, and the worldwide communion of saints. In your prayer ask Jesus to draw you and all believers to him

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

World Renew

Help Vulnerable Families in the Middle East - As conflict escalates in the Middle East, multiple people have been killed or injured, and many families are facing urgent need after fleeing from their homes. World Renew is preparing to respond in Lebanon through a trusted Christian partner while we continue to monitor the situation across the region. Join us in praying for lasting peace, and please give to support vulnerable families at worldrenew.net/middle-east-conflict, by calling 1-800-552-7972, or by mailing a check made out to World Renew, with "Middle East Conflict 2026" in the memo line, to: World Renew, 8970 Byron Commerce Dr SW, Byron Center, MI, 49315.

VOLUNTEERS

Greeter: Nancy Klemme
Nursery: Megan and Cassie
Sound: Rob Barnes
Children's Message: Lora Copley
Congregational Prayer: Tom Niehof

Greeters

Mar 8	Nancy Klemme	Apr 26	Oltman
Mar 15	Kleinwolterink	May 3	Saldaña
Mar 22	Kopaska	May 10	Sander/Bassham
Mar 29	Kuyper	May 17	Sterenberg
Apr 5	Niehof	May 24	't Hoen
Apr 12	Niemeyer	May 31	Ten Pas
Apr 19	Hufford		

Nursery

Mar 8	Megan and Cassie	Apr 26	Donna and Alisabeth
Mar 15	Judy and Pam N	May 3	Sue and Kathlyn
Mar 22	Mary and Kenzie	May 10	Mindy and Natalie
Mar 29	Lyndee and Sue	May 17	Megan and Kristy
Apr 5	Rachel and Elizabeth	May 24	Judy and Cassie
Apr 12	Melody and Clayton	May 31	Mary and Pam
Apr 19	Jessica and Brianna		

Sound Tech

Mar 8	Rob Barnes	Apr 12	Rob Barnes
Mar 15	Rex De Bruin	Apr 19	Brian Sterenberg
Mar 22	Bryan Van Belle	Apr 26	Tom Whitney
Mar 29	Brian Sterenberg	May 3	Rex De Bruin
Apr 3	Tom Whitney	May 10	Bryan Van Belle
Apr 5	Bryan Van Belle	May 17	Rob Barnes

May 24 Brian Sterenberg

May 31 Tom Whitney

Children's Message

Mar 8 Lora Copley

Mar 15 Rob Barnes

Mar 22 Stacy Hertz

Mar 29 Lora Copley

Apr 5 Laura Hufford

Apr 12 Christopher 't Hoen

Apr 19 Jeff Kopaska

Apr 26 Rex De Bruin

May 3 Rob Barnes

May 10 Stacy Hertz

May 17 Laura Hufford

May 24 Lora Copley

May 31 Christopher 't Hoen

Congregational Prayer

Mar 8 Tom Niehof

Mar 15 Tom Kuyper

Mar 22 Paul Kleinwolterink

Mar 29 Mark Voss

Apr 5 Rex De Bruin

Apr 12 Joel Copley

Apr 19 Jeff Kopaska

Apr 26 Tom Niehof

May 3 Tom Kuyper

May 10 Paul Kleinwolterink

May 17 Mark Voss

May 24 Rex De Bruin

May 31 Joel Copley

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