

WORSHIP SERVICE

May 17, 2026

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship (from Psalm 47:5-8)

God has ascended amid shouts of joy,

The Lord amid the sounding of trumpets.

Sing praises to God, sing praises;

sing praises to our King, sing praises.

For God is the King of all the earth;

sing to him a psalm of praise.

God reigns over the nations;

God is seated on his holy throne.

* Opening Song: "O Worship the King"

Lift Up Your Hearts #2

O worship the King all-glorious above,
O gratefully sing his power and his love:
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of his might and sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

Your bountiful care, what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail.
Your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

O measureless Might, unchangeable Love,
whom angels delight to worship above!
Your ransomed creation, with glory ablaze,
in true adoration shall sing to your praise!

* Opening Prayer

* Song: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Lift Up Your Hearts #223

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king through all eternity.
Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
who rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing who died and reigns on high,
who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified;
no angels in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward bend their burning eyes at mysteries so bright.
Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, who raised up your Son, Jesus, overcoming death that we might also share in his righteousness, we confess that we have not lived as people already raised to new life. We have forgotten the guarantee of our own glorious resurrection. We have been so caught up in the shadows of old, corrupt creation around us, that we fail to see the light of your glorious New Creation in our midst.

Merciful God, forgive our sins and make us bolder disciples. Help us to be courageous and daring, rather than compromising and shallow. Help us to live as people anticipating life and victory, rather than shrinking from death and despair. Resurrect us to your new life once again, dear God, in the name of Jesus Christ, living by your side and in our hearts. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear these words of triumph from 1 Corinthians 15:

Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Christ, our Risen Lord, has conquered death for us.

Thanks be to God!

Song of Entrusting: "Before the Throne of God Above" *Lift Up Your Hearts* #682

Before the throne of God above I have a strong, a perfect plea;
a great High Priest, whose name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands, my name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heaven he stands no tongue can bid me thence depart,
no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look, and see him there who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;
for God the Just is satisfied to look on him and pardon me,
to look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless righteousness;
the great unchangeable "I AM," the King of glory and of grace!
One with himself, I cannot die, my soul is purchased by his blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my God,
with Christ my Savior and my God.

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Acts 1:1-11

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my

Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

⁷ He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Message: Why do You Stand Here Looking into the Sky?

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response: “Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak” *LUYH #754*

Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living echoes of your tone.

As you have sought, so let me seek your erring children, lost and lone.

O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wandering and the wavering feet.

O feed me, Lord, that I may feed your hungering ones with manna sweet.

O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious truths which you impart.

And wing my words that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.

O fill me with your fullness, Lord, until my very heart o'erflows

in kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

O use me, Lord, use even me, just as you will, and when, and where

until your blessed face I see, your rest, your joy, your glory share.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: “Go to the World”

Lift Up Your Hearts #925

Go to the world! Go into all the earth.
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,
baptizing as the sign of our rebirth Alleluia!
Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space. Alleluia!
Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way. Alleluia!
Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
for I am with you till the age shall end,
when all the hosts of glory cry "Amen." Alleluia!

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

Children's Message: Laura Hufford

Message: Rev. Will Verhoef

Musicians: Elijah Goossen, Rex De Bruin, Natalie De Bruin, Marlies 't Hoen

Small Groups, Committees, & Sunday School Updates

Sunday School Classes are on break for the summer and will resume in September.

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

May 31 will be the last meeting before summer break.

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

May 20 will be the last meeting before summer break.

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. Contact Kelly Hobson for details.

Women's Bible Study meets on the first Monday of the month; next meeting is

Jun 1 at 9:00 am at the Ames Sixty Forward Center. Contact Pam Voss for details.

Pub Theology meets the last Sunday of the month at The Mucky Duck; next meeting is May 31 at 7:00 pm.

Hymn Sing meets monthly on a Sunday. Next event is May 17 at 5:00 pm; this is the last meeting before summer break.

Regular Council Meeting: June 10 at 6:30 pm.

TCRC ANNOUNCEMENTS

This week, we welcome Rev. Will Verhoef to lead us in reflection on Acts 1:1-11, where Jesus ascends into heaven and his disciples are called to move forward in faith and witness. May God bless the preaching of His word.

The special offering on May 24 will be for Home for Awhile, a partnership of several Ames-area churches working to reduce homelessness by providing temporary subsidized housing and support for families facing housing insecurity. Through mentoring and goal setting, families are encouraged toward financial stability and permanent housing.

Year-end Celebration this Sunday Let's gather after the morning service to celebrate the graduates in our church family and the close of our school year with a BBQ-Potluck Lunch. Burgers, hot dogs, baked beans, chips, cake, and punch will be provided (with vegetarian options available). Those with the last name A-N, please bring salads; last names O-Z, please bring sides. Everyone is welcome!

Congratulations to the graduates in our church family: David Copley – Dordt University; Beth VanDyk – Coe College; Maggie VanDyk – Gilbert High School; Eli Hufford – Ames High School. May the Lord bless your next endeavors!

The May Hymn Sing will this Sunday, May 17 at 5:00 pm and will feature hymns celebrating Ascension Day. We hope you will join us! After the May event, hymns sings will be taking a break for the summer, resuming in Fall 2026.

We are thankful for the support the Trinity CRC church family had provided Elijah Hufford during his childhood. Everyone is invited to come and celebrate Eli's graduation from high school at an open house on Sunday, May 17th from 1-4pm at the Hufford house: 2850 North 500th Ave, Ames, Iowa 50014.

The VanDyk Family invites everyone to an open-house celebration in recognition of Maggie's graduation from Gilbert High School: May 23, 1:30-4:00 PM, TCRC Fellowship Hall.

Our Seven Essentials for Finishing Well Women's Bible Study will conclude Monday June 1 with the seventh essential "We Will Anticipate Heaven". We will meet @ 9:00 am at Ames Sixty Forward Center. After that, we will take a summer break and meet again in early Fall. Questions? Contact Pam Voss.

Church League Softball: Please contact Derek Ten Pas if you are interested in playing or have questions. Feel free to come watch as well! Games take place at South River Valley Park: 1200 E 13th St in Ames. Upcoming games are the following:

5/19 @ 8:10p Field 6 and @ 9:10p Field 6 | 5/26 @ 6:10p Field 6 | 6/2 @ 8:10p Field 6 and @ 9:10p Field 5 | 6/9 @ 8:10p Field 6 and @ 9:10p Field 5 | 6/16 @ 6:10p Field 5 and @ 7:10p Field 5 | 6/23 @ 8:10p Field 6 | 6/30 @ 7:10p Field 6 and @ 8:10p Field 6 | 7/7
Tournament Begins–Time and Fields TBD.

New Elders and Deacons beginning a two-year term. Brian Sterenberg and Mark Irvin will serve in place of outgoing elders Naomi Friend and Joel Copley. Laura Hufford and Mindy Nikkel will serve in place of outgoing deacons Donna Bergman and Christopher 't Hoen. Updated Elder and Deacon Groups are:

Elders: A-G = Paul Kleinwolterink; H-K = Melody Franje; L-S = Mark Irvin; T-Z = Brian Sterenberg

Deacons: A-G = Derek Ten Pas; H-K = Mindy Nikkel; L-S = Mark Voss; T-Z = Laura Hufford

From the Deacons-April Financial Report: Total income General Fund Income: \$16,676, with breakdown of General Offerings - \$13,950, Bank Interest - \$726, Ames Christian School - \$2,000. 33% of the budgeted income has been received, and 34% of the budgeted expenses have been spent. Special offering for the Building Fund totaled \$2,343.75 and for MICA totaled \$1,230.

Special Offering Schedule: Offerings for the Benevolence Fund and Church Beyond Borders are swapping dates—Church Beyond Borders offering will be June 7 and Benevolence Fund offering will be June 21.

Christian Education Tuition Assistance Available: TCRC is thankful to support families pursuing Christ-centered education for their children. Tuition assistance is available for K–12 students attending schools that provide a scripturally based, God-centered education. Families attending TCRC are encouraged to apply in May and June for the upcoming school year. This ministry is supported through congregational giving and generous donations. For more information about applying or contributing to the fund, please contact a deacon, a member of council, or the church office via office@amestrinity.org. An application form can be emailed to you or a printed version may be requested.

Building use on May 19 – The Ames Christian School will be holding their annual spring program on Tuesday, May 19 at 6:00 pm here at TCRC.

Baccalaureate for AHS Seniors Wednesday, May 20 @ 6:30 PM at Wayne “Hank” Hansen Performing Arts Center, Ames High School. This is a service for Ames High graduating seniors, their friends and family, and the Ames community. It is inclusive of all religions and faiths, and all are welcome. More details on Facebook and Instagram @AHSBaccalaureate.

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.

Please keep food and drinks contained to the fellowship hall. This helps to keep our space neat and free of unwanted pests. Thank you!

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

Please submit announcements to the church office by 10:30 am on Thursdays in order to be included in the announcements for the week. If you leave a written message in the office, please include your name in case a follow-up is necessary. Thank you!

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner Devotions: The Promised Gift: Pentecost - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "The Promised Gift: Pentecost" at www.kidscorner.net. When Jesus was about to return to heaven to be with his Father, he reminded his disciples of the gift his Father had promised them. Did you know that the same gift is promised to you as well? God sends his Holy Spirit to everyone who believes in Jesus. It's an old promise that is still good for you today! Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Bible Story coloring pages available on the KC activities page.

Groundwork: Humanity Falls - Just after the story of creation, the Bible tells us the story of humanity's fall. Join Groundwork as we study Genesis 2-3, Romans 5:12, Romans 8:20-22, and Romans 3:9-23 to examine the second major theme of the Bible, the Christian doctrine of the fall. This theme emphasizes the catastrophic impact of sin on humanity and creation, and clearly articulates our universal need for a Savior in Jesus Christ. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Research has shown that taking slow, deep breaths when we are stressed is good for our mental health. As you recognize Mental Health Awareness Month, try using breath prayers as a way to slow down and focus your mind on God. Choose a prayer from the options below, then breathe in and out, repeating the phrases as you breathe. As you breathe in silently, pray: "Not my will." As you breathe out, pray: "Your will be done." Breathe in: "I am not alone." Breathe out: "You are here." Breathe in: "You are the potter." Breathe out: "I am the clay" Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

VOLUNTEERS

Sound: Rob Barnes
Greeter: Sterenberg
Nursery: Megan and Kristy
Children's Message: Laura Hufford
Congregational Prayer: Mark Voss

Sound Tech

May 17 Rob Barnes	Jun 14 Bryan Van Belle
May 24 Brian Sterenberg	Jun 21 Brian Sterenberg
May 31 Tom Whitney	Jun 28 Rob Barnes
Jun 7 Rex De Bruin	

Greeters

May 17 Sterenberg	Jun 28 Voss
May 24 't Hoen	Jul 5 Yoder
May 31 Ten Pas	Jul 12 Bakker
Jun 7 VanDyk	Jul 19 Barnes
Jun 14 Verkade	Jul 26 Bergman
Jun 21 Whitney	

Nursery

May 17 Megan and Kristy
May 24 Judy and Cassie
May 31 Mary and Pam
Jun 7 Mindy and Kenzie
Jun 14 Rachel and Sue
Jun 21 Melody and Elizabeth

Jun 28 Jessica and Brianna
Jul 5 Donna and Natalie
Jul 12 Sue and Kathryn
Jul 19 Mindy and Alisabeth
Jul 26 Megan and Kristy

Children's Message

May 17 Laura Hufford
May 24 Lora Copley
May 31 Christopher 't Hoen
Jun 7 Jeff Kopaska
Jun 14 Rex De Bruin
Jun 21 Rob Barnes

Jun 28 Laura Hufford
Jul 5 Lora Copley
Jul 12 Christopher 't Hoen
Jul 19 Jeff Kopaska
Jul 26 Rex De Bruin

Congregational Prayer

May 17 Mark Voss
May 24 Rex De Bruin
May 31 Joel Copley
Jun 7 Melody Franje
Jun 14 Jeff Kopaska
Jun 21 Lora Copley

Jun 28 Tom Niehof
Jul 5 Paul Kleinwolterink
Jul 12 Mark Voss
Jul 19 Rex De Bruin
Jul 26 Joel Copley

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

Tina VanDyk, Office Administrator: office@amestrinity.org; 515-292-4676

Office Hours: Tue & Thu, 9:00 am–3:00 pm

Elders: A-G = Paul Kleinwolterink; H-K = Melody Franje; L-S = Mark Irvin; T-Z = Brian Sterenberg

Deacons: A-G = Derek Ten Pas; H-K = Mindy Nikkel; L-S = Mark Voss; T-Z = Laura Hufford

Committee Chairs: Building & Grounds – Jim Bergman; Education – Christopher 't Hoen; Endowment – Paul Kleinwolterink; Fellowship – Sue Fee; Search – Jeff Kopaska; Technology – Rex De Bruin; Outreach and Enfolding – Mark Voss; Worship – Laura Hufford