

WORSHIP SERVICE

October 4, 2026

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship

God invites us into his healing presence with these words: "I am the Lord, who heals you."

Diseased, depressed, dysfunctional, defeated, we come hungering for health that only God can provide.

God calls us to bring open eyes, hearing ears, and tender hearts turned toward him, the Great Physician.

We bow before him in faith and expectancy!

* Opening Song: "Open the Eyes of My Heart" *Lift Up Your Hearts #537*

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord; open the eyes of my heart.

I want to see you, I want to see you.

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord; open the eyes of my heart.

I want to see you, I want to see you.

To see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory.

Pour out your power and love, as we sing holy, holy, holy.

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord; open the eyes of my heart.

I want to see you, I want to see you.

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord; open the eyes of my heart.

I want to see you, I want to see you.

To see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory.

Pour out your power and love as we sing holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. I want to see you.

Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. I want to see you.

* Opening Prayer

* Song: "Better Is One Day"

Lift Up Your Hearts #506

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord almighty.
For my soul longs and even faints for You.
For here my heart is satisfied, within Your presence.
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings.

Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere.
Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere,
Than thousands elsewhere.

One thing I ask and I would seek: to see Your beauty,
To find You in the place Your glory dwells.
One thing I ask and I would seek: to see Your beauty,
To find You in the place Your glory dwells.

Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere.
Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere,
Than thousands elsewhere.

My heart and flesh cry out for You the living God,
your Spirit's water to my soul.
I've tasted and I've seen; come once again to me;
I will draw near to You, I will draw near to You.

Better is one day, better is one day, better is one day than thousands
elsewhere.

Better is one day, better is one day, better is one day than thousands
elsewhere. Than thousands elsewhere.

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Prayer of Confession:

Dear Father, it's easy to get consumed with our own needs and desires. We often don't make others a priority. Help us to listen and take a real interest in the people you put in our lives. Prompt us to encourage and build each other up. Help us to deepen the friendships we have and open the door for fellowship with others. Thank you for your commitment to us. In our Savior's

name we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (John 15:5-9)

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers... If you remain in me and in my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you, now remain in my love."

Song of Entrusting: "Seek Ye First"

Lift Up Your Hearts #899

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

We do not live by bread alone, but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia.

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Luke 8:4-15

While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: ⁵ "A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up. ⁶ Some fell on rocky ground, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown."

When he said this, he called out, "Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear."

⁹ His disciples asked him what this parable meant. ¹⁰ He said, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that,

“though seeing, they may not see;
though hearing, they may not understand.’

¹¹ “This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. ¹² Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. ¹³ Those on the rocky ground are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. ¹⁴ The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life’s worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. ¹⁵ But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

Message: “The Joy of Spiritually Maturing”

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response: “When We Walk with the Lord” *Lift Up Your Hearts #327*

When we walk with the Lord in the light of his Word,
what a glory he sheds on our way! While we do his good will
he abides with us still, and with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain:

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus but to trust and obey.

But we never can prove the delights of his love
until all on the altar we lay; for the favor he shows,
and the joy he bestows are for those who will trust and obey.

[Refrain]

Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way; what he says we will do,
where he sends we will go -never fear, only trust and obey.

[Refrain]

WE CELEBRATE GOD’S COVENANT WITH US

The Lord's Supper

Communion Song: "O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts" *Lift Up Your Hearts* #823

O Jesus, Joy of loving hearts, the fount of life, the light of all,
From fullest bliss that earth imparts, we turn unfilled to hear your call.
Your truth unchanged has ever stood; you save all those who on you call;
To those who seek you, you are good, to those who find you, all in all.
We taste you, ever living bread, and long to feast upon you still;
We drink of you, the fountain-head, our thirst to quench, our souls to fill.
Our restless spirits yearn for you where'er our changeful lot is cast;
Glad, when you smile on us anew, blest, that our faith can hold you fast.
O Jesus, ever with us stay; make all our moments calm and bright!
Chase the dark night of sin away, shed o'er the world your holy light.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: "Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace" *Sing! A New Creation* #292

Lord, bid your servant go in peace; your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn, this child so long foretold.
This is the Savior of the world, the Gentiles' promised light,
God's glory dwelling in our midst, the joy of Israel.

Postlude

* Please stand

Children's Message: Lora Copley

Message: Rev. Kevin Vryhof

Musicians: Andrew Friend, Mark Voss, Pam Voss

SUNDAY SCHOOL, SMALL GROUP, AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

- > **By the Fire, In the Word** meets on Sundays at 8:15 am in the fellowship hall for scripture reading and discussion. All are welcome! Contact Joel Copley for details.
- > **Children and Worship** (age 3–2nd grade) meets during the service, after the children's message.
- > **Sunday School Classes** for all ages meet weekly at 10:50 am.
- > **Areopagus** meets on Sundays at 6:00 pm for scripture reading and a meal in the Fellowship

Hall.

- > **Roots Youth Group** (grades 6-12) meets weekly on Wednesdays, 7-8:30 pm.
- > **Pub Theology** meets the last Sunday of the month at The Mucky Duck; next meeting is Oct 25 at 7:00 pm.
- > **Women's Bible Study** meets monthly on Monday mornings at the Ames Sixty Forward Center; next meeting is Oct 5 at 9:00 am. See Pam Voss for details.
- > **UFO** meets on the 3rd Monday of the month. Contact Kelly Hobson for details.
- > **Breakfast Club** meets on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at the Lincoln Center Hy-Vee at 8:30 am.
Contact Mary Kuyper for details.
- > **Young Adult Ministry** meets on Fridays and Sundays throughout the year.
Contact Derek Ten Pas to get connected.
- > **Regular Council Meeting:** October 15 at 6:30 pm.
- > **Fall Festival:** October 23, 3:30-6:30 pm.
- > **Worship Committee Meeting:** October 26 at 6:30 pm.

TCRC ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Sunday morning, Rev. Kevin Vryhof will take us into Luke 8:4-15, where Jesus uses the picture of a seed and different types of soil to teach us about hearing and responding to God's word.

This Sunday we celebrate the Lord's Supper. All who are baptized into Christ and have made a public stand for him are welcome to the Lord's Table, to receive the nourishment and refreshment of the bread and cup of the Lord "as sure signs" in remembrance of Christ's body and blood poured out for us in his once-for-all sacrifice on the cross.

The special offering on October 11 is for Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance which provides emergency rent, utility, and food assistance to Story County residents in an atmosphere of dignity, comfort, and encouragement. TCRC's support of Good Neighbor is one of the ways we assist those in need in our community. To learn more, visit www.gnea.org/

Adult Sunday School will meet this week (Oct. 4) to discuss the Gospel of Mark, chapter 9. We meet in Room 8 and 9 at 10:50 a.m. Rev. Tom Niehof will lead this class. All are welcome.

Please keep Pastor SJ Kim in your prayers, as he has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Pray for God's healing grace, for wise guidance from his doctors, and for God to give strength to Pastor SJ and his family as they walk through this challenging time. Please also pray for Church Beyond Borders as Pastor SJ takes some time off to care for his health.

Our new Areopagus Campus Ministry Director is here! Please join us in welcoming Dan Gregory to Areopagus and the Trinity community. Dan has officially begun his role and is looking forward to getting to know the Trinity congregation and connecting with students across Iowa State. You can reach Dan at director@isu-areopagus.org or [847-989-9648](tel:847-989-9648)

News from the 't Hoen Family: We would like to share some news with our Trinity family and friends. As we have been looking for some new opportunities as a family, we can share with you that we will be moving to Las Vegas, NV in June 2027. Meredith has accepted a position at a private veterinary clinic. This move will offer a host of new opportunities for all of us, and we are looking forward to this next adventure. Before Amelia heads off to college somewhere abroad, possibly in The Netherlands, she will join in the move. Even though the move is far off, we know already that we will miss all of you.

Address for Elijah Goossen in Omaha: 3309 N 93rd Ave, Apt 3, Omaha, NE 68134

Women's Bible Study will meet next on Monday, October 5 at 9:00 am at the Ames Sixty Forward Center. The group will be discussing the spiritual discipline of Celebration. Study guide materials are on the table outside the church office. New group members welcome! Questions? Talk to Pam Voss.

Meals from the Heartland Annual Event-Oct 10: The outreach committee has signed up to participate in the 19th annual food packaging event on October 10, 2026 at 9:45 am-11:45 am. The event takes place at the packaging center in West Des Moines. Anyone aged 8 years old and up is encouraged to participate. If you wish to carpool, we will leave Trinity at 8:45 am. If you are interested, grab your spot on the sign-up sheet found on the table outside the office. Questions? Contact Mark Voss.

Learn more about Meals from the Heartland at: mealsfromtheheartland.org/

Sawyer Cold Weather Clothing Drive: Please support our neighborhood youth by donating **NEW** winter coats, snow pants, and snow/waterproof gloves for the students at Sawyer Elementary School. (This year they will not need boots or hats.) We will collect clothing through October 11th. Please leave donations in the donation box in the Fellowship Hall.

Trinity's Fall Festival - Friday, October 23, 3:30-6:30 pm. We are trading in the trunks for a new experience with games booths and prizes. We will be looking for creative game ideas and plenty of volunteers to help us welcome the community to this free family event. Mark it on your calendar and get those creative ideas flowing. The volunteer sign-up sheet is on the front table. Questions? Talk to Mindy Nikkel.

Adopt a Flower Bed! The three flower beds along the church driveway are looking for a new caretaker. Thank you to Melody for filling that role previously. We are looking for a volunteer (or a few volunteers) willing to adopt 1, 2, or all 3 beds and help keep them looking nice with some weeding and seasonal maintenance. If no one is able to take them on, we'll plan to reseed the beds with grass instead. Let us know if you'd like to help keep a little color blooming along our driveway!

Worship Volunteers Needed! If are willing to play an instrument, lead singing, run the sound system, and/or give a children's message during worship service please see Laura Hufford. We need more volunteers.

Let's stay connected! Would you like to be included in our (printed) church directory or

receive church emails? We'd love to help you stay connected with what's happening at Trinity and make it easier for others to connect with you, too. Sharing your contact information is optional, but being included in the directory and email list is a great way to stay informed about church news, events, and the occasional reminder. If you'd like to be added—or need to update your information—please contact the church office (office@amestrinity.org).

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

Bethesda Food Pantry Concert Fundraiser: Bethesda Lutheran Church will host the Lake Wobegon Brass Band in a FREE concert at 2:00 pm on Sunday, October 11, 2026. This concert will serve as a fundraiser for the Bethesda Food Pantry and feature an Americana-based theme to continue the celebration of America's 250th! A free will donation will be collected.

Tina will be out of town October 7-13. There will not be office hours on the 8th or 13th. Any announcements for Sun, Oct. 11 are due by Mon, Oct. 5 at 10:00 am. Thank you.

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

ReFrame Ministries

Groundwork: Finding Meaning In Life And The Passing Of Time - In Ecclesiastes 3, the Teacher advises, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." He later calls time a burden, but also says God has "set eternity in the human heart." Join Groundwork as we study Ecclesiastes 3:1-11, 12:1-14 to glean wisdom from the Teacher for how to find meaning in life through our time. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - God's big family is made up of people from every country on earth! Print off a world map and put it on your refrigerator or kitchen table. Each day, or once a week, choose a country (or if there are kids in your household, take turns choosing). Learn about that country and pray for the needs of its people. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

Lifelong Discipleship: A Conversation with Author Cameron Shaffer - Join Thrive faith formation consultant Rick Zomer for a webinar featuring Cameron Shaffer, author of *Keeping Kids Christian*. As a parent and pastor, Shaffer focuses on intergenerational, lifelong discipleship strategies that foster deep connections to the local church, helping young people stay involved well beyond their youth group years. The webinar will take place on Tuesday, October 13, at 4:00 PM EDT. Register by October 9 at tinyurl.com/ye2ju9xy or email thrive@crcna.org for more information.

Children's Ministry Roundtable: Advent - October 15 at 1pm ET - This virtual "show-and-tell" style gathering will feature Thrive staff as well as members of Thrive's Children's Ministry

Leader Network. They will share Advent resources and ideas that have worked well in their ministry contexts while also inviting all participants to share their favorite Advent activities. Whether you have great ideas to share or are looking for inspiration to shape your seasonal plans, this event is for you! Register here tinyurl.com/p8c4wjmk or email thrive@crcna.org for more information.

Calvin Theological Seminary

Paul's Missionary Journeys in Greece (April 2 - 12, 2027) - Travel by motor coach (6 days) and cruise ship (3 days) to sites connected with Paul's second and third missionary journeys, as well as visit other major sites of biblical, archaeological, and cultural interest. Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading Pauline scholar, hosts this inspirational tour. For more information, contact Dr. Weima at 616-328-3110 or weimje@calvinseminary.edu

VOLUNTEERS

Sound: Tom Whitney
Greeter: Kleinwolterink
Nursery: Megan and Kristy
Children's Message: Lora Copley
Congregational Prayer: Tom Niehof

Sound Tech

Oct 4	Tom Whitney	Nov 8	Brian Sterenberg
Oct 11	Brian Sterenberg	Nov 15	Bryan Van Belle
Oct 18	Bryan Van Belle	Nov 22	Tom Whitney
Oct 25	Rex De Bruin	Nov 29	Rex De Bruin

Nov 1 Tom Whitney

Greeters

Oct 4	Kleinwolterink	Nov 8	Nikkel
Oct 11	Kopaska	Nov 15	Oltman
Oct 18	Kuyper	Nov 22	Saldaña
Oct 25	Niehof	Nov 29	Sanders/Bassham

Nov 1 Niemeyer

Nursery

Oct 4	Megan and Kristy	Nov 8	Melody and Elizabeth
Oct 11	Judy and Cassie	Nov 15	Jessica and Brianna
Oct 18	Mary and Rachel	Nov 22	Donna and Natalie
Oct 25	Lyndee and Kenzie	Nov 29	Sue and Kathlyn

Nov 1 Rachel and Sue

Children's Message

Oct 4	Lora Copley	Oct 11	Christopher 't Hoen
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Oct 18 Rex De Bruin
Oct 25 Derek Ten Pas
Nov 1 Lora Copley
Nov 8 Laura Hufford

Nov 15 Jeff Kopaska
Nov 22 Christopher 't Hoen
Nov 29 Rex De Bruin

Congregational Prayer

Oct 4 Tom Niehof
Oct 11 Paul Kleinwolterink
Oct 18 Mark Voss
Oct 25 Rex De Bruin
Nov 1 Tom Niehof

Nov 8 Joel Copley
Nov 15 Jeff Kopaska
Nov 22 Lora Copley
Nov 29 Paul Kleinwolterink

Contact Information

Dan Gregory, Areopagus Campus Ministry Director: director@isu-areopagus.org

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; Outreach and Enfolded – Mindy
Nikkel; Search – Jeff Kopaska; Technology – Rex De Bruin; Worship – Laura Hufford